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Page 1: Questionnaire

Q1 Candidate Information

Candidate Name: Sam Storey
Email: samforcapitola@yahoo.com
Phone: 831-607-1037
Website: samforcapitola.org

Q2 What office do you seek to be elected to?

Capitola City Council

Q3 Please choose the option best describing your candidacy: Open Seat

Q4 Do you identify as LGBTIQ? No, but I strive to be a LGBTIQ ally!
Is there anything else about your identity that you'd like us to know?:
I am an Asian-American.

Q5 Are you a member of the GLBT Alliance? No, but I'd like information on how I can become a member.

Q6 Please describe your qualifications for the elected position you seek. Include your main issues, priorities if elected, key endorsements, plus anything else that you'd like our members to know about you and your candidacy.

All my adult life I have been drawn to community service. Growing up in the south as an Asian-American I learned first hand about the scourges of poverty, discrimination, and injustice. Since that time I have been devoted to community service and trying to do my small part to make our world a better place. That motivation has led me to become a teacher, an idealistic attorney (still), and, from 1999 to 2013, the CEO of one of the largest nonprofit organizations in Santa Cruz County, Community Bridges, serving seniors, children, and families in need. My running for Capitola City Council is a continuation of my desire to serve the community and my interest in the process of governance. Mostly, though, I am deeply devoted to Capitola. I served on the Capitola City Council from 2006 until 2014 when I was termed out. During that time I was mayor in 2010 and in 2014, served on the Library Joint Powers Board, the Monterey Bay Air Quality Control Board, and other committees and commissions. Currently, I serve on the Capitola Planning Commission, the Capitola Arts and Cultural Commission, the Capitola Library Capital Campaign Committee, and the Capitola Public Safety Foundation. Professionally, I practice law out of an office in Capitola Village. I live in Capitola with my wife, Helen, and our 13-year-old daughter. As you can see, I am all about Capitola 24/7. I have been moved to run this year because the Capitola council is losing two of its long-standing community leaders, Stephanie Harlan and Mike Termini. I wanted to run this year to offer a known, seasoned and experienced choice for voters. I have the endorsements of many local people; just to name a few, including Mayor Termini, Councilmember Stephanie Harlan, Councilmember Kristen Petersen, Councilmember Jacque Bertrand, former mayor Gayle Ortiz, and Sandra Wallace, Soquel Unified Elementary School District President. If elected, I would like to help our city deal with Capitola Mall redevelopment; the RTC rail/trail project; providing affordable housing; rebuilding the Capitola library; finally developing the Rispin property; development of the old village theater property into a hotel; developing the lower beach parking lot into a park/open space; and, all the while, protecting our environment and preserving the quality of life in our diverse neighborhoods.

Q7 Why are you seeking the endorsement of Santa Cruz County's grassroots LGBTIQ political organization, the GLBT Alliance?

I have great respect for the members of the GLBT Alliance and would be honored to have their endorsement.

Q8 Please tell us about any past or current experiences or involvement you've had addressing LGBTIQ issues or work you've done to support the LGBTIQ community.

As a member of the Capitola City Council during 2006-2014 and as mayor in 2010 and 2014 I have spoken at GLBT events, have supported equal rights for GLBT members, and have spoken up against any form of discrimination, harassment, or bullying of GLBT members.

Q9 What historic political or civil rights struggles are you familiar with that impact LGBTIQ equality?

Growing up in the south during the 1950's & 1960's I have been witness to and participated in the civil rights movement and the integration of schools and society in general. These struggles were particularly hard for people of color who were also LGBTIQ. Those struggles continue to this day.

Q10 What is your philosophy about working with minority communities of which you are not a member, and how will this manifest in your future work with the LGBTIQ community?

Being a minority, I know first hand the impacts of racial discrimination and how hurtful and harmful any form of discrimination can be. From these personal experiences I have learned to work with minority communities with empathy and to approach all peoples with respect and dignity. My approach is to focus on our shared goal to make our community a better place to live for all.

Q11 Please describe any programs you know of that impact the LGBTIQ community and that are governed by or funded through the elected office you are running for? Include any suggestions you may have for improving these programs.

The City of Capitola funds many social service programs that serve members of the LGBTIQ community. I want to look at increasing funding for these social service programs.

Q12 If elected, how would you use your position to help further issues of importance to the LGBTIQ community?

I would make myself available to the GLBT Alliance to be better educated and informed about LGBTIQ issues; I would help educate others about the importance of those issues and recommend steps to address those issues, and I would lead by example in my everyday life.

Q13 If you receive the GLBT Alliance's endorsement, will you display it in your campaign literature? **Yes, please send me the GLBT Alliance's logo (jpg file) so I can proudly announce the endorsement on my campaign literature, social media and website!**
