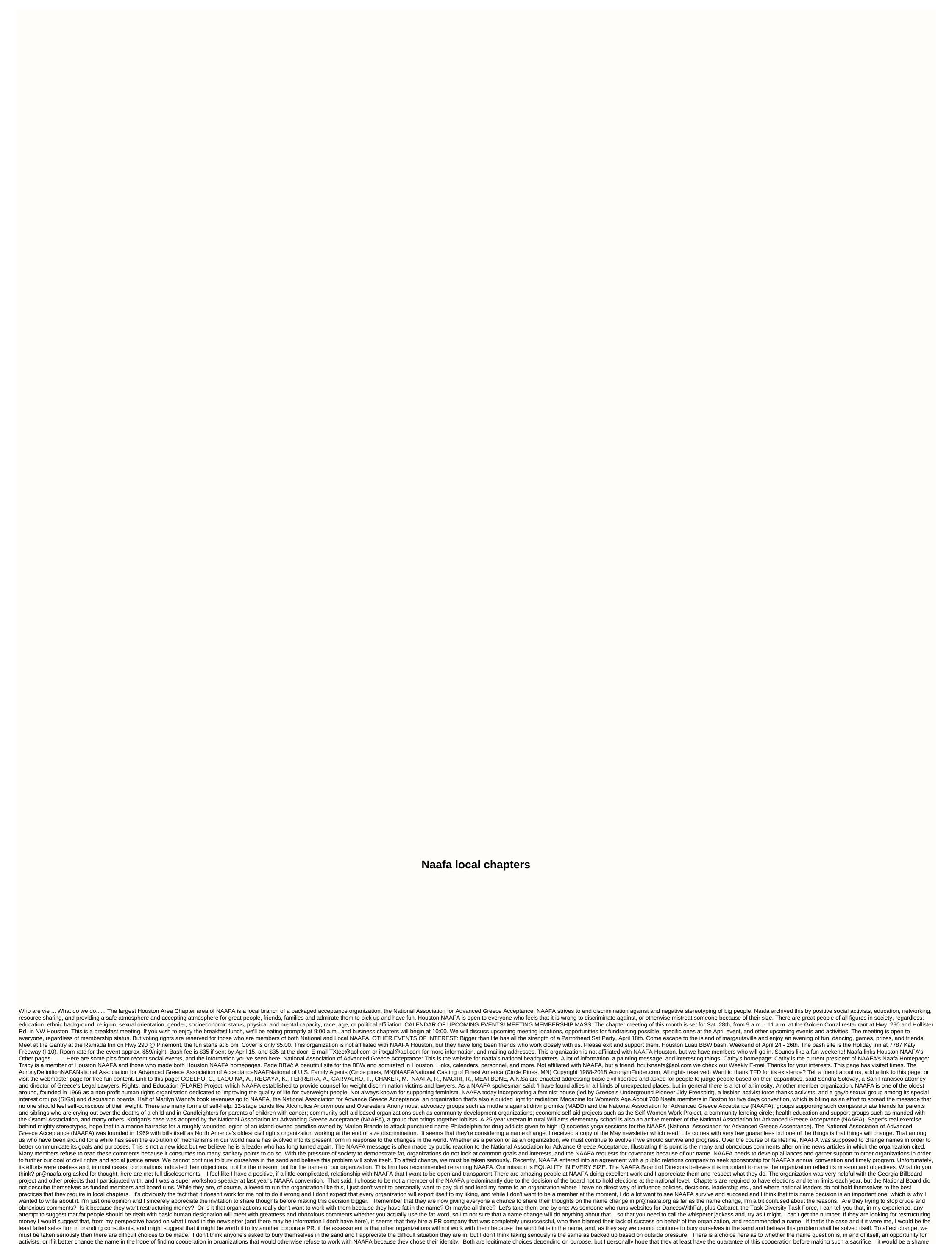
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to change the name only to be given another excuse as to why cooperation is not possible. The NAAFA Constitution we choose to use fat words to describe ourselves so we can remove the negative confusion normally associated with larger-than-average body size. So I wonder how this name change would affect that sentiment? It's not that the strategy might not work, but I'm concerned about the statement it makes – that we started out specifically claiming the word fat, but they are now unintentionally reading. Do we understand that they are suggesting that members do the same – that as a community we should stop calling ourselves fat because people and corporations may dislike it? Or is it just for the organization and not for its members? That said, some would qualify as fat based on many definitions, but not chosen to identify with the word, should we choose a path that gives them more opportunities to embrace a fat identity and remove the negative confrontation, or change the name to bring down the barrier? I fully acknowledge that it's a difficult decision. I believe there is a case to be made for inclusive language. I was one of many people involved in naming the Diversity Size Task Force and we were specifically looking for a name that recognized that fat-phomed to hurt all of us and who spoke with not only fat identified people, but also those who want to fight for justice in this arena that do not identify as fat. I was also involved in naming the Fit Fatties Forum and, even though we are open to people of all sizes, we especially chose to use the word fat because we wanted to claim a fat space in the fitness world. Both made the decision that some were criticized by others, none of whom were wrong. I am compatible with the Board at heart,

whatever decisions they make, will be met with both and critics. My concern here is not so much about a name, it's about a name change. They mentioned in the newsletter that there were name changes – the original name I found was the National Association for Fat American Aid, so it seems to me as it was tied to the fat word from the beginning, and I'm concerned about what it says as an old and prestilling organization would make a conscious, deliberate, and public movement away from identifying as fat. I wonder if they might end up trading criticized for choosing a claimant identity, being criticized for defending a claimant's identity, thus making it a wash at the end. Of course there are pros and cons of either choice, and I obviously don't have all the answers, I'm just trying to think it's. If it was my decision, I don't think I would have made it. I don't think I would have ma

important to be clear that just because they couldn't get it done, or no longer want to try, doesn't mean the fight is lost. Hi, I'm Ragen Chastain. Speaker, Writer, Dancers, Choreographer, Marathoner, Soon to be trithlet distance iron-distance, activist, Greece people. View all posts by Ragen Chastain Chastain Chastain

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