

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD**  
**LESBIAN AND GAY ADVISORY BOARD**  
**MINUTES – JANUARY 12, 2006**  
**COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL**

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. ROLL CALL AND INSTALLATION

The West Hollywood Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board was called to order by Co-chair Jeff Yarbrough at 7:15 p.m., Monday, January 12, 2006, in the Community Conference Room at 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood.

Members present: Dan Berkowitz, Chris Clarkin, Bill Gordon, Marian Jones, Elisabeth Sandberg, Sue Sexton, Nadia Sutton, Ruth Tittle, and Jeff Yarbrough. A quorum was present at all times. Jeff Book, staff liaison, was also present.

B. POSTING OF AGENDA

The staff liaison reported that the agenda had been posted at City Hall and other locations as required.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Advisory Board adopted the agenda as posted.

D. MINUTES

The Advisory Board approved the minutes of the December 5, 2005, meeting, with Chris Clarkin abstaining.

II. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Elissa Barrett spoke about the play “Bluebonnet Court,” which is set to open on July 19. She is interested in rehearsal space, and will follow up with board members and staff. Consideration of the request will be placed on the next agenda.

III. RAINBOW KEY NOMINATIONS

The item was postponed until later in the meeting.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

1. Legislative

A written report from Scott Mann was distributed.

2. Lesbian Visibility

The committee met prior to the meeting. City X1 is holding a forum on young lesbians on Saturday, Feb. 25. The Dyke March is planned for Friday, June 9.

3. LGBT Youth

This item was deferred.

4. Rapid Response Issues Team

A handout on emergency preparedness issues was distributed. The committee is working on this topic, and will report further at the next meeting.

5. Lesbian and Gay Health Issues

A discussion on marijuana distribution centers will be scheduled for the next meeting. Chris Clarkin will do background research on locations, how they were commissioned, and how their operations are going.

6. Chairs Meeting

No additional report.

7. Christopher Street West

Chris Clarkin distributed the award recommendation form for this year's event. The organization is sponsoring a community forum Jan. 29-31 at the Bel Age, to share information on outstanding practices in pride events, and how they can be improved.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. LAPD LEWD CONDUCT ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

Jeff Yarbrough introduced the item, regarding recent enforcement activities by

LAPD with regard to alleged lewd conduct in public, in neighborhoods adjacent to West Hollywood. Advisory Board members discussed the history of relations between LAPD, other law enforcement agencies, and the gay and lesbian community.

Bill Gordon moved to reaffirm the policy previously developed at the time of the police actions at the Pacific Design Center, and to say it is very disturbing to the Advisory Board that LAPD is applying a sting/entrapment operation in an apparently discriminatory manner, against gay men in this area, and that the board is particularly sensitive to these concerns because of the history of relations between the community and police. This was seconded by Chris Clarkin and approved.

B. WEST SIDE SPECIFIC PLAN

It was moved, seconded, and approved to designate Chris Clarkin and Scott Mann to serve on the city's advisory committee regarding the West Side Specific Plan.

C. HALLOWEEN CARNAVAL

The Advisory Board discussed the development and current state of the city's Halloween *Carnaval*. Among the views was that it has gotten too big and too far away from its roots; that it can be reined in by intentionally making less of a push for media attention in the weeks leading up to the event; that it is wonderful that straight people come to West Hollywood on this occasion to interact with the community; that there are growing safety concerns with the size of the crowd and its behavior.

Bill Gordon and Jeff Yarbrough were designated as a subcommittee to give further consideration to the future of the *Carnaval*.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE ADVISORY BOARD

Dan Berkowitz reported the Tom of Finland Foundation has been awarded an arts grant from the City, and requested that approval of this year's event be placed on the agenda for the February meeting. He also reported on GLIvyN, a group of about 500 people that has decided to increase their work in the community and are available to be called on for special projects.

Marian Jones reported that the Ivy Theatre has started, and will be housed at The Village.

Sue Sexton discussed a recent viewing of "Brokeback Mountain" in the company of a straight friend.

Chris Clarkin commented on "Southern Baptist Sissies," which is on stage in the area.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Staff shared a request from the office of Councilmember Duran, regarding the possibility of a Rainbow Key award for David Logan. The idea was discussed by the Advisory Board, and then moved by Chris Clarkin, seconded by Bill Gordon, and approved. The award will be presented at an upcoming Council meeting.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The Advisory Board was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

The next regular meeting is at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, February 9, 2006, in the Community Conference Room.