

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
LESBIAN AND GAY ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES – FEBRUARY 10, 2005
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 Ivy Bottini at 7:05 p.m., Thursday, February 10, 2005, in the Community Conference Room at 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood.

Members present were Dan Berkowitz, Ivy Bottini, Chris Clarkin, Bill Gordon, Scott Mann, Jimmy Palmieri, Susan Sexton, Nadia Sutton, Ruth Tittle, and Jeff Yarbrough. Elisabeth Sandberg was excused. A quorum was present at all times. Jeff Book, staff liaison, was present.

Without objection, the agenda was amended to provide for the installation of a newly appointed member. Having been appointed by the City Council, Scott Mann repeated the oath of office and was installed as a member of the Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chris Clarkin noted the January minutes should reflect that the request to the CVB to provide demographic material was definite and not just a possibility. With that amendment, the minutes of the January 13, 2005, meeting was approved on a motion by Chris Clarkin, seconded by Jeff Yarbrough, with Scott Mann and Ruth Tittle abstaining.

In their absence, review of the December 2004 minutes was carried over to the February 2005 meeting.

II. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no items from the public.

III. RAINBOW KEY NOMINATIONS

Jimmy Palmieri recommended Alyson Publications as a recipient of a Rainbow Key. The board will review the recommendation at a later meeting. Jeff Yarbrough suggested including Sasha Alyson, founder of Alyson Publications.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

1. MEDIA

No report.

2. LEGISLATIVE

No report.

3. LESBIAN VISIBILITY

Susan Sexton and Ivy Bottini met with the subcommittee prior to the advisory board meeting. The subcommittee is developing program ideas and budget suggestions for the year.

4. LGBT YOUTH

Jimmy Palmieri said he has been granted rights to a book called Tweakers, and is working on a documentary about this subject.

5. RAPID RESPONSE ISSUES TEAM

Dan Berkowitz said the advisory board will discuss next month whether to have a public forum on developments on the national scene, or on the names reporting issue.

6. OUTREACH

The subcommittee is still waiting for city action on its request for intern assistance.

7. LESBIAN AND GAY HEALTH ISSUES

No report.

B. LIAISON REPORTS

1. PUBLIC SAFETY

No report.

2. CHRISTOPHER STREET WEST

Chris Clarkin reported that CSW's budget includes funding for a dyke march, and that CSW and the City are working on an informal meeting of CSW and City staff. Dan Berkowitz thanked Chris Clarkin for helping coordinate between CSW and the Tom of Finland Foundation.

Regarding LGAB participation in the CSW parade, Jimmy Palmieri asked if the City had funding for an LGAB float, and Chris Clarkin raised the possibility of matching funds. Staff will inquire about policy on this.

3. CHAIRS MEETING

The chairs meeting is upcoming.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. NAMES REPORTING

As requested by the City, the Advisory Board reviewed whether to recommend a change in the City's current policies of support for an encoded or unique identifier for HIV reporting, and opposition to names reporting for those who test positive for HIV.

Public comment was received from Howard Jacobs of Being Alive, Douglas Frye of the Los Angeles County epidemiology office, Craig Vincent-Jones of the county's HIV commission, Demetri Moshoyannis of Being Alive, Dr. Aaron Aronow, Cathy Olufs, Martell Randolph, Gordon Bunch of the epidemiology program, Phil Curtis of APLA, Terry Leftgoff of Being Alive, and Gunther Freehill of the Office of AIDS Services.

After discussion, Chris Clarkin moved to affirm the Human Services Commission's non-support of names-based reporting. This was seconded by Nadia Sutton, and unanimously approved. A joint report to Council will be prepared on behalf of the Human Services Commission and the Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE ADVISORY BOARD

Dan Berkowitz requested that support for the 2005 Tom of Finland art fair be placed on the March agenda.

Jimmy Palmieri noted that Jeff Stryker will be on his cable show on March 16.

Sue Sexton said “The Vagina Monologues” – co-starring Lainie Kazan and Ivy Bottini -- will play at the Pacific Design Center on Saturday, Feb. 26, and that volunteers are needed.

Bill Gordon reported on Operation Lift the Ban, dealing with the effort to change Federal policy on gay and lesbian people in the military.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

There were no additional items from staff.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Advisory Board adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

The next regular meeting is at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, March 10, 2005, in the Community Conference Room.