

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
LESBIAN AND GAY ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES – AUGUST 14, 2008
COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. ROLL CALL

The West Hollywood Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board was called to order by Co-Chair Ivy Bottini at 7:10 p.m., Thursday, August 14, 2008, in the Community Conference Room at 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood.

Members Present: Ivy Bottini, Bryeon Earle, Bill Gordon, Ben McCormick, Elisabeth Sandberg, Sue Sexton, Nadia Sutton, Ruth Tittle. A quorum was present at all times. Jeff Book, staff liaison, was also present.

B. POSTING OF AGENDA

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

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved.

D. MINUTES

The minutes of the July 2008 meeting were carried over to the next meeting.

II. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Chris Clarkin said he has been appointed to the Public Safety Commission, but will be available to work on particular projects with LGAB, and to provide information to and from Christopher Street West. He also noted that September is emergency preparation month, and a good time for individuals to check and update their earthquake readiness.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. PROPOSED MEMORIAL GIFT

Jeff Book reported on the process for approving and maintaining new memorials in the city. Chris Clarkin said he has spoken to a couple of Council offices about the gift proposed in memory of Morris Kight by James Fuhrman. Bill Gordon

will work with Chris to gather more information about possible actions.

B. BOOK FAIR

The advisory board discussed expanding its participation in the 2009 Book Fair, to be preceded by 6 or 7 months of planning for visibility and inclusion. Ben McCormick will speak with Book Fair organizers about plans for LGBT panels and authors this year.

C. YOUTH PANEL

The item was postponed to a subsequent meeting.

D. LESBIAN SEX PACKETS

Ivy Bottini said LGAB needs to provide leadership on these items, which Ruth Tittle said were very popular when distributed at recent events. Rev. Pat Langlois recommended that gloves be included in the packets. Social services staff will be invited to provide information about the options for distribution. Continuation of the item and the discussion to the next meeting was moved by Bill Gordon, seconded by Elisabeth Sandberg, and approved.

E. RAINBOW KEY

Bill Gordon said he had spoken with Council Deputy Fran Solomon about the Rainbow Key process, and suggested a policy that members of the advisory board would not be eligible for Rainbow Keys during their service, but former members would be. The advisory board also discussed whether it would be a good idea to have categories for Rainbow Keys, such as arts, public service, etc. The discussion was carried over to the next meeting.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. MARRIAGE EXAMPLE FORUM

With regard to organizing and presenting a forum about the positive impact of equal marriage laws, Bill Gordon said the timing for preparing and executing such an event was difficult, given that the election on Proposition 8 is November 4.

B. WORKPLAN/RETREAT PLANNING

The advisory board is interested in conducting a special meeting to plan its work and budget for 2009-2010, with a target of February 2009. Staff will check on spaces that may be available for this meeting.

V. COMMITTEES AND LIAISONS

Ben McCormick met with Council Deputy Hernan Molina on the HIV and Aging panel preparations, with the event tentatively planned for September 24 in West Hollywood Park Auditorium.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE ADVISORY BOARD

Ruth Tittle noted that Ivy Bottini's 82nd birthday is tomorrow. Ivy Bottini said she will be celebrating by attending "Quick Draw" in Los Olivos.

Nadia Sutton spoke about the Serafemme event being held Aug. 15-17.

Ivy Bottini and Elisabeth Sandberg spoke about Old Lesbians Organizing for Change.

Bryeon Earle noted he will be away during September and October. Ruth Tittle will also be away for the September meeting.

Ben McCormick spoke about National Night Out, and said he would like to have seen more specific safety information provided to persons who attended.

The advisory board discussed Proposition 8 on the Nov. 4 ballot.

Ben McCormick asked for the meeting to be adjourned in memory of Fred Anderson, husband of City Clerk Tom West.

Ivy Bottini spoke about macular degeneration as an issue affecting aging.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Staff spoke about the library and other construction projects that are approaching in 2009 and 2010.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. in memory of Fred Anderson, husband of City Clerk Tom West.