

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD**  
**LESBIAN AND GAY ADVISORY BOARD**  
**MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 11, 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 Dan Berkowitz at 7:10 p.m., Thursday, September 11, 2008, in the Community Conference Room at 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood.

Members Present: Dan Berkowitz, Ivy Bottini, Bill Gordon, Ben McCormick, Jimmy Palmieri, Sue Sexton, and Nadia Sutton. A quorum was present at all times. Jeff Book, staff liaison, was also present. Larissa Fooks was also present for part of the meeting.

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, with unanimous agreement that items listed as New Business would be taken up before this list as Unfinished Business.

D. MINUTES

The minutes of the July 2008 meeting were approved on a motion by Jimmy Palmieri, seconded by Ben McCormick. Minutes of the August 2008 meeting were carried over.

II. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Two residents interested in serving on the Advisory Board spoke. Mischa Irwin, a new resident who relocated from Vancouver, is an R.N. at Cedars. David 'Tradd' Keaton, a 5-year resident, has attended the city's CTE Academy.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. HALLOWEEN CARNAVAL TASK FORCE

Bill Gordon and Ben McCormick were appointed to serve on the Halloween Task Force, which is reviewing the annual event. Cathy Berger Kaye, the consultant working with the Halloween Task Force, will speak to an upcoming meeting.

B. DEL MARTIN

Ivy Bottini said she would like to send a resolution to the City Council asking the City to send a delegation to a memorial service being planned for Del Martin. This was seconded by Bill Gordon and approved.

C. BUDGET AND EVENTS FOR 2008-2009

Dan Berkowitz and Ivy Bottini distributed a handout proposing a series of events for 2008-2009 around the theme of Transformation and Transition, including a forum on HIV and the brain, a board retreat, a town hall on change, a town hall or festival on gay culture, a commemoration of the Stonewall rebellion, the Rainbow Key luncheon, and distribution of lesbian safer-sex packets.

Sue Sexton said the One Institute will be opening a museum space in the Werle Building. Ben McCormick recommended adding the West Hollywood Book Fair, Pride Parade, and previously planned Youth Panel to the calendar. Jimmy Palmieri noted that several of the city's gay-oriented youth groups have moved out of the city this year. Bill Gordon spoke about doing an event in cooperation with the gay and lesbian panel of the City of Los Angeles.

It was moved by Dan Berkowitz, seconded by Ben McCormick, and approved, to form a committee to flesh out the budget and events calendar. Members of the committee are Dan Berkowitz, Ivy Bottini, Bill Gordon, Ben McCormick, Sue Sexton, and Nadia Sutton.

The Advisory Board discussed updating its liaison assignments to Council offices and other boards and commissions. This item was placed on the next agenda.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. PROPOSED MEMORIAL GIFT

Jimmy Palmieri asked if the City can accept the donation and use it for a plaque in the new library. Ben McCormick said that Mayor Prang is interested in following through with the donation. He will talk with Council Deputy Jake Stevens.

Advisory Board members requested a copy of the city's naming policy, as distinct from the rules on creating new memorials.

Bill Gordon discussed the possibility of a single memorial for significant lesbian and gay people, to which names could be added over time. Board members discussed the possibility of including such an obelisk in the new library, and asked this to appear on an upcoming agenda.

Jimmy Palmieri moved to recommend to City Council that the City accept the donation offered by James Fuhrman and earmark it for a plaque in honor of Morris Kight to be included in the new library. This was seconded by Sue Sexton and approved.

B. YOUTH PANEL

The topic of the youth panel was already discussed.

C. WEST HOLLYWOOD BOOK FAIR

Ben McCormick spoke with Roz Helfand, who asked for board members' help in publicizing gay and lesbian aspects of the annual event, planned for Sept. 28. He will speak with her about having the board sponsor a panel or panels next year.

D. HIV/AGING TOWN HALL

Ben McCormick distributed cards and flyers for the town hall on HIV and aging which is being held Sept. 24 at the Pacific Design Center, with a dessert reception following.

E. LESBIAN SEX PACKETS

After discussion of what items might be included in the packet, the Advisory Board, on a motion by Ben McCormick, seconded by Bill Gordon, voted to proceed with getting information on costs for items that may be included in the packets, such as dental dams, information cards, and latex gloves.

F. RAINBOW KEY

Dan Berkowitz recommended initiating the committee for the 2009 Rainbow Key event in September or October, instead of January.

Ben McCormick commented on updating the procedures for the award, to reflect emphasis that the award is presented by City Council, and to be more active in soliciting public input into nominations.

There was also discussion of whether to present the awards in categories.

G. WORKPLAN/RETREAT

The Advisory Board is looking at conducting a retreat, possibly in February. Staff will report back on possible venues.

V. COMMITTEES AND LIAISONS

No additional items.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE ADVISORY BOARD

The annual congress of Advisory Boards and Commissions will be held this Saturday, Sept. 13, at Plummer Park. Dan Berkowitz and Ivy Bottini will make the presentation on behalf of LGAB, with all members given an opportunity to introduce themselves.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

There were no additional items.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 p.m.