

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD**  
**LESBIAN AND GAY ADVISORY BOARD**  
**MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 13, 2012**  
**COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM**

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

A. **ROLL CALL**

The West Hollywood Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board was called to order by Co-Chair Andrew Oldershaw at 7:04 p.m., Thursday, September 13, 2012, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood.

Present: Ivy Bottini, Robert Gamboa, Andrew Oldershaw, Matt Palazzolo, Enrique Reveles, Amy Ruskin, Elisabeth Sandberg, Sue Sexton, Ruth Tittle

A quorum was present at all times. Jeff Book, staff liaison, was also present. Councilmember John D'Amico and Council Deputy Michelle Rex were also present.

**INSTALLATION**

Human Services Commissioner Jimmy Palmieri administered the oath of office to Robert Gamboa, who was declared installed as a new Advisory Board member.

Robert Gamboa thanked Jimmy Palmieri for installing him, and Lucas John for serving on the Board for the last year, as well as Councilmember D'Amico and Council Deputy Rex.

Councilmember D'Amico congratulated Robert Gamboa and thanked Lucas John for his service to the Advisory Board. He spoke about the role of the gay community in the city, and hoped the Board would explore what this means.

B. **REPORT ON 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 as posted.

D. **MINUTES**

1. **REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 9, 2012**

The minutes of the regular meeting of August 9, 2012, were approved.

E. ADJOURNMENT REQUESTS

Ivy Bottini requested that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Shulamith Firestone, author of "The Dialectic of Sex" (1970). Amy Ruskin requested that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Liza D'Agostino. Andrew Oldershaw requested that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Chris Stevens, U.S. Ambassador to Libya, and others who died this week in an attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya.

II. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Heidi Shink spoke about the She lesbian discussion group, which meets on second Wednesdays. She urged board members to participate and help build the group by inviting their friends and contacts. Next month's topic at She is how to volunteer and be involved.

III. TASK FORCES AND LIAISONS

Matt Palazzolo said the subcommittee on the Book Fair is working on arrangements for this year. He requested that the agenda be amended on an urgency basis, to add an item regarding funding for Book Fair participation, with the need for action having arisen since the preparation of the agenda, and action required prior to the next meeting, due to the schedule of the Book Fair. The Advisory Board amended the agenda.

On a motion by Matt Palazzolo, the Advisory Board approved recommending that up to \$500 from the Gay and Lesbian Programs line item be used for costs, if any, for the Advisory Board's participation in the 2012 West Hollywood Book Fair. Andrew Oldershaw abstained on the motion.

Andrew Oldershaw said the subcommittee on addiction, recovery and sexual health met yesterday and will be doing a community survey soon.

Staff said that references to task forces should be to subcommittees, and that non-Brown Act subcommittees must consist of less than a quorum of the Advisory Board and must be for a limited duration and purpose.

Andrew Oldershaw said the subcommittee working with members of the Transgender Advisory Board was looking into the subject of non-gender-restricted (family) bathrooms.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. LESBIAN SPACE / WERLE BUILDING

Ivy Bottini said there is an elevator in the Werle Building which needs to be repaired or replaced, so there will be disability access to the Mazer Archives. Amy Ruskin said she had spoken with Angela Brinskele from the archives, who

said they had heard various things about improving the access. The board determined carried this item on to the next meeting.

B. JOINT STUDY SESSION

Andrew Oldershaw said several members of City Council are favorable about doing a joint study session with the Advisory Board. Sue Sexton said that Mayor Pro Tem Land was interested, and asked the Board to first consider what they would like to accomplish at a joint study session.

Members discussed the following possible topics for joint study: what would the Council like the Advisory Board to be working on; where is there a void that the Advisory Board can fill; what is Council's vision for a lesbian/gay city; inclusion of the Advisory Board on topics relevant to the gay and lesbian community, such as the upcoming pop-up art show at El Tovar; aging in place for the gay and lesbian community; how West Hollywood can be made more friendly to lesbians and transgender people; doing bigger, louder things; why there is no voice for lesbians on the City Council; ways the Advisory Board can reach out to the community in ways other than its monthly meeting.

The topic was carried on to the next meeting.

C. WORKPLAN FOR 2012-2013

The Advisory Board designated its next regular meeting, on Thursday, Oct. 11, as a retreat to develop its new workplan. The meeting will be held, if possible, at the Senior Lounge at Plummer Park.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE ADVISORY BOARD

Robert Gamboa said he was glad to be a member of the Advisory Board.

Elisabeth Sandberg said a friend of hers and Ivy Bottini's, who was present at Stonewall, is speaking to her class at Woodbury University.

Andrew Oldershaw asked about the Lesbian Visibility Committee and Women's Advisory Board with regard to lesbian issues, and said that if these are not being addressed there, the Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board should take them up.

Sue Sexton welcomed Robert Gamboa and thanked Lucas John, especially for his work on the 2012 Rainbow Key Awards. She noted that Lucas John remains a member of the subcommittee working between the Advisory Board and the Transgender Advisory Board.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

There were no additional items from staff.

VIII. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no further items from the public.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m., in memory of Shulamith Firestone; Liza D'Agostino; and Ambassador Chris Stevens and others who died in the attack on the consulate in Benghazi, Libya.

*Signed,*

---

*Sue Sexton, Co-Chair*

---

*Andrew Oldershaw, Co-Chair*