

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD**  
**LESBIAN AND GAY ADVISORY BOARD**  
**MINUTES – APRIL 11, 2013**  
**COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM**

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

A. **ROLL CALL**

The West Hollywood Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board was called to order by Andrew Oldershaw at 7:05 p.m., Thursday, April 11, 2013, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood.

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

Not Present: None.

A quorum was present at all times. Daphne Dennis, Social Services Manager, and Jeff Book, staff liaison, were also present. Larissa Fooks joined the meeting in progress.

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 on a motion by Enrique Reveles, seconded by Amy Ruskin, with the provision that Item IV-A be moved above Item III.

D. **MINUTES**

1. **MEETING OF MARCH 21, 2013**

The minutes of the meeting of March 21, 2013, were approved on a motion by Enrique Reveles, seconded by Elisabeth Sandberg, with Amy Ruskin and Robert Gamboa abstaining.

E. **ADJOURNMENT REQUESTS**

There were no adjournment requests.

II. **ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no items from the public.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. SOCIAL SERVICES NEEDS

Daphne Dennis, Social Services Manager, said the City conducts a process to determine social services needs every three years, which are then the focus of contracts with non-profit agencies to provide social services to community members. The community study process has happened, and is being combined with census and other community information.

Robert Gamboa expressed interest in information from the addiction, recovery and sexual health subcommittee being included. Ivy Bottini spoke about the importance of services to women, including literature for lesbians regarding women's health care. Ruth Tittle spoke about substance abuse treatment options, and about aging issues.

III. SUBCOMMITTEES AND LIAISONS

Robert Gamboa said the addiction, recovery and sexual health subcommittee will resume its collection of community surveys shortly.

Matt Palazzolo said the marketing/tourism video subcommittee hopes to have further information in May.

Ivy Bottini said the group working on lesbian space is continuing its efforts, and that Council may discuss the Werle Building at its May 5, 2013, meeting.

Robert Gamboa discussed the sober zone planned for CSW Pride Festival.

Robert Gamboa said he and Amy Ruskin had discussed how to get the word out to the community better regarding the Advisory Board.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. RAINBOW KEY

Sue Sexton presented a report on behalf of a subcommittee consisting of Sue Sexton, Ivy Bottini, Dan Berkowitz, Robert Gamboa, and Nadia Sutton, and recommended a group of five recipients for this year, all of whom had confirmed that they are available to attend the anticipated event on June 11.

The group recommended was: Drían Juarez, Torie Osborn, Felice Picano, Stuart Timmons, and as a joint award, Virginia Uribe and Gail Rolf. It was moved by Sue Sexton, and seconded by Elisabeth Sandberg, to recommend these to City Council as recipients of the Rainbow Key Award this year.

Andrew Oldershaw asked if there had been consideration of including a young person in the group and of pursuing the idea of issuing a scholarship. Sue Sexton said it had been discussed, but the subcommittee thought it wasn't appropriate this year. Andrew Oldershaw said honoring a young activist

would provide an opportunity to reach a different audience.

There was discussion of including Chaz Bono as a recipient. Andrew Oldershaw suggested Shane Bitney Crone, subject of the new documentary "Bridegroom" by Linda Bloodworth-Thomason.

Sue Sexton moved to amend the recommendation to include Chaz Bono as a recipient if he is able to attend on June 11, and to designate him as a recommendation for next year if he is not able to attend this year. This was seconded by Elisabeth Sandberg and approved.

B. WORKPLAN

The workplan was moved to the next meeting's agenda.

Ivy Bottini asked if the Advisory Board could have a list of gay and lesbian business owners in the city. Members were not sure such a list exists. There was a reference to the Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce (Marquita Thomas, executive director), which may have related information.

C. LIAISONS

The Advisory Board reviewed the list of the city's boards and commissions, and designated or re-designated the following members as liaisons:

Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission – Amy Ruskin  
Business License Commission – Robert Gamboa  
Historic Preservation Commission – Shawn Mimbs  
Human Services Commission – Ruth Tittle, Amy Ruskin, Robert Gamboa  
Public Safety Commission – Enrique Reveles  
Transportation Commission – Matt Palazzolo  
Disabilities Advisory Board – Ivy Bottini  
Senior Advisory Board – Ivy Bottini  
Transgender Advisory Board – Sue Sexton, Andrew Oldershaw

The Advisory Board designated the following subcommittees:

Addiction, Recovery and Sexual Health – Robert Gamboa, Andrew Oldershaw,  
Ruth Tittle  
Book Fair – Elisabeth Sandberg, Matt Palazzolo, Enrique Reveles  
Marketing – Andrew Oldershaw, Matt Palazzolo, Robert Gamboa, Ruth Tittle  
Outreach/Coffees – Robert Gamboa, Amy Ruskin, Andrew Oldershaw

D. LETTER TO SECRETARY CLINTON

Sue Sexton recommended sending a letter to former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, thanking her for her support of equal marriage. This was seconded and approved.

Robert Gamboa, Andrew Oldershaw, and Matt Palazzolo are working on wording

the letter of appreciation to President Obama, as previously approved.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE ADVISORY BOARD

Robert Gamboa expressed concern about a situation in Kansas City, Mo., where a partner was excluded from the hospital where his partner was being treated. The Advisory Board discussed what kind of response would be best.

Elisabeth Sandberg suggested writing a letter to Capt. Kelley Fraser, departing head of the West Hollywood sheriff's station, who will be working for the custody division, to thank her for her service. This was placed on the next agenda.

Elisabeth Sandberg spoke about the Friends of the Library event planned with Eloise Klein Healy and Patt Morrison.

Ruth Tittle reminded members about letting councilmembers know if they are interested in being reappointed to the board. She spoke about an April 24 fundraiser for the Friends of the AIDS Memorial.

Sue Sexton spoke about an event at the home of Virginia Uribe and Gail Rolf, and said the grant application for this year's CSW parade is available online.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Larissa Fooks spoke about the Women's Leadership Conference.

VIII. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no additional items from the public.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm, in celebration of Uruguay becoming the third South American country to legalize same-sex marriage, by a vote of 71 to 21 in the Chamber of Deputies, with the support of President Jose Mujica.

*Signed,*

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*Sue Sexton, Co-Chair*

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*Andrew Oldershaw, Co-Chair*