

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD**  
**LESBIAN AND GAY ADVISORY BOARD**  
**MINUTES – JANUARY 10, 2013**  
**COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM**

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

A. **ROLL CALL**

The West Hollywood Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board was called to order by Sue Sexton at 7:09 p.m., Thursday, January 10, 2013, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood.

Present: Ivy Bottini, Robert Gamboa, Shawn Mimbs, Matt Palazzolo,  
Enrique Reveles, Elisabeth Sandberg, Sue Sexton, Ruth Tittle

Not Present: Andrew Oldershaw, Amy Ruskin

A quorum was present at all times. Jeff Book, staff liaison, was also present, as were Council Deputies Michelle Rex and Ian Owens.

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 NOVEMBER 8, 2012**

The minutes of the regular meeting of November 8, 2012, were approved on a motion by Enrique Reveles, seconded by Matt Palazzolo, with Sue Sexton abstaining.

E. **ADJOURNMENT REQUESTS**

Matt Palazzolo asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of David Joseph, who passed away recently. Ruth Tittle asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Huell Howser. Robert Gamboa asked that the meeting be adjourned in celebration of the upcoming second inauguration of President Obama.

II. **ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Jimmy Palmieri spoke about the use of the top floor of the Werle Building as a public space that would benefit the community as a whole, rather than a particular group. He said he was concerned about remarks made at the last meeting that residents of Russian heritage are anti-gay, and that the Recovery Center could be moved to

Plummer Park because it would be in proximity to Russians with substance abuse problems. He asked the board to discuss recommending that the Werle Building be used as a public space for the whole community. Robert Gamboa moved to place this on the next agenda. This was seconded by Sue Sexton, and approved by a vote of 4 yes and 3 no, with 1 abstaining.

Michelle Rex, Deputy to Councilmember John D'Amico, said Tribe is now meeting on third Thursdays each month, which makes its meetings accessible to members of the Advisory Board.

Lt. Cheryl Newman-Tarwater, operations supervisor at the West Hollywood Sheriff's Station, spoke about the results of an investigation of issues raised at a recent Human Services Commission meeting by Roger Coggan of the Gay & Lesbian Center. She said 10 incidents had been reviewed, and that Capt. Fraser has met with Mr. Coggan.

Mike Che, staff person for arts and culture, spoke about the Winter Sounds program, and about some plans for One City / One Pride 2013. He asked if board members are aware of events in late May or early June, to let him know, so he can see if they can be included in the information for One City / One Pride.

### III. TASK FORCES AND LIAISONS

Shawn Mimbs said that he spoke to the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission regarding the utility box art project, and that they seemed receptive to the idea. They have spoken to Mike Che about placing this on that Commission's agenda for formal action.

Robert Gamboa attended the Human Services Commission, which talked about the community survey and seeking public input.

Sue Sexton attended the Transgender Advisory Board last week, and they spoke about the depiction of transgender people on NCIS.

### IV. NEW BUSINESS

#### A. SOCIAL SERVICES PRIORITIES

Jimmy Palmieri, Human Services Commissioner, provided information on the West Hollywood Community Survey that has begun, with the City collecting and analyzing information about community needs.

#### B. V-DAY 2013 AND ONE BILLION RISING AWARENESS PROJECT

This item was tabled.

#### C. INSTALL: WEHO

Mark Cramer and Laura Watts spoke about the Install: WeHo project, which they have been developing since November 2011. The first was held in September 2012, and the second is planned for this year's One City / One Pride festival.

They are seeking support from the Advisory Board for a recommendation to use \$3,500 from the Gay and Lesbian Programs line item for this project.

Mike Che said arts staff plans to bring three events directly to the Advisory Board to request support for budget recommendations, including Install: WeHo, The Lavender Effect, and Living in Limbo. He said the probable combined amount being requested was \$7,500.

Matt Palazzolo moved to place a discussion of Advisory Board recommendations regarding funding for One City/One Pride events on the next agenda. This was seconded by Robert Gamboa and approved, with one abstention.

D. LAVENDER EFFECT

Andy Sacher spoke about the Lavender Effect oral history project, interviewing those who participated in and witnessed important elements of the history of the gay and lesbian community, with a focus on Southern California events and history. He said the overall cost of the project is about \$15,000, and they are seeking Advisory Board support for a recommendation to use \$2,000 to \$4,000 from the Gay and Lesbian Programs line item for this project, which plans to screen an edited version at One City / One Pride this year.

E. VETERANS HISTORY PROJECT

Christopher Landavazo, a Navy veteran, spoke about the veterans history project being led by the Library of Congress, seeking to include stories that had been missing from the information about veterans and their service to the nation. He showed a video from the Library of Congress explaining the project, and distributed an explanatory flyer. He asked the Advisory Board to consider recommending \$10,000 for funding of the project in West Hollywood.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. JOINT STUDY SESSION

Matt Palazzolo presented a list of possible topics for a joint study session with the City Council, including: (1) the Advisory Board's involvement in One City / One Pride; (2) Making a West Hollywood tourism video and improving the city as a tourist destination; (3) Lesbian space and the use of the Werle Building; (4) Conducting an LGBT survey; (5) Addiction recovery and sexual health; (6) Rainbow Key Awards, with reference to creating a new vision of what the event should look like and accomplish; and (7) Level of funding for gay and lesbian programs. Staff was asked to convey the list of possible topics to the council deputies.

B. WORKPLAN FOR 2012-2013

This item was moved to a future agenda.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE ADVISORY BOARD

Elisabeth Sandberg spoke about The Lesbian Center, and distributed a draft of their working plan. She said they have been advised to become a Section 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. She showed copies of possible logos for the center. She asked for this to be an item on the next agenda. This was moved by Matt Palazzolo, seconded by Shawn Mimbs, and approved.

Robert Gamboa spoke about being in Texas over the holidays, and about the availability of Capt. Fraser to speak on safety. He is going to Washington, DC, to perform in the Inaugural Parade.

Sue Sexton spoke about V-Day on February 14.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

There were no additional items from staff.

VIII. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Tristan Schukraft spoke about seeking more community involvement.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned in memory of David Joseph and Huell Howser, and in celebration of the upcoming second inauguration of President Obama.

*Signed,*

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*Sue Sexton, Co-Chair*

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*Andrew Oldershaw, Co-Chair*