

**MINUTES
LESBIAN AND GAY ADVISORY BOARD
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2016**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The September 8, 2016, regular meeting of the City of West Hollywood Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board was called to order at 7:00 pm by Co-Chairs Lucas John and Marquita Thomas in the First-Floor Conference Room at West Hollywood City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, 90069.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was repeated.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Megan Cotanch, Kate Eggert, Lucas John, James Duke Mason, Robert Oliver, Matt Palazzolo, Marquita Thomas, Ruth Tittle.

Not Present: Robert Gamboa, Sue LaVaccare.

A quorum was present at all times. Also present were Elizabeth Savage, Director of Human Services and Rent Stabilization, and staff members John Erickson and David Escobedo.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved, with items taken in the order shown below.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting of August 11, 2016, were approved.

E. PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Lee Walkup, chair of Senior Advisory Board, West Hollywood resident spoke about an upcoming town hall on pharmaceutical prices and how the event has been postponed until after the November elections; Capital Drugs now accepts empty pill bottles back to re-use and recycle them; he spoke about the upcoming new documentary series "When We Rise" from Dustin Lance Black; the Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles will feature a presentation titled "I Rise" based off of the poem by Maya Angelou in July 2017 and how Cheyenne Jackson will be the special guest performer.
2. Elisabeth Sandberg and Chris Baldwin, chair of the L-Project, residents of West Hollywood, spoke about the 2nd annual fundraiser FRIDA Fest on September 17, 2016 in Fiesta Hall at Plummer Park and invited the Board to attend and thanked the City for their co-sponsorship.

3. Robert Ozn, chair of the Los Angeles Bi Task Force, resident of Beverly Hills, spoke about the ongoing Bisexual Subcommittee that has been meeting and the white paper "Toward Inclusion: The City of West Hollywood and the Bisexual/Pansexual/Fluid Community" and his displeasure about the lack of representation of bisexual individuals on the Board and his displeasure with the recommendations put forth in the white paper created by the City of West Hollywood.
4. Dr. Mimi Hoang, co-founder of the Los Angeles Bi Task Force, resident of Lawndale, spoke about the ongoing Bisexual Subcommittee that has been meeting and the white paper "Toward Inclusion: The City of West Hollywood and the Bisexual/Pansexual/Fluid Community" and her displeasure with the recommendations put forth in the white paper created by the City of West Hollywood and the lack of a recommendation for a standalone bisexual advisory board.

6. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Staff informed the Board about the upcoming Lesbian Speaker Series event on Sunday, September 18, 2016 at 2:00 pm titled "Baby, You Are My Religion: Women, Gay Bars and Theology Before Stonewall" w/ Dr. Marie Cartier; additionally, staff updated the Board on their potential co-sponsorship of screening the film, "Love Is All You Need,"; and the Live, Love, Thrive Women's Conference that they co-sponsored.

1. CALL TO ORDER (continued)

F. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Kate Eggert requested that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Mina K. Mayer, a longtime lesbian activist responsible for working with numerous organizations and issues focused on gay health and gay-related services from the 1970s to the present.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no Consent Calendar items.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. C.I.T.Y.x1 THE BIG FEAST 2016

Carlos Sosa, executive director of C.I.T.Y.x1 youth group, thanked LGAB for putting the potential co-sponsorship of this year's C.I.T.Y .x1 The Big Feast. The Board recommend that the City Council allocate \$700.00 in funds to continue the City's co-sponsorship of the event.

B. TOWARD INCLUSION: THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD AND THE BISEXUAL/PANSEXUAL/FLUID COMMUNITY

Staff gave a report on the white paper that was created for the Board to be able to deliberate and advise the Council on some ways to consider Bisexual inclusion. The Board discussed the white paper and its potential recommendations. The Board made a motion to accept the recommendations of the white paper and continue the bisexual subcommittee to implement and further discuss the recommendations.

Bisexual Subcommittee Recommendations to City Council –

Lucas Junkin made a motion to adopt the recommendations put forth by the Bisexual subcommittee, in the White Paper titled “Toward Inclusion: The City of West Hollywood and the Bisexual/Pansexual/Fluid Community,” created by Elissa D. Barrett, Esq.:

- o Update the City Website to include links to a range of bi-related resources, programs and services, and cross-promote events with LA Bi Task Force;
- o Create and/or distribute “Bi Ally” materials available at biresource.net and other online resources;
- o Incorporate bi components into LGT-sensitivity trainings conducted by the City for key stakeholders and community members; and
- o Add at least 2 City residents to the LGAB Bi Subcommittee for the purpose of taking an initial period of 6 months to evaluate progress on the above.

The White Paper will be drafted with a staff report cover and submitted to the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem for whether it will be added to the City council agenda, per the new procedure adopted by the City Council.

C. 2016 LGAB WORKPLAN OVERVIEW

Staff distributed copies of the last adopted work plan and the list of topics raised at the most recent study session. The Board agreed to continue this item to their next agenda to further discuss and prioritize (rank) their priorities through a tool that Elizabeth Savage uses with other Boards and Commissions.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. HELPING THE LA LGBT CENTER’S YOUTH SERVICES

The Board moved to support the LA LGBT Center’s Youth Services program by recommending that the City allocate \$2,500 to their new music department. Staff will be reaching out to the staff at the LA LGBT Center’s Youth Services program to get a breakdown on what the allocation of \$2,500 would go towards and will report back at the next meeting.

5. EXCLUDED CONSENT

There were no Excluded Consent items.

6. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Staff reported on the upcoming Lesbian and Bisexual Women's Health Conference that the City co-sponsored as part of the Lesbian Bisexual Women's Health Committee that will be on Thursday, December 1, from 8:00 am – 1:30 pm at the California Endowment in Downtown LA.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no additional public comment.

8. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

A. PUBLIC SAFETY LIAISON REPORT

B. LIAISON REPORTS

Staff passed out a sheet provided by the City Clerk that details the meeting time, date, and location of all of the City's Advisory Boards and Commissions. The Board reviewed what Board members were signed up to be the official liaison for each Board and Commission; the Board asked that this item be brought back at the next meeting in order for the Board to check their schedules accordingly in order for them to appropriately sign up to be a liaison should they're schedules permit.

Robert Oliver commented thank staff for their diligent attention they paid to the bisexual subcommittee and the white paper and that the process is continuing and they are addressing it.

Ruth Tittle stated that she was concerned about Robert Ozn's public comment pertaining to "shutting them" down and asked for clarification as to what that meant.

Kate Eggert commented that the bisexual subcommittee has been positive and that they have continually asked the community members present to bring members of the West Hollywood bisexual community to the meetings; she also commented that she will be continuing the historic kiosks subcommittee process again; she also stated that the Factory will have another hearing in front of the state's Historic Preservation Committee.

Lucas Junkin commented that he recently attended the Los Angeles Diversity Film Festival and that he would like to bring it to the City in August 2017.

Marquita Thomas thanked staff for their attention to detail and process regarding the white paper and that the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce's next mixer will be on October 6, 2016.

James Duke Mason commented that the Board should take into consideration the tone of how they deliberate the white paper and that the Board should make sure they're sensitive to that.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:29 p.m., in memory of Mina K. Meyer.


The next meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 13, 2016, in the First-Floor Community Conference Room at West Hollywood City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood 90069.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE LESBIAN AND GAY ADVISORY BOARD ON THE 13TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2016.



Co-Chair

Attest:



Staff Liaison