

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
TRANSGENDER ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 1, 2017**

**7:00 p.m., Wednesday February 1, 2017
8300 Santa Monica Blvd.
West Hollywood, CA 90048**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** –Chair Lachine called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - led by staff member John Erickson
3. **ROLL CALL** – Board Members present: Chair Coco Lachine, Karina Samala, James Wen, Erika De La Cruz, Leslie Frias, Drian Juarez, Justine Gonzalez and Dr. Jaye Johnson. Also present: Bonnie Smith, Public Safety.
4. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA** – Request by Chair Lachine to add the swearing in of Alexis Sanchez as a new member of the Trans Advisory Board as Item 6, table Item 9A to a future meeting and move items 9B and 9C to be heard after Item 8B. Motion to approve by Member Wen and seconded by Member De La Cruz and approved.
5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Motion to approve the minutes of January 4, 2017 by Member De La Cruz seconded by Member Johnson and approved.

6. **SWEARING IN OF NEW MEMBER**

A. Alexis Sanchez was sworn in as a member of the Transgender Advisory Board by staff member Bonnie Smith.

7. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

JIMMY PALMARI, WEST HOLLYWOOD, announced the 10th anniversary screening of Tweakers in the City Council Chambers February 17th @ 7PM and invited all to attend emphasizing that Crystal Meth effects members of all communities including those in the Trans Community.

TERI MAHER, WHEST (WeHo Works) announced that WHEST would be holding a series of seminars February 15th and welcomed all to attend. The seminars will include resume building, mock interviews and a LinkedIn social medial workshop.

8. **MEMBER COMMENTS**

MEMBER DEL LA CRUZ announced services for Trans individuals sponsored by Trans Latina at 1730 W. Olympic Blvd., including lunches, clothing and job services.

MEMBER JUAREZ, commented on the powerful and inspiring Women's' March recently held in Downtown Los Angeles while expressing concern that resources for services for undocumented immigrants are becoming more difficult to secure while the need for these resources is increasing.

MEMBER WEN welcomed Alexis to the Board, announced that he attended the January API Quality meeting and the APAIT Midnight Walk and the Love rally put on for the Trans Community. Member Wen also announced the upcoming WPATH (World Professional Association for Transgender Health) will host the first USPATH gala February 4th. Member Wen asked that the meeting be adjourned memory of Jai Bornstein, a Trans youth who recently committed suicide in Bakersfield CA.

MEMBER GONZALEZ welcomed Alexis to the Board and commented on the work this Board and other organizations do for the Trans Community specifically noting the efforts and work to elect LGBTQ friendly persons in California and states nationwide.

MEMBER SANCHEZ stated that serving on the TAB is an honor and looks forward to the work ahead.

CHAIR LACHINE encouraged members and others to participate in the upcoming City election on March 7th.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Transgender Art Incentive

Staff member Michael Che announced that West Hollywood has allocated grant funding for Trans artists announcing that one artist, Yozmit, has already received funding for this year's One City One Pride Event. He also announced that One City One Pride works in collaboration with Hollywood Fringe to promote art and theatre within the Los Angeles area. Mr. Che also commented on an upcoming seminar in West Hollywood Park; Arts Tune-up. He stated that the City is partnering with the Los Angeles, County Arts Commission as a resource to assist artists in promoting their art projects and performances. Finally, Mr. Che explained the process for applying for and receiving grants through these agencies and explained that arts grants are funded until all of the allocated funding has been awarded.

B. November Events – Transgender Awareness Month

1. Member Juarez spoke about having a photo exhibit of Trans professionals which could be prominently displayed as a part of Trans Awareness Month.
2. Chair LaChine commented that because of the West Hollywood Master Plan staff is working with the Board to consider other possible venues for TDOR 2017.
3. Member Johnson explained the TAB media project would spotlight Trans men and women designed to tell their personal stories and would include Trans violence, bullying etc. The segments would be filmed and available for screening by attendees at TDOR 2017.
4. Members also discussed live streaming TDOR.

C. Calendar Events throughout the Year

1. Member Johnson provided/proposed a working/living calendar of annual events in which the Board could participate. The calendar would be updated, as necessary, by Chair LaChine, or another member and used as a tool to agendize specific discussion points at regular monthly meetings.
 - a. Mr. Johnson noted one calendar event sponsored by Trans Life LA. The monthly event Wellness Night for Trans Folks emphasizes and promotes Trans wellness which included yoga, acupuncture, massage therapy etc.
2. Film Making Summit - March
3. Members Johnson and Sanchez will create a marketing plan for Trans Awareness Month to be discussed further on the March agenda.
4. Chair LaChine suggested that the Board work with Los Angeles GLBT Center to promote Trans Pride LA events.
5. Members briefly discussed reaching out to the Boy Scouts of America in light of their recent decision to allow Trans youth as members. Board members agreed to reach out to City Council members for direction on this matter.

10. NEW BUSINESS

A. Voter Outreach and March 7th West Hollywood Consolidated Municipal Election.

Staff alerted members that the 2017 and future elections will be overseen by the County not the City. Staff also noted that ballots for the March 7th City Council election can be dropped off at City Hall. The County will provide and manage the election drop off box.

Staff also announced that individual Board members are able to endorse City Council candidates. However the Board as a body is not able to endorse any candidate.

B. City of West Hollywood Leadership Conference

Staff member Larissa Fooks briefed the Board on West Hollywood's Women leadership and efforts to encourage/include women on the City's Boards and Commissions and their involvement in political leadership at all levels of government. The City will be working with Offices of the Assembly Speaker and Governor to educate women on running for office, activism and advocacy of women's issues will also be important components of the Conference.

Member Juarez recommended that the Women's Advisory Board and Center's 360 Women's Leadership Conference collaborate in promoting advocacy for women at all community and governmental levels of leadership.

C. Hollywood NOW

Hollywood NOW Board member Reina Martinez made a brief presentation to promote the February 11th screening of the Vagina Monologues noting that four (4) of this year's participants are members of the Trans Community. She also asked the Board to co-sponsor this event. Ms. Martinez confirmed that co-sponsorship includes using the Boards name on promotional literature and that no funds would be required.

ACTION: Motion to co-sponsor the Vagina Monologues by allowing NOW to use the Transgender Advisory Board's name on materials to promote the event. Motion by Member Wen second by Member Samala and approved.

11. ITEMS FROM STAFF

12. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

13. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Member Wen announced that he has tickets to the Vagina Monologues.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The Transgender Advisory Board adjourned at 8:40 PM in the memory of Jai Bornstein, a Trans youth who recently committed suicide. The next meeting is scheduled for March 1, 2017 in the EOC at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood, CA



Transgender Advisory Board Chair



Staff Liaison