

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
TRANSGENDER ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES FOR MARCH 15, 2017
Special Meeting**

**7:00 p.m., Wednesday March 15, 2017
Plummer Park Room 3
7377 Santa Monica Blvd.
West Hollywood, CA 90046**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** –Chair Lachine called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - led by a member of the audience.
3. **ROLL CALL** – Board Members present: Chair Coco Lachine, James Wen, Erika De La Cruz, Dr. Jaye Johnson and Alexis Sanchez. Also present: Bonnie Smith, Staff Liaison and Bruce Robertson, Staff Asst. Absent: Drian Juarez, Karina Samala, Justine Gonzalez, and Leslie Frias.
4. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA** Motion to approve the agenda by Member Johnson seconded by Member De La Cruz and approved.
5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Motion to approve the minutes of February 1, 2017 by Member De La Cruz seconded by Member Johnson and approved.
6. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

LINDSEY DEATON, RIVERSIDE CA, introduced herself as the Artistic Director of the Trans Chorus Los Angeles, and announced an upcoming vigil, at the Federal Building, March 31st at 5PM to commemorate Transgender Day of Visibility; and The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust concert to be performed by the Transgender Chorus LA, March 19th at the LGBT Youth Center.

ANGEL SANTANA, LOS ANGELES, CA, introduced herself as a career counselor at LGBT Youth Center and spoke about Healthy Diva's HIV prevention.

Karen Eyres, speaking on behalf of Hollywood NOW thanked the Board for their support of Vagina Monologues and announced the 2nd Annual Hollywood NOW Awards & Reception, March 16, 2017 at the West Hollywood Library.

7. MEMBER COMMENTS

MEMBER DE LA CRUZ thanked members of the public for being present and announced a fundraiser for Sandra Pereda, at the house of Lupita Diaz, a Trans female, who has been hospitalized with Trans related health issues. The suggested donation is \$10. Erika will forward additional information regarding the event when it becomes available.

MEMBER WEN thanked Hollywood NOW for its production of the Vagina Monologues. He also reported attended immigration forums. Member Wen asked the City attempt outreach to a Trans male of Russian decent currently living in a tent along Santa Monica Blvd. Finally member Wen asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Ciara McElveen who was stabbed in the 7th Ward of New Orleans, Chyna Gibson, a Los Angeles native was fatally shot also in New Orleans, and Keke Collier who was also fatally shot in the Englewood section of Chicago. He also noted Jacquarius Holland who was found murdered in Monroe on February 19th.

CHAIR LACHINE apprised the members that she, staff member Bonnie Smith and West Hollywood's Government Affairs liaison Hernan Molina recently spoke concerning Trans issues and a recent SCOTUS (Supreme Court of the United States) decision and how West Hollywood can best respond to future related issues.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8A. Transgender Arts Initiative and One City One Pride/Hollywood Fringe: Michael Che, Arts Coordinator and Andrew Campbell, Arts Manager.

Staff presented brief background information on grant applications received for consideration for the Trans Art Initiative. Of the nine (9) submittals staff recommended eight (8) for the Board to consider. The criteria for consideration concentrated on three (3) important questions:

1. Does the project support Trans artists or organizations?
2. Will the project be impactful to local community?
3. Will the proposed art provide the community with a deeper understanding of trans issues and experiences?

Members agreed, by consensus, to take immediate action by rating each of the applicants and forward their recommendations to the Arts Commission at tonight's meeting.

Staff briefly summarized each of recommended grant applications for the board to consider.

Member Wen recused himself from voting on Trans Chorus of Los Angeles proposal noting he is a board member of the Trans Chorus.

Member Johnson recused himself from Trans Life LA proposal noting he is a board member.

Chair LaChine disclosed that her photo was included in a promotional piece for Emperor Norton Productions but has no other official or unofficial affiliation with the film.

After a straw vote of each of the eight (8) submittals the Board forwarded its recommendations to the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission for their final consideration and approval.

8B. Hollywood NOW, President John Erickson
Item was discussed by Karen Eyres during public comment.

8C. Transgender Awareness Events

The Board discussed possible alternative locations for TDOR 2017 as West Hollywood Park and the Auto Court will be unavailable due to park renovations.

The Board also considered commemorating TDOR on an alternative date as this year November 20th falls on a Monday, which could potentially impact people's ability to attend. However due to the significance of TDOR the Board decided the event should be commemorated on November 20th and not an alternative date.

The Board asked that additional funding be considered for TDOR 2017 due to additional expenses, which might be needed in order to secure a suitable venue.

The Board discussed having a postcard made to advertise the Trans Film Festival.

8D. Calendar of Events throughout the year

The Board discussed possible support/endorsement of Transgender Day of Visibility on March 31st including an official media blast from the City's Communications department.

In light of the recent policy change by Boy Scouts of America, allowing Trans youth to join local troops, members discussed reaching out to Boy Scout leaders and parents. An educational reception was considered as well as an educational panel but no formal/final decision was made. Member Wen asked that a discussion on this matter be agendaized so that a full discussion and possible decision can be made regarding the matter.

Member Wen also suggested outreach to the Girl Scouts of America regarding this same matter.

9. NEW BUSINESS

A. APLA – National Trans Testing Day.

Staff informed the Board that the City Council is supporting National Trans Testing Day and asked if the Board would like to include its endorsement.

ACTION: Motion by Member Johnson to officially endorse National Trans Testing Day i.e., include in upcoming city mailings, share with other city organizations, boards and commissions. Motion seconded by Member Sanchez and passed with Member De La Cruz abstaining.

10. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Staff noted that the LA Marathon will be coming through West Hollywood Sunday, March 19th and that street closures will affect traffic throughout the city.

Staff also invited members to join City Staff, West Hollywood Sheriffs, the Women's Advisory Board, Public Safety Commission, and Block by Block for the April 9th kick-off of Sexual Assault Awareness. Staff and volunteers will be stationed at various meeting places throughout the city to engage and educate the public about the sexual assault.

12. PUBLIC COMMENT

David, representing the FBI LGBT's Advisory Committee encouraged members of the Trans and LGBT communities to communicate ideas/needs to the FBI's and spoke about *Diversity Agent Recruitment* inviting members of the Trans and other interested persons to apply.

13. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

MEMBER WEN spoke about Trans public safety at LA Pride 2017. He also commented about space limitations and the Trans stage and tent at this year's event. He also announced that the 2nd Stage theatre on LA's Theatre Row will host The Midnight Stroll, Friday, March 17th.

CHAIR LACHINE asked that the Board adjourn in memory of retired city employee Gary Martinez.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The Transgender Advisory Board adjourned at 7:55 PM in the memory of Ciara McElveen,

Chyna Gibson, Keke Collier and Gary Martinez. The next meeting is scheduled for April 12, 2017 in the EOC at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood, CA



Transgender Advisory Board Chair



Staff Liaison

A copy of the audio recording of this meeting can be obtained from the City Clerk's office upon request.

(Disclaimer: Staff records the meetings for the sole purpose of composing the official meeting minutes; therefore the recordings are not of commercial quality.)