

MINUTES
LESBIAN AND GAY ADVISORY BOARD
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
FEBRUARY 8, 2018
7:00 PM

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
625 NORTH SAN VICENTE BOULEVARD
WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA 90069

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Co-Chair James Duke Mason called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Robert Gamboa led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Lauren Costine, Megan Cotanch, John Erickson, Jason Frazier, Robert Gamboa, Lucas Junkin, Sue LaVaccare, Samantha Lavin, James Duke Mason, Marquita Thomas

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: David Giugni, Acting Director of Human Services and Rent Stabilization; Laura Schoonover, Jeff Book

C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA – The agenda was moved by John Erickson, seconded by Robert Gamboa, and unanimously approved on a roll call vote.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The minutes of the January 11, 2018, meeting were moved by John Erickson, seconded by Marquita Thomas, and unanimously approved on a roll call vote.

E. PUBLIC COMMENT

Nate Clark introduced himself and said he would be serving as liaison from the Human Services Commission.

F. ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

John Erickson requested that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Joyce Campopiano. Lucas Junkin requested that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Justin Lavelle. Robert Gamboa requested that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Joey and Anisha van Niekerk of Mooinooi, South Africa.

2. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

Approval of the Consent Calendar was moved by James Duke Mason, seconded by Megan Cotanch, and unanimously approved on a roll call vote.

A. CURRENT SOCIAL SERVICES FUNDED AGENCIES

The Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board received a flyer listing the currently contracted Social Services providers, and the programming that the City's funding supports.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. RAINBOW KEY AWARDS

Public Comment:

1. Jack Lorenz, director of development and communications for the Alliance for Housing and Healing, spoke on behalf of selecting Kathy Griffin for a Rainbow Key Award, noting her 25-year support of the organization, which was previously Aid for AIDS.

Members of the Advisory Board read aloud the nomination materials received for the 2018 Rainbow Key Awards for Rudy Akbarian, Marie Cartier, Shamey Cramer, Wilson Cruz, Jason Currie, Karen Eyres, Kathy Griffin, Rosa Manriquez, Matt Palazzolo, Brian Pendleton, Bamby Salcedo, Elizabeth Savage, Thrive Tribe Foundation, Monica Trasandes, and Rick Zbur.

ACTION: John Erickson moved to select Matt Palazzolo for a Rainbow Key Award. This was seconded by Lucas Junkin and unanimously approved on a roll call vote.

ACTION: After discussion, John Erickson moved the selection of Rudy Akbarian, Kathy Griffin, Brian Pendleton, Bamby Salcedo, and Elizabeth Savage for Rainbow Key Awards. This was seconded by Lauren Costine and unanimously approved on a roll call vote.

The proposed honorees are:

Rudy Akbarian
Kathy Griffin
Matt Palazzolo
Brian Pendleton
Bamby Salcedo
Elizabeth Savage

B. DYKE MARCH SUBCOMMITTEE

Members of the Dyke March subcommittee are Lauren Costine, John Erickson, Sue LaVaccare, Samantha Lavin, and Marquita Thomas. David Giugni said staff will consult with the subcommittee about scheduling the

next meeting to plan the June event.

4. NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business.

5. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no items on Excluded Consent.

6. ITEMS FROM STAFF

There were no additional items from staff.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no additional public comment.

8. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

A. LIAISON REPORTS

Marquita Thomas said she had been unable to attend the Transgender Advisory Board on February 7, but plans to attend the meeting in March.

B. OTHER ITEMS FROM ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

Jason Frazier spoke about having been in Mexico to plan a joint event with a gay men's chorus from there.

Marquita Thomas said CSW is conducting a search for an executive director, and that LGBT night for the Los Angeles Kings is March 1st.

Robert Gamboa spoke about serving on UCLA's LGBTQ Affairs committee, which has opened a spot for a community member. He spoke about participating in the Homeless Count. He spoke about the February 3 memorial for Matt Palazzolo, held in West Hollywood Park. He spoke on behalf of the Board.

Megan Cotanch said there are some videos of the Matt Palazzolo memorial online, and thanked Robert Gamboa for his remarks there.

James Duke Mason spoke about the Matt Palazzolo memorial, and thanked Robert Gamboa for his remarks there.

Lucas Junkin encouraged everyone to live a little bit more on behalf of Matt Palazzolo.

Lucas Junkin asked for an item on the next agenda to discuss the possibility of a lesbian coffee shop next to the City Council chambers, with an invitation to City staff in charge of leasing. There was no objection to this appearing on the agenda. John Erickson asked for it to include public

safety concerns about the coffee shop space.

Lauren Costine spoke about Michael's House Treatment Centers in Palm Springs.

Sue LaVaccare spoke to honor all of the nominees, which were of high quality.

John Erickson thanked those who attended the recent Women's March; spoke about the upcoming performance of The Vagina Monologues; asked staff to reach out to bisexual subcommittee member David Tiktin to explore City sponsorship of a bisexual event; said Harvey Milk Day is coming up, and asked if the Arts Division could present information; said he would like to begin discussion with the Arts Division regarding an annual grant named in memory of Matt Palazzolo; thanked Robert Gamboa for his remarks at the memorial; and asked if the co-chairs could meet with him and staff to discuss how to move forward with regard to having invited Special Events staff to attend the Advisory Board.

John Erickson asked for the March or April agenda to include an item to hold the June meeting in the renovated Werle Building, in the space next to the June Mazer Lesbian Archives. There was no objection to this agenda item.

9. ADJOURNMENT:

The Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board was adjourned at 8:35 pm in memory of Joyce Campopiano, Justin Lavelle, and Joey and Anisha Niekerk.


The next regular meeting is at 7 pm, Tuesday, March 8, 2018, 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 8TH DAY OF MARCH 2018



Co-Chair

Attest:


Staff Liaison