

MINUTES
LESBIAN AND GAY ADVISORY BOARD
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
MARCH 8, 2018
7:00 PM
FIRST FLOOR COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM
8300 SANTA MONICA BLVD
WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA 90069

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Co-Chair James Duke Mason called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
 - A. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – The Pledge of Allegiance was led by David Giugni.
 - B. **ROLL CALL**
 - PRESENT: Lauren Costine, Megan Cotanch, John Erickson, Lucas Junkin, Samantha Lavin, James Duke Mason, Marquita Thomas.
 - ABSENT: Jason Frazier, Robert Gamboa, Sue LaVaccare.
 - ALSO PRESENT: David Giugni, Social Services Manager; Andrew Campbell, Arts Manager; Mike Che, Corey Roskin, David Escobedo, and Jeff Book. Marquita Thomas joined the meeting in progress.
 - C. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Approval of the agenda was moved by John Erickson, seconded by James Duke Mason, and unanimously approved by roll call vote.
 - D. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval of the minutes of the February 8, 2018, meeting was moved by John Erickson, seconded by James Duke Mason, and unanimously approved by roll call vote.
 - E. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
 1. Lee Walkup spoke about Senior Month in May, including the health fair in Plummer Park, which he said is usually attended by up to 400 people. He spoke about an incident at his building which was reported to the sheriff.
 2. Mike Che of the Arts Division spoke about National Poetry Month in May, including the City Poem, which was composed from 88 responses. WeHo Arts, The Plan, was developed over 18 months, in engagement with

1,700 people.

3. Karen Eyres of Hollywood NOW thanked the Advisory Board for sponsoring the recent performance of The Vagina Monologues, which was very successful. She spoke about the Women's Herstory Awards on March 15, recognizing Councilmember Lindsey Horvath, and about plans for events for the Women's Leadership Awards.

F. ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

John Erickson asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of 17 who were killed at Marjory Stoneman Douglas in Parkland, Florida.

As a courtesy to speakers, Items 4A and 4B were moved ahead of item 3B. This change was moved by James Duke Mason, seconded by Sue LaVaccare, and unanimously approved by roll call vote.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no items on the Consent Calendar.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

3A. DYKE MARCH SUBCOMMITTEE

Subject: The Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board will receive and discuss an update on planning for the 2018 Dyke March.

John Erickson reported that the subcommittee met and talked about how to replicate and improve last year's event, and about selection of the honoree. City staff member Corey Roskin said Gloria Bigelow has agreed to be the emcee. The subcommittee will report further developments.

4A. HARVEY MILK DAY PLANS

Subject: The Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board will receive a report on the City's Harvey Milk Day plans.

Mike Che spoke about last year's protest sign workshop, and discussed plans for a reading of "Dear Harvey," featuring historian Lillian Faderman discussing her new book, "Harvey Milk: His Lives and Death."

4B. DISCUSSION OF WAYS TO REMEMBER MATT PALAZZOLO

Subject: The Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board will discuss ways to permanently honor the memory of Matt Palazzolo, such as sponsoring a performance scholarship in his name.

Andrew Campbell spoke about the challenges connected with taking on a continuing scholarship program, including who would select the recipients and manage the ongoing process. James Duke Mason said it could be announced at the Rainbow Key Awards, and that it could be a way to encourage youth leadership. John Erickson said he had spoken with Matt Palazzolo's family and they were very honored for this to be considered.

Marquita Thomas joined the meeting at this point. John Erickson spoke about whether the proposal is for an award, scholarship, or grant. John Erickson moved for a subcommittee to develop the proposal and report to the next meeting. This was seconded by James Duke Mason and unanimously approved by voice vote. The subcommittee is John Erickson and James Duke Mason.

3B. RAINBOW KEY AWARDS

Subject: The Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board will receive information on possible dates for the 2018 Rainbow Key Awards and consider selecting the date.

Staff said the evenings of June 5, 20 and 26 are available in the City Council Chambers, and spoke about availability of the recipients. Board Members discussed options and expressed interest in Monday, June 11, either in the Council Chambers or upstairs in the Library.

3C. 2017-2018 LGAB WORKPLAN

Subject: The Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board will continue discussion of the three major areas chosen for 2017-2018: Lesbian Visibility, Homelessness of LGB Youth, and the Future of the LGB Community.

James Duke Mason moved to combine Item 3C and 4C. This was seconded by Sue LaVaccare, and not agreed to, by a vote of 3 yes (Megan Cotanch, Sue LaVaccare, James Duke Mason), 3 no (John Erickson, Lucas John, Marquita Thomas), and 1 abstain (Lauren Costine).

David Giugni spoke about the recent point-in-time count of homeless people in West Hollywood, which is conducted annually, and about Homeless Connect Day. He said the nonprofit agencies which have contracts for services with the City of West Hollywood do outreach the homeless on an ongoing basis.

Lauren Costine said the subcommittee on the future would meet soon.

4. NEW BUSINESS

C. ENCOURAGEMENT OF LESBIAN-THEMED COFFEE SHOP

Subject: The Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board will discuss possibilities for encouraging a lesbian-themed coffee shop to be located in the City.

David Giugni said Jackie Rocco indicated a coffee roasting company has been engaged to provide services in the area next to the City Council Chambers during the construction of the new areas of West Hollywood Park. When construction is complete, the City plans to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for coffee shop and retail spaces under the new stairway to the aquatic center as well as the coffee shop next to Council Chambers.

Lucas Junkin moved to request that the Board recommend to the City

Council that when West Hollywood Park improvements are being completed, and a Request for Proposals is issued for operation of West Hollywood Park commercial space both in the City Council Chambers building and the new Recreation building, that plans for one or more of the spaces include the concept of being Lesbian-themed. This was seconded by Lauren Costine, and approved 5 yes to 1 no, with John Erickson voting no.

The Board expressed interest in having a tour of the improved space at the Werle Building.

5. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no items on Excluded Consent.

6. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Staff provided a handout on Women's History Month, and said the City Clerk has arranged for the Advisory Board to hold its April and May 2018 meetings in the Library Community Meeting Room, due to construction that will be happening in the lobby of City Hall.

David Giugni said that Peter Noonan, Acting Director of Human Services and Rent Stabilization, was planning to attend the next meeting. He spoke about the use of the Werle Building.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no additional public comment.

8. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

A. LIAISON REPORTS

Marquita Thomas had spoken with members of the Transgender Advisory Board, and they are working on an event.

John Erickson attended the Women's Advisory Board in February. He thanked the Board for their support of The Vagina Monologues. He spoke about supporting the events of Women's History Month.

B. OTHER ITEMS FROM ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

Lucas John suggested the name Fridalita's as a name for a coffee space honoring the spirit of Little Frida's.

John Erickson asked the Board to begin the process of planning for its 30th anniversary next year, and moved to place an item on the agenda to begin strategic planning. There were no objections.

John Erickson moved to place on the agenda a discussion of sponsoring a

screening of "Seeing Allred," with Gloria Allred as a guest. There were no objections.

John Erickson thanked Andrew Campbell for the recent "Call Me By Your Name" reading in the Council Chambers.

Members of the Etheridge Award committee are considering possible honorees for June, and will be meeting to make a decision.

John Erickson renewed his request that the Advisory Board be authorized to hold its June meeting in the Werle Building.

9. ADJOURNMENT:

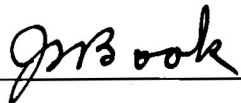
The Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board was adjourned at 9:19 pm in memory of 17 people who were killed in a shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. The next regular meeting is at 7 pm, Tuesday, April 12, 2018, in the Library Community Meeting Room, 625 North San Vicente Boulevard, 90069.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE LESBIAN AND GAY ADVISORY BOARD ON THE 10TH DAY OF MAY 2018.



Co-Chair

Attest:


Secretary