

**MINUTES  
LESBIAN AND GAY ADVISORY BOARD  
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD**

**JULY 12, 2018  
7:00 PM**

**FIESTA HALL  
7377 SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD  
WEST HOLLYWOOD 90046**

**1. CALL TO ORDER** – Co-Chair Megan Cotanch called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

**A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – The Pledge of Allegiance was repeated.

**B. INSTALLATION OF NEW MEMBER**

**ACTION:** Sepi Shyne, who has been appointed by Councilmember Heilman, was installed as a member of the Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board by Corri Planck, and was congratulated by the Board.

**C. ROLL CALL –**

**PRESENT:** Lauren Costine, Megan Cotanch, John Erickson, Jason Frazier, Robert Gamboa, Lucas Junkin, Sepi Shyne

**ABSENT:** James Duke Mason, Marquita Thomas

**ALSO PRESENT:** Corri Planck, Strategic Initiatives Manager; David Escobedo and Jeff Book.

There is one vacancy.

**C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**ACTION:** Approval of the agenda was moved by Robert Gamboa, seconded by Jason Frazier, and unanimously approved by roll call vote.

**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**ACTION:** Approval of the minutes of the May 10, 2018, meeting was moved by John Erickson, seconded by Robert Gamboa, and approved 6 to 0 on a roll call vote, with Sepi Shyne abstaining.

**E. PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Lee Walkup, Senior Advisory Board liaison, spoke about the Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles (GMCLA), which recently had a bomb threat toward a performance at the Alex Theatre in Glendale. He said GMCLA is looking forward to welcoming the Mexico City Gay Men's Chorus for joint performances this summer.

2. Karen Eyres, chair of Women's Advisory Board (WAB), thanked the Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board for partnering with WAB on the upcoming screening of "Seeing Allred."

3. Eric Jon Schmidt, candidate for West Hollywood City Council, commented on the absence of James Duke Mason from the meeting and said he would like the members of the Advisory Board to write a summary every six months as to what they have contributed to the city.

4. David Reid spoke about the idea of renaming West Hollywood Park as West Hollywood Pride Park, and asked for the right first step for him to take with regard to this.

#### **F. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

John Erickson asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Jim Duncan, longtime City employee who passed away recently. He also asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Jim Napier

Lauren Costine asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Sandi Miracle.

Jason Frazier asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Tab Hunter and in honor of the 39th anniversary of the founding of the Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles, which held its first rehearsal in Plummer Park's Long Hall.

#### **2. CONSENT CALENDAR**

There were no items on the Consent Calendar.

#### **3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

##### **A. RESPONSES FROM CITY COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE**

*Subject: The Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board will receive responses from the City Council Subcommittee regarding three items from the Advisory Board: an annual grant in honor of Matt Palazzolo, determining that there be a Lesbian-themed space in the completed Library/Council Chambers/Recreation Facility, and co-sponsorship of a social event to celebrate bisexuality.*

Corri Planck provided the City Council Subcommittee's responses to the three items sent to them by the Advisory Board. The Council Subcommittee, consisting of the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore, determines whether an item will be placed on the Council agenda.

1. Regarding an annual grant in honor of Matt Palazzolo, the Council Subcommittee declined to move this forward to the City Council agenda, and suggested that working with a nonprofit group such as the Point Foundation would be a better way to accomplish this goal.

2. Regarding Lesbian-themed space in the City's planned new building, the Council Subcommittee said suggested language could not be included in the request for proposals regarding the new building, but the idea can continue to be considered.

3. Regarding support for a bisexual community event, the Council Subcommittee asked for more information.

Lucas Junkin asked whether these comments were from the previous Subcommittee (Mayor John Heilman and Mayor Pro Tempore John Duran) or the current one (Mayor Duran and Mayor Pro Tempore John D'Amico). Corri Planck said it was the former one.

John Erickson said he has talked with Mayor Duran and Mayor Pro Tem D'Amico on the proposal, and that he and Robert Gamboa have provided information with details, including the date, time, and other particulars. Sepi Shyne said Human Rights Campaign LA will be registering voters at the event, and this may be the first bi-affirming event held by a city government anywhere. Whether to include alcohol and whether to have an age limit were discussed. Robert Gamboa said it will be a one-day, rather than three-day event. John Erickson asked for staff to aim for an August Council meeting for approval.

With regard to the Matt Palazzolo item, Lucas Junkin requested that this be moved to the next agenda, and there was no objection.

**B. SEEING ALLRED**

*Subject: The Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board will consider having a role in a screening of Seeing Allred (2018), a documentary by Roberta Grossman and Sophie Sartain about Women's Rights attorney Gloria Allred.*

John Erickson said the Women's Advisory Board will be sponsoring the event, which will likely be held in late August. He will report back to the next Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board meeting.

**C. RAINBOW KEY AWARDS**

*Subject: The Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board will review the 2018 Rainbow Key Awards, held on Tuesday, June 5, 2018.*

Board members discussed the June 5 Rainbow Key event, commenting on the co-emcees, James Duke Mason and Megan Cotanch, having done a great job. Lucas Junkin said it was one of the more enjoyable Rainbow Key programs. John Erickson spoke about the event being too focused on one honoree; about including the Transgender Advisory Board; about hiring an organizer for this event; about having much lighter catering next time; and noted that the City Council seemed to take ownership, when it should be the Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board's awards.

**D. DYKE MARCH**

*Subject: The Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board may discuss the 2018 Dyke March, held on Friday, June 8, 2018.*

This item was moved to the next agenda, on August 9, 2018.

**E. PLANNING FOR 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF LGAB**

*Subject: The Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board will continue discussion of recognizing the 30th anniversary of the Board, which was created on February 6, 1989.*

Lucas Junkin suggested a safari theme for an event to celebrate the 30th anniversary. Robert Gamboa said it would be a chance to highlight what the Board has done, and honor those who have been on the Board. He said it would be an opportunity for a presentation to the City. Jason Frazier said it was a way to know why the Board was formed and how it is still relevant. Board Members requested a list of everyone who has served on the Board since its formation.

**F. PASS THE TORCH EVENT**

*Subject: The Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board will continue discussion of a "pass the torch" speaking opportunity for those who participated in earlier decades of lesbian and gay activism.*

Lucas Junkin said this could be tied in to celebrating the 30th anniversary.

**4. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. STATUS REPORT ON THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY LESBIAN AND BISEXUAL WOMEN'S HEALTH COLLABORATIVE**

*Subject: The Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board will receive a status report on the work of the Los Angeles County Lesbian and Bisexual Women's Health Collaborative.*

Corri Planck said this group has been meeting since 2008 and has been very active in providing medical providers and institutions with trainings in culturally competent care for lesbian and bisexual women. Their most recent report will be sent to the Board.

John Erickson spoke about how the Board can be constructive in this regard, and about providing PEP and PrEP to women.

**5. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR**

There were no items on the Excluded Consent Calendar.

**6. ITEMS FROM STAFF**

Corri Planck spoke about the recent reorganization of the Human Services and Rent Stabilization Department, which now includes the Strategic Initiatives Division, which among other things will be working with the City's Aging in Place, homelessness, and poverty reduction initiatives, as well as the Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board and the Women's Advisory Board.

**7. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no additional public comment.

**8. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

The floor was opened for nominations for Male Co-Chair for 2018-2019. Lucas Junkin nominated Jason Frazier. There were no other nominations. Robert Gamboa moved to close nominations and declare Jason Frazier elected. This was seconded by John Erickson and unanimously adopted on a roll call vote.

The floor was opened for nominations for Female Co-Chair for 2018-2019. John Erickson nominated Lauren Costine. There were no other nominations. John Erickson moved to close nominations and declare Lauren Costine elected. This was seconded by Sepi Shyne and unanimously adopted on a roll call vote.

**8. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

**A. LIAISON REPORTS**

Robert Gamboa spoke about developments with regard to streetscape design, which will include digital presentations.

John Erickson attended the Transgender Advisory Board, which is working on the Transgender Day of Remembrance. He attended the Women's Advisory Board with regard to the Gloria Allred event.

**B. OTHER ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

Sepi Shyne introduced herself as a resident since 2009. She said tonight was the first time she has heard of Rainbow Key, which highlights the need for better outreach in the community. She is an attorney in trademark law, a Reiki master healer, and a gay rights activist. She serves as chair for community engagement for Human Rights Campaign LA.

John Erickson congratulated the new co-chairs, and thanked Robert Gamboa and David Tiktin for support in moving forward on the bisexual event. He thanked Megan Cotanch for being a tireless co-chair. He requested that staff provided an update on the Pulse Plaque. He asked to keep the Rainbow Key item on the next agenda, and there was no objection. He asked to know more about the Board's subcommittees having to be approved by the City Council. He requested a report on SB 10 (Hertzberg) from the Governmental Affairs Liaison. He announced that he has become director of public affairs for Planned Parenthood-LA, and is a new national board member for NOW.

Lauren Costine welcomed Sepi Shyne and thanked Megan Cotanch for her service as co-chair. She asked that consideration of the Lesbian-

themed space topic be continued on the next agenda, and there was no objection.

Robert Gamboa welcomed Sepi Shyne and thanked David Tiktin for his continued work on the bi event. He thanked James Duke Mason and Megan Cotanch for their work as co-chairs, and congratulated Lauren Costine and Jason Frazier on their election as co-chairs. He asked that the meeting also be adjourned in memory of Donald Russell Downs.

Megan Cotanch thanked members for their support this year. She congratulated John Erickson on his news and noted that the video at the Rainbow Keys was his doing. She welcomed Lauren Costine and Jason Frazier to the role of co-chairs.

The Board discussed how to proceed on the request to discuss West Hollywood Pride Park, and determined by consensus to place this on the next agenda. There was no objection.

Lucas Junkin congratulated Megan Cotanch and spoke about the Los Angeles Diversity Film Festival, planned for July 26-28, 2018.

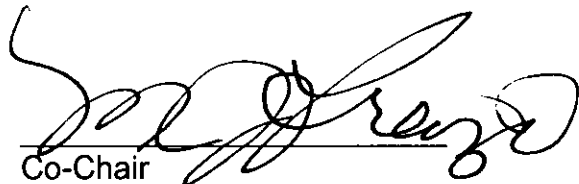
Jason Frazier welcomed Sepi Shyne and thanked David Tiktin for his work on the bi event. He thanked Megan Cotanch for her work as co-chair and partnership with James Duke Mason.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

In memory of Jim Duncan, Jim Napier, Sandi Miracle, Tab Hunter, and Donald Russell Downs, and in honor of the 39th anniversary of the Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. to its next regular meeting, at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, August 9, 2018, in the First Floor Community Meeting Room at West Hollywood City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood 90069.

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APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE LESBIAN AND GAY ADVISORY BOARD ON THE 9TH DAY OF AUGUST 2018.

  
Co-Chair

Attest:

  
Secretary