

**MINUTES  
LESBIAN AND GAY ADVISORY BOARD  
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD  
MEETING  
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD  
THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 2021  
7:00 PM  
TELECONFERENCE MEETING**

**1. CALL TO ORDER** – Co-Chair Wright called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Board Member Sotile led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. INSTALLATION OF NEW MEMBER**

Councilmember John Erickson swore in Jackie Steele as a member of the Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board.

Councilmember Sepi Shyne Congratulated Jackie Steele for being sworn in and being the first Board Member identified as Bisexual.

**4. ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:**

Marna Deitch, Billy Francesca, Jason Frazier, Robert Gamboa, Lucas Junkin, Alex Paris, Rene Sotile, Jackie Steele, Sarah Whitaker, Zekiah N. Wright, Esq.

**ABSENT:**

None

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Hernan Molina, Councilmember Sepi Shyne, Councilmember John Erickson, Melissa Crowder, Danny Casillas, David Wilson.

**5. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**ACTION:** Move item 9.D. to the Consent Calendar and Approve the Agenda of Thursday, March 11, 2021 as amended. Motion by Co-Chair Wright, Second by Co-Chair Gamboa and approved 10 to 0 by roll call vote.

**6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**ACTION:** Approve the minutes of February 11, 2021 with the following corrections;

*Item 13.C: Change "she" to "they".*

*Item 10.A: Change date to March 11, 2021.*

*Item 13.C: Correct Board Member Sotile's name.*

Motion by Co-Chair Wright, second by Deitch and approved 8 Aye and 2 Abstentions by roll call vote.

**7. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Alana Roshay, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke about the Human Trafficking Training.

**8. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Board Member Francesca welcomed Board Member Steele.

Board Member Deitch welcomed Board Member Steele, spoke of Ivy Botini's legacy and requested to adjourn in memory of Ivy Botini.

Board Member Whitaker welcomed Board Member Steele and acknowledged Co-Chair Wright's opening comments.

Board Member Sotile welcomed Board Member Steele.

Board Member Frazier acknowledged Co-Chair Wright's opening comments, welcomed Board Member Steele and spoke about the Transgender persons who have been killed; Alexis Braxton AKA Kimmy Icon Braxton, Chyna Carrillo AKA Chyna Cardena, siblings, Jasmine Cannady & Jeffery 'JJ' Bright and Jenna Franks. He also spoke about the bans on transgender girls participating in high school sports.

Board Member Junkin welcomed Board Member Steele, congratulated Board Member Frazier on his re-appointment and thanked Board Member Deitch for comments about Ivy Botini.

Board Member Steele greeted the board and said she was honored to serve as the first bisexual member. She spoke about the importance of intersectionality within the queer community. She asked to adjourn in memory of all the Trans lives lost this year and in memory of Ivy Botini.

Co-Chair Gamboa, acknowledged Co-Chair Wright's opening comments, welcomed Board Member Sotile & Board Member Steele. Co-Chair Gamboa congratulated Board Member Steele on being the first Bisexual Board Member; he also congratulated Board Member Frazier on his re-appointment and asked to adjourn the meeting in memory of Ivy Botini and all the community members that we lost to COVID-19.

Co-Chair Wright welcomed Board Member Steele, encouraged Board Members to meet with their appointing Council Members, congratulated Board Member Frazier on his re-appointment and asked to adjourn in memory of Ivy Botini and George Floyd.

## 9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### A. INCREASING LGAB VISIBILITY

The Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board continued discussing opportunities on ways to increase the visibility of the Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board.

### B. ASSISTANCE TO LGBT-OWNED LOCAL BUSINESSES

The Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board discussed the recent closures of LGBT owned bars, nightclubs, and other businesses and reviewed the City's past and recent actions to assist local small businesses.

**ACTION:** Recommend the City Council consider adopting the business preservation models of the Cities of San Francisco and Seattle in order to assist LGBTQAI-Owned Businesses in West Hollywood. The intent is to support struggling LGBTQIAA+ businesses with additional options as the long-term impacts of the Covid-19 Pandemic continue to reduce capacity or close LGBTQIAA+ businesses altogether.

Motion: Gamboa Second: Junkin

Aye: Deitch, Francesca, Frazier, Gamboa, Junkin, Paris, Sotile, Steele, Whitaker

No: Wright

**ACTION:** Recommend that staff identify a budget for the Drag Laureate program, which specifically includes funds for producing an extended social media campaign. The campaign will be a combination of produced videos (PSA) and photos.

The budget should reflect video/photo production and marketing costs.

Motion: Sotile Second: Deitch

Aye: Deitch, Frazier, Gamboa, Junkin, Paris, Sotile, Whitaker

No: Steele

Abstain: Francesca

**ACTION:** Recommend that City Council direct staff to study the feasibility of using current City-owned properties or purchasing space for displaced businesses. Additionally, the Board recommended using financial resources, i.e., grants, tax revenues, etc., to subsidize LGBTQIAA+ legacy businesses.

Motion: Wright Second: Gamboa

All Aye

**C. LGAB WORKPLAN: PRIORITIES**

**ACTION: Table Item 9.C. to the April 8, 2021 meeting**

Motion: Paris Second: Frazier

Aye: Deitch, Francesca, Frazier, Gamboa, Junkin, Paris, Sotile, Steele, Whitaker

No: Wright

**10. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. RAINBOW KEY AWARDS AND ETHRIDGE AWARD**

The Board reviewed recommendations for selecting recipients of the awards. The Board received an update from the Ethridge Award Subcommittee on the status of the selection process for this award. Board members will review the list of nominees and will make a decision at the April meeting.

**B. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN THE LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY**

The Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board discussed domestic violence in the LGBTQ+ Community in Los Angeles County.

**ACTION: Form an LGBTQ+ Domestic Violence subcommittee**

Motion: Junkin Second: Sotile

All Aye

**11. ITEMS FROM STAFF:**

Molina

- Acknowledgement of tenor of the February meeting.
- Domestic Violence information on City website
- Look Ahead and Look Back
- Transgender Flag Crosswalk at March Transportation Commission
- Special meeting of the Transgender Advisory Board and Roundtable focused on trans athletes in sports as part of Transgender Day of Visibility (TDOV) on March 31, 2021 at 5 PM,

**12. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None.

**13. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS:**

**A. LIAISON REPORTS**

Board Member Deitch reported that the Transgender Advisory Board will hold a Roundtable on March 31, 2021.

Board Member Whitaker gave a summary of the last Human Services Commission meeting.

Co-Chair Wright announced her resignation as the liaison to the Transgender Advisory Board.

**B. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

Co-Chair Gamboa gave a summary of the last meeting of the Legislative Subcommittee.

Members were added to the LGBTQ+ Domestic Violence subcommittee: Sotile, Gamboa and Deitch.

**C. OTHER ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

Board Member Deitch spoke about “No Name Calling Week”.

Board Member Francesca spoke about training from the National Security Council for West Hollywood business security personnel, adding B to LGAB to include Bisexual persons and thanked staff.

Board Member Frazier spoke about item 5.D. on the March 15 City Council agenda, which was introduced by Councilmembers John Erickson and Sepi Shyne to rebrand LGAB. He also mentioned the upcoming Gay Men’s Chorus virtual concert on March 20, 2021.

Board Member Paris welcomed Board Member Steele.

Board Member Junkin reminded the Board about the importance of brevity during meetings.

- 14. ADJOURNMENT:** The Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board adjourned in memory of Ivy Botini, Alexis Braxton AKA Kimmy Icon Braxton, Chyna Carrillo AKA Chyna Cardena, siblings, Jasmine Cannady & Jeffery ‘JJ’ Bright, Jenna Franks, George Floyd, all Transgender people who have been killed, as well as all the community members that we lost to COVID-19, at 9:22 p.m. to its next regular meeting, which is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 15, 2021, via teleconference.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE LESBIAN AND GAY  
ADVISORY BOARD ON THE 8TH DAY OF APRIL 2021

DocuSigned by:

*Robert Gamboa*

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Co-Chair

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:

*DJK*

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Secretary