

**MINUTES
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
TRANSGENDER ADVISORY BOARD
WEDNESDAY AUGUST 5, 2020
6:00 P.M.**

**SPECIAL
TELECONFERENCE
MEETING**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Fairchild called the meeting to order at 6:06pm
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Chair Fairchild led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: **Vice Chair De La Cruz
Member Rostovsky
Member Samala
Member Sanchez
Member Wen
Member Johnson
Member Monroy
Member Deaton
Chair Fairchild**

4. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**
ACTION: The Transgender Advisory Board approved the agenda of the August 5, 2020 meeting. Chair Fairchild requested to move item 8C to adjournment. **Motioned by Chair Fairchild, seconded by Wen with a change to number of lives be recognized, and approved.**
5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
ACTION: The Transgender Advisory Board approved the minutes of the March 4, 2020 meeting.
6. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**
None.
7. **MEMBER COMMENTS**

Member Deaton expressed how she has missed everyone and is glad to be back and get to work!

Member Rostovsky was happy to be back and shared how he missed everyone.

Member Sanchez was thankful for boards / commissions to be able to come back and spoke about community member concerns that existed pre-pandemic.

Member Wen shared events he's participated in, thanked Council and City Staff and asked to have Red Cross agenda'd for September's meeting.

Vice Chair De La Cruz was happy to see everyone and talked about the effects of the pandemic on the community.

Chair Fairchild was happy to see everyone.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.A. Transgender Flag

ACTION: The Transgender Advisory Board asked the Transportation Commission to create a crosswalk with the Transgender Flag in the City of West Hollywood at the corner of Santa Monica Boulevard and San Vicente. **Motioned by Member Johnson, seconded by Member Deaton and approved.**

Speaker: Commissioner Christopher Bowen, Transportation Commission

Chair Fairchild gave a background on the Flag that was located at Santa Monica Boulevard and San Vicente which was removed because it was not properly permitted.

Member Deaton expressed her disappointment in the removal of the flag and the conversation around it.

Member Rostovsky expressed his hurt, which was shared with other Community members, with Council's response to the erasure of the Flag. He stated that the solution needs to be inclusive and representative of all.

Member Samala shared the concerns from Community members and how imperative it is for there to not only be a marker for those who have passed but also for the living in the Community.

Member Sanchez was excited to see what Transportation Commission had in mind, spoke about Community's response to the erasure of the flag, and additional flags and edits to current flags up in the City.

Member Wen shared he spoke with Council about the flag and requested it not be erased before trans pride weekend and spoke about the march.

Chair De la Cruz expressed hurt in removal of the flag, talked about how Community approached her to have Council change their mind and stated how important it is for the Community to feel welcomed.

Chair Fairchild also spoke with community members and spoke at Council about the hurt to Community from the erasure, and conversation, of the flag.

Transportation Commission representative, Christopher Bowen, shared the Transportation Commission wants to work with TAB to get them the representation they need because they too were not happy with the response from the City about the Transgender Flag.

Member Johnson requested the Board to make a decision to have a sidewalk and put the ask with Transportation Commission and venture to other projects as community asks.

Member Wen recommended everything be on the long crosswalks, which includes BIPOC.

Commissioner Bowen outlined the process of the recommendation to Council, saying that the ask should consider the financial impact on the City as well.

8.B. Election of new Chair and Vice Chair

ACTION: The Transgender Advisory Board elected Jacob Rostovsky as the new Chair and Alexis Sanchez as the new Vice Chair. No action required.

Member Deaton renominated current Chair and Vice Chair, both declined.

Member Samala elected Member Deaton as chair and she declined.

Member Sanchez nominated Member Rostovsky as Chair, he accepted.

Member Johnson nominated Member Sanchez as Vice Chair, she accepted.

8.C. Special Adjournment

ACTION: The Board adjourned in the names of the 22 transgender or gender non-Conforming people fatally shot or killed by other violent means. **No action required.**

Member Wen shared that there are 30 names to be read.

This item was moved to adjournment.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

9.A. Transgender Awareness Month

ACTION: The Transgender Advisory Board discussed virtual events to host during the month of November. **No action required.**

Staff stressed the importance of having someone produce the event. Staff also discussed the timeline of making sure a program is secured so that contracts can be executed.

Member Johnson volunteered to help find platforms to host TDOR virtual events.

Member Sanchez spoke regarding event on TDOR, TransVagina Diaries, and the importance of having something to support community like a virtual Health Fair.

Member Wen proposed giving a monetary gift to community members affected by COVID-19.

Member Johnson recommended a hybrid approach which consists of prerecorded elements of key pieces, live components as well, with live chat feature.

The Board agreed the program should be kept to an hour.

The Board agreed the program should consist of a live statement by the Chair, a prerecorded statement by the Mayor, a ceremony for Natives, artist for 3-5 mins, reading of the names, and end with a picture of the Human Rights Triangle.

Member Deaton agreed to find the prayer person.

Staff directed to check with Facilities to confirm the City will still illuminate City Hall for Transgender Awareness Month and to see if the lights along Santa Monica Boulevard can change colors and if so, can they be programmed for Trans Awareness Month as well.

9B. National Transgender Virtual/Visibility March

Subject: The Transgender Advisory Board did not discuss presenting an item to the City Council concerning the March. This item was tabled to the Special Meeting to be held at a later date in the month. **No action required.**

10. ITEMS FROM THE STAFF

None.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

12. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

None.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The Transgender Advisory Board adjourned at 8:03pm in the names of Transgenders or Gender Nonconforming fatally shot or killed by other violent means to their next meeting on Wednesday, September 2, 2020 at 6 PM via teleconference.

Jacob Rostovsky

Transgender Advisory Board Chair

Hernan Molina

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.)