# TRANSGENDER ADVISORY BOARD CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD MINUTES WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2022 6:00 PM TELECONFERENCE MEETING

- 1. **CALL TO ORDER** Chair Alexander called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.
  - **A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** Member Gray led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **B. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Chair Luckie Alexander

Board Member Eden Luna Board Member Karina Samala Board Member Shane Nash Board Member Blossom Brown Board Member Deshon Gray Board Member Nik Kacy

**Absent:** Vice Chair Mallery Robinson

**Board Member Andy Ruiz** 

Also Present: Staff Liaison Moya Marguez

Staff Liaison Larissa Fooks

Acting Recording Secretary Tatyana Rodzinek

#### **SWEARING IN A NEW MEMBER OF THE BOARD**

Mayor Meister swore in a new member of the board Nik Kacy

#### C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

**SUBJECT**: The Transgender Advisory Board is requested to approve the Agenda of the February 2, 2022 meeting.

**ACTION**: Motion by **Chair Alexander** to make amendment to the agenda to move the item 4A to the top of the agenda and approve with changes the February 2, 2022, Agenda, seconded by **Member Gray**, and unanimously approved by roll call.

#### D. APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 5, 2022 MEETING MINUTES

SUBJECT: The Transgender Advisory Board is requested to approve the

minutes of the meeting of January 5, 2022.

**ACTION**: Member Luna made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Chair Alexander, and unanimously approved by roll call vote.

#### **E. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

#### 2. CONSENT CALENDAR

None.

#### 3. PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD

#### A. Presentation from West Coast Sports Association

The Board will receive, review, and discuss a presentation from West Coast Sports Association.

Devin Moore, the CEO for West Coast Sports Association, introduced the association and spoke about the goal of the association to give back to the youth of trans folks and non-binary, to be able to raise and get funds for supplies and medical support for these groups of population.

#### **ACTION:**

1) Members received information and asked questions. No action taken

#### **B.** Introduction from TurnOut

The Board will receive an introduction from Sarah Hyde, Senior Programs Manger at TurnOut about their work in education, empowerment, and awareness of issues affecting the Transgender Community in West Hollywood.

Sarah Hyde, Senior Programs Manger at TurnOut, which is a small, California based nonprofit, and their mission is to mobilize communities to power queer and trans movements. The organization connects volunteers to queer, trans and intersectional events and activities.

#### **ACTION:**

1) Members received information and asked questions. No action taken

#### 4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

#### A. Workplan Discussion

The Board will continue to develop their workplan.

#### **ACTION:**

1) The board continued discussion on the goals. No action taken.

#### B. <u>Update on the City's Anti-Violence Efforts</u>

The Board will receive a status update on some of the City's ongoing Anti-Violence efforts including the joint Subcommittee with Public Safety Commission.

**Staff Liaison Marquez** provided clarification on the study session, which is going to be a joint subcommittee consisting of two members of the Women's Advisory Board, two members of the Public Safety Commission, two members of the LGAB subcommittee and City Council. The representatives from the boards and commission will be asked to come up with concrete ideas for what the board members want the city council to support. Board members will need to appoint two members to the joint subcommittee and will be asked to come up with concrete ideas for what they want to see as city's anti-violence efforts.

**Staff Liaison Fooks** provided clarification that the study session would be an opportunity to talk about the town hall.

#### **ACTION:**

- Member Alexander made a motion to designate two representatives for the study session and reach out to the Vice Chair Robinson to find out what is being planned for the town hall and run those items concurrently.
- 2) Member Luna made an amendment to ask for an update from Vice Chair Robinson two weeks before the city council meeting, and if there is no response, to defer to the March meeting to get an update. Nik Kacy seconded the motion with the amendment. Motion passed with the roll call vote.
- 3) Member Luna and Chair Alexander expressed interest in being delegated to the study session. Chair Alexander made a motion to extend a meeting until 8:15, seconded by member Luna. Motion passed by roll call vote.

#### C. Town Hall Updates

The Board Will receive an update on the Board's proposed Town Hall and include further discussion on the content and participation of other City bodies.

#### **ACTION:**

1) The item was discussed in conjunction with the discussion on the study session on the City's Anti-Violence Efforts.

#### 5. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Discussion of Social Services Priorities and Designation of a Delegate to Provide Input on Social Services Priorities at a Meeting of the Human Services Commission

The Board will be asked to designate the Chair or an alternate to provide input to the Human Services Commission (HSC) on Social Services priorities at the Commission's meeting of March 8, 2022 and discuss social services priorities.

DeeAna Sanders, Social Services Specialist and Derek Murray, Social Services Program Administrator talked to the board regarding the Social Services Priorities.

Board members provided input on the following questions:

## What are the significant social services needs of the constituency your Board represents?

Board members indicated that there is a need for resources for survivors of sexual violence, sexual assault, intimate partner violence, stalking, and hate crimes; transitional housing for transmen, transmasculine, and non-binary individuals; street medicine and linkage to care, especially for those who are undocumented and working in the street economy; health insurance navigation services, especially for enrolling undocumented persons into Medi-Cal; space to discuss racial bias and discrimination for those who experience it; affordable housing; education around covid-19 vaccinations; technology training and providing technology, such as phones, tablets and laptops, so that community members can access services; training for staff at bars and clubs on safety for trans patrons and on using inclusive language; Increased awareness of services available in West Hollywood.

## 2. Have there been recent changes to services needs or service delivery for the constituency your Board represents?

**Board members indicated that C**ovid-19 impacted service delivery; led to a lack of engagement and connection with the community because many service providers are working remotely. Virtual programming exacerbated dysphoria and trauma when community members are staring at themselves on the screen. There are fewer unhoused transgender community members on the street and providers are not seeing them as often as in the past.

### 3. What barriers might there be to your constituency accessing available services?

**Board members indicated that t**rans older adults have challenges accessing virtual programming and the technology is a barrier; lack of inclusive programming is a barrier to survivors of sexual assault and intimate partner violence; domestic violence shelters are not inclusive for the community; trust with service providers is a barrier; Covid-19 related isolation and loneliness; community members are not aware of existing programming; being undocumented is a barrier to service.

#### **ACTION:**

 Member Kacy made a motion to designate member Luna to represent the Transgender Advisory Board at a meeting of the Human Services Commission with the Chairs of Commissions and Advisory Boards in preparation for the 2022-25 Social Services funding process. Member Gray seconded. Motion passed by roll call vote.

#### B. International Transgender Day of Visibility

The Board discuss efforts it may wish to undertake to celebrate the International Transgender Day of Visibility on March 31, 2022.

#### **ACTION:**

- 1) Staff Liaison Larissa Fooks provided clarification on the approval process for subcommittees.
- 2) Member Nash made a motion to light up City Hall, change the lanterns. Switch over to the trans flag and do the social media push, which will include bios of the ancestors to help with visibility for that day. Create email blasts and encourage any other supportive businesses or allies to join in the message. Seconded by member Luna. Motion passed by roll call vote.

#### 5. PUBLIC COMMENT

No items from the public.

#### 6. ITEMS FROM THE BOARD

**Member Luna** made an announcement that April is sexual assault awareness month and that the LGBT center's Legal Services Department and legal advocacy project for survivors is going to be hosting information session on Tuesday, April 12. This will be available for any members of the public or any city staff or anybody who wants to learn more about the center's legal services for victims of assault, sexual assault. The event will happen on April 12, at 5:30pm, virtually over zoom, and participants will be able to meet the staff and get to know

the process of what an advocate does to help advocate for the rights of folks who are survivors. There will be moderator questions and answers. Participants will be able to meet with representatives and learn more about what is available in surrounding areas and what the process is like. For additional information public can check the page LGBT center.org.

**Member Nash** announced that he is working at a rapid testing location. If any individuals from the community experiences any sexual violence and needs access to testing because the ER is not providing such services, he will be the main contact Monday through Friday and the client services person in charge of that.

**Member Luna** also announced two virtual name and gender marker change clinics that will take place in February.

#### 7. ITEMS FROM THE STAFF

No items from staff

#### 8. ADJOURNMENT

The Transgender Advisory Board adjourned at 8:23 PM to its regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, March 2, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. to be held via teleconference.

Luckie Alexander, Chair

Attest:

Tatyana Rodzinek, Acting Recording Secretary

Tatyana Rodzinek