

**WOMEN'S ADVISORY BOARD
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
MINUTES
THURSDAY, JULY 28, 2022
7:00 P.M.**

TELECONFERENCE MEETING*

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The Women's Advisory Board Meeting was called to order by Chair de Silva at 7:04 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Keely Field, Sajji Lazarus, Tina Moore, Danielle Nisim, Nicole Payton, Melissa Purner, Angela de Silva

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Yvonne Quarker, Director of Community Services, Andi Lovano, Community and Legislative Affairs Manager, and Janene Sherrard, Temp Administrative Specialist IV

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

ACTION: Meeting agenda for July 28, 2022. **Motion by Boardmember Payton, seconded by Boardmember Moore, and approved.**

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

ACTION: Meeting minutes for June 23, 2022. **Motion by Boardmember Moore, seconded by Vice-Chair Field, and approved.**

5. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

6. NEW BUSINESS:

A. BOARD ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Board will conduct their annual elections for Chair and Vice-Chair .

ACTION: Board elected Boardmember Field as Chair and Boardmember Lazarus as Vice-Chair.

B. BLACKBIRD FILM PROJECT PRESENTATION

Presentation from filmmaker Alexandra Miles about her new short film "Blackbird" which focused on mental health and eating disorders and plans for raising awareness through a nationwide tour. Alexandra showed a brief

clip of the film to the Board and spoke about creating a post-screening event where participants can write about and share their experiences. The filmmaker spoke on how this project addresses eating disorders and mental health and their effects on minority communities.. The filmmaker and the Board discussed ways the Board can help support the project.

ACTION: The Board requested to view the short-film and asked Staff to look at whether the City could co-sponsor a screening of the film.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY

The Board discussed plans for the City's annual commemoration of Women's Equality Day, the anniversary of women winning the right to vote in the United States to be held on Saturday, August 27, 2022. Andi Lovano, Community and Legislative Affairs Manager, presented a report outlining the event from 2021 and recommended that the WAB hold this type of pop-up event again on the corner of Santa Monica and San Vicente. Chair de Silva, Boardmember Moore, Boardmember Payton, and Boardmember Lazarus confirmed that they will be in attendance.

ACTION: The Board approved by consensus to host another pop-up event on the corner of Santa Monica Blvd./San Vicente with giveaways, photo opportunities, and other collateral material

8. BOARD AND COMMISSION LIAISON REPORTS:

The Board will hear brief reports from board members who serve as liaisons to other city Boards, Commissions, and other recognized bodies.

1. City Board & Commission Reports
2. Association of California Commissions for Women
3. LA-County Commission for Women
4. California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls

ACTION: There were no reports. Chair de Silva and Director Quarker stated they will provide more information on these Commissions and gauge member's interest in being liaisons at a future meeting.

9. MONTHLY REPORTS TO CITY COUNCIL:

The Board will designate a member to report back to the City Council each month.

ACTION: Boardmember Purner will report back to the City Council for July 2022.

10. SUBCOMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS:

The Board will hear feedback and updates regarding the following Board initiated and or/co-sponsored activities.

- i. **COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**
None.
- ii. **LEGISLATIVE & ADVOCACY SUBCOMMITTEE**
None.

- iii. **WOMEN IN FILM SPEAKER SERIES**
None.
- iv. **WAB CLUB: WOMEN AND BOOKS**
None.
- v. **NCJW|LA MONTHLY LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY GROUP**
None.
- vi. **HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS SUBCOMMITTEE**
None.

ACTION: The Boardmembers agreed to evaluate continued participation in subcommittees at a future meeting.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ann Semonco, WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA, announced that nominations for the 2022 Disability Awards are being accepted until August 4, 2022.

12. ITEMS FROM THE BOARD:

Vice-Chair Field spoke about a panel on domestic violence that she recently attended and proposed adding an agenda item to the next meeting regarding "The Silhouette Project." **Motion by Vice-Chair Field, seconded by Boardmember Lazarus, and approved**

Vice-Chair Field informed the Board about California Senate Bill SB-1245, The Los Angeles County Abortion Access Safe Haven Pilot Program. She asked that this information be forwarded to the City's Governmental Affairs Liaison and asked that Staff report back on the City's position.

Boardmember Purner congratulated new Chair Field and new Vice-Chair Lazarus. Boardmember Purner also stated that she learns so much at each meeting and looks forward to seeing everyone in person next month at the Women's Equality Day event.

Boardmember Nisim congratulated Vice-Chair Field and Boardmember Lazarus on their new positions as Chair and Vice-Chair, respectively, and thanked Chair de Silva for her work.

Boardmember Payton thanked Chair de Silva for her service and congratulated Vice-Chair Field and Boardmember Lazarus on their new roles. Boardmember Payton expressed her appreciation to the Recreation Division and spoke about her enjoyment of the parks and that she is looking forward to utilizing the new pool.

Boardmember Moore congratulated new Chair Field and new Vice-Chair Lazarus on their new positions and thanked Chair de Silva for her work. Boardmember Moore stated that she looks forward to seeing the Board in person next month and wished that everyone stays well and stays safe over the next month.

Boardmember Lazarus congratulated Boardmember Nisim on her engagement. She offered her congratulations to Vice-Chair Field on being elected Chair. Boardmember Lazarus thanked Chair de Silva for setting a standard she looks forward to following. She also thanked her fellow Boardmembers for all their work. Boardmember Lazarus also expressed her appreciation to the Recreation Division and complimented the dog park.

Vice-Chair Field reminded Boardmembers that 30% of West Hollywood's population is non-white and 45% of the City's population is female. She stated that inclusivity and lifting the voices of women are what allows West Hollywood to continue to progress and stated that is what this Board does. Vice-Chair Field thanked Chair de Silva for nominating her for the Chair position.

Chair de Silva thank the Board for their kind words and support. Chair de Silva congratulated Vice-Chair Field and Boardmember Lazarus on their new positions. She stated that she looks forward to seeing her fellow Boardmembers on August 27th at the Women's Equality Day event. Chair de Silva mentioned how the City of West Hollywood rallied after the Roe vs Wade decision and how it made her proud to live in this city. Chair de Silva congratulated Boardmember Nisim on her engagement.

13. ITEMS FROM STAFF:

Andi Lovano, Community and Legislative Manager reported that the nighttime study session has been scheduled for August 22, 2022 from 6pm-8pm at the City Council Chambers, and gauged the Boards interest in having the Drink Spiking Test Strip distribution event on the same day in the Rainbow District beginning at 4:30 p.m. The Board agreed by consensus to have the distribution event on August 22, 2022 at 4:30 p.m.

Andi also reported that a subsequent distribution event for other West Hollywood businesses will be scheduled for a future date.

14. ADJOURNMENT:

The Women's Advisory Board adjourned at 8:04 pm to a Teleconference meeting on Thursday, August 25, 2022, at 7 pm.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE WOMEN'S ADVISORY BOARD ON THIS 25th DAY OF AUGUST 2022.

DocuSigned by:

Janene Sherrard

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**JANENE SHERRARD,
TEMP ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST IV**

DocuSigned by:

Keely Field

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KEELY FIELD, CHAIR