

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
LESBIAN AND GAY ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES – OCTOBER 11, 2007
COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. ROLL CALL

The West Hollywood Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board was called to order by Co-Chair Jimmy Palmieri at 7:05 p.m., Thursday, October 11, 2007, in the Community Conference Room at 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood.

Members Present: Dan Berkowitz, Ivy Bottini, Bill Gordon, Scott Mann, Jimmy Palmieri, Elisabeth Sandberg, Sue Sexton, Nadia Sutton, Ruth Tittle. A quorum was present. Jeff Book, staff liaison, was also present.

II. AGENDA ITEMS

A. POSTING OF AGENDA

Staff reported that the agenda had been posted at City Hall and other locations as required.

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as posted.

C. MINUTES

Minutes of the September 13, 2007, meeting were approved on a motion by Elisabeth Sandberg, seconded by Scott Mann.

III. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Steven Sawyer, a member of the Disabilities Advisory Board (DAB), asked the board to review the DAB agenda periodically to see what issues are relevant to the gay and lesbian community. DAB meets 4th Wednesdays at 6 p.m. in the Community Conference Room.

Karen Goldberg, Ben Darrin, and Brian Taylor of WeHo Alt gave a PowerPoint presentation on their project at 8235 Santa Monica Blvd., which is intended to provide a safe alternative to bars and drugs. They discussed empowerment projects, their desire to have a community advisory board, and other aspects of their work.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. TWIN TOWERS REHAB

Mark Hufford of Twin Towers Rehab, a substance abuse treatment facility, addressed the board. They are doing a town hall meeting for the community to speak with service providers from 6 to 9 p.m. on Oct. 23 at MCC Los Angeles.

B. CONGRESS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Dan Berkowitz said a committee is preparing the board's presentation at the upcoming congress of boards and commissions.

C. MARRIAGE EQUALITY

This item was postponed until the next meeting.

D. WOMEN'S HEALTH

This item was postponed until the next meeting.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. BUDGET PLANNING

The advisory board asked for additional information regarding the city's budget process, including which division or department pays for the Disability and Safety public events, costs of the 2007 Rainbow Key luncheon, and other costs for advisory board events. Dan Berkowitz said he would prepare a draft budget, and the item was scheduled for November.

B. "FOR THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO"

This film opens Oct. 12. Bill Gordon said he would review it and inform the board about any possibilities for a screening.

VI. RAINBOW KEY

Dan Berkowitz and Bill Gordon presented a proposal for Rainbow Key procedures, with a February 1st deadline for nominations, to be reviewed by a committee, in preparation for a June luncheon. This was approved on a motion by Bill Gordon, seconded by Elisabeth Sandberg.

VII. COMMITTEES AND LIAISONS

Ruth Tittle spoke about inviting Sam Baxter to give a presentation on capital projects pending in the city, and other items recently in front of the Human Services Commission, including a "warm line" for meth crisis calls, and social services agencies placed on probation for falling short of contract goals.

Dan Berkowitz said Lyn DeShields is now chair of the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission, and Whitney Weston is a new member.

Elisabeth Sandberg spoke about National Coming Out Day, and said the June Mazer archive will have an open house on November 4, from 2 to 4 p.m.

Sue Sexton spoke about meeting with Abbe Land's office.

VIII. ITEMS FROM THE ADVISORY BOARD

Bill Gordon spoke about the Knights of Antonius AIDS memorial vigil and march, to be held at 7 p.m. on October 28.

Scott Mann spoke about Halloween events.

Ruth Tittle spoke about the 39th anniversary of MCC, and a screening of "Call Me Troy."

Jimmy Palmieri spoke about a booth for Tweakers at LA Valley Pride; about a meth resolution that will be on consent calendar for Council on Oct. 15; about a men's symposium on HIV and meth, held by the Center, on oct. 20.

Nadia Sutton provided information about Steve Krantz for Rainbow Key, and spoke about a PAWS event on Nov. 4.

IX. ITEMS FROM STAFF

There were no additional items.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The Advisory Board was adjourned at 9:20 p.m. The next regular meeting is at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 8, 2007, in the Community Conference Room, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard.