

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
LESBIAN AND GAY ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES – APRIL 14, 2005
COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. ROLL CALL AND INSTALLATION

The West Hollywood Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board was called to order by Co-chair Ivy Bottini at 7:12 p.m., Thursday, April 14, 2005, in the Community Conference Room at 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood.

Members present were Dan Berkowitz, Ivy Bottini, Chris Clarkin, Bill Gordon, Scott Mann, Jimmy Palmieri, Susan Sexton, Nadia Sutton, Ruth Title, and Jeff Yarbrough. A quorum was present at all times. Jeff Book, staff liaison, was present.

B. POSTING OF AGENDA

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

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Chris Clarkin, seconded by Jeff Yarbrough, the minutes were tabled to the next meeting.

II. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Michael O'Connor addressed the Advisory Board about his upcoming production of Martin Sherman's "Bent," to coincide with the 60th anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi concentration camps. The show will run July 7 to August 8 at Actors Playpen, 1514 N. Gardner St., Los Angeles, under the direction of Claudia Jaffe of West Coast Ensemble.

III. RAINBOW KEY NOMINATIONS

The Advisory Board reviewed pending presentations of Rainbow Keys and made several related decisions. It was moved by Ivy Bottini, seconded by Chris Clarkin, and approved to make Jeanne Cordova's award a lifetime Rainbow Key. A Rainbow Key for Kathy Watt of Van Ness Recovery House was moved by Nadia Sutton, seconded by Sue Sexton, and approved. There are pending presentations to Paul Koretz, Don Kilhefner, Jeanne

Cordova, and posthumously to Sallie Fiske. Staff will research whether an award was intended for Charles R. Williams. An award for Alyson Publications was moved by Jimmy Palmieri, seconded by Chris Clarkin, and approved. Jeff Yarbrough would like a statement from Sasha Alyson to be included in the presentation ceremony. An award for Lovedy Brydon was moved by Ruth Tittle, seconded by Scott Mann, and approved.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. MEDIA

To be deleted from list.

2. LEGISLATIVE

No report.

3. LESBIAN VISIBILITY

“Hearts Cracked Open,” a film about lesbian tantra, will be shown as part of this year’s lesbian visibility events. Dyke March will be held June 10 in conjunction with the CSW Festival (June 11-12). Speakers are being sought for the march, and Phranc is scheduled to perform.

4. LGBT YOUTH

Jimmy Palmieri spoke about a non-denominational youth group which meets at MCC, and their need for donors to provide food for meetings. This was placed on the next agenda.

5. RAPID RESPONSE ISSUES TEAM

Nadia Sutton suggested that the Advisory Board hold a public forum on gay spirituality, including questions about the relationship of gay and lesbian people to organized religion, and the spiritual identity of gay and lesbian people. This was placed on the next agenda.

6. OUTREACH

The subcommittee is still waiting for city action on its request for intern assistance.

7. LESBIAN AND GAY HEALTH ISSUES

No additional report.

B. LIAISON REPORTS

1. PUBLIC SAFETY

To be deleted from list.

2. CHRISTOPHER STREET WEST

Chris Clarkin said a liaison to CSW is needed.

3. CHAIRS MEETING

The chairs meeting is to be held later in April.

C. LGAB ENTRY IN CSW PARADE

The Advisory Board discussed its participation in the June 12 CSW parade, and formed a subcommittee with Bill Gordon and Jeff Yarbrough to make further plans in consultation with the staff planning the City's participation.

The Advisory Board asked that an LGAB banner be created, if an appropriate one in good condition does not already exist.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. AMERICAN VETERANS FOR EQUAL RIGHTS

Edward Westrick and Elizabeth Shadix spoke about AVER. The group's national convention will be held here from June 30 to July 3, 2005. LGAB co-sponsorship of the meeting was moved by Chris Clarkin, seconded by Scott Mann, and approved.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE ADVISORY BOARD

Dan Berkowitz said that Ivy Bottini will receive the Cultural Icon award at this year's Tom of Finland art festival. The CVB has joined as a co-sponsor this year, and will promote the art festival on gogaywesthollywood.com. Tom's Bar, a birthday party, will be held May 8 at Faultline.

Dan Berkowitz read a message to Playgirl magazine, which followed up a trial subscription with an intimidating message threatening to report the subscriber to the credit bureau.

Jimmy Palmieri said his column in the Canyon News has been cancelled. The co-chairs indicated they will write on his behalf in their individual capacities, with assistance from Dan Berkowitz. The item was placed on the agenda for next month, for the Advisory Board to consider asking Council to act.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

There were no additional items from staff.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Advisory Board was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

The next regular meeting is at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, May 12, 2005, in the Community Conference Room.