

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
LESBIAN AND GAY ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES – FEBRUARY 13, 2014
LIBRARY COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. ROLL CALL

The West Hollywood Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board was called to order by Co-Chair Amy Ruskin at 7:06 pm, Thursday, February 13, 2014, in the Library Community Meeting Room, 625 N. San Vicente Blvd., West Hollywood.

Present: Paul Chavez, Robert Gamboa, Matt Palazzolo, Enrique Reveles, Amy Ruskin, Elisabeth Sandberg, Jeffrey Waack, Laura Wise

Not Present: Ivy Bottini, Ruth Tittle

A quorum was present at all times. Also present was Jeff Book, staff liaison. Staff members Andrew Campbell and Michael Che were present for part of the meeting.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Amy Ruskin.

C. REPORT ON POSTING OF AGENDA

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

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved on a motion by Enrique Reveles, seconded by Elisabeth Sandberg.

E. MINUTES OF JANUARY 9, 2014

The minutes of the meeting of January 9, 2014, were approved on a motion by Elisabeth Sandberg, seconded by Enrique Reveles.

F. ADJOURNMENT REQUESTS

Robert Gamboa asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Kurt Peterson, West Hollywood resident, and Suzanne L. Hirschhorn, sister of Larry Block. Enrique Reveles asked that the meeting also be adjourned in celebration of Michael Sam, the Missouri Tigers football player and likely NFL draft selection, who came out this week.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

Michael Che reported on upcoming arts events, and referred board members to the online resources at www.weho.org/arts.

Lee Walkup, liaison from the Senior Advisory Board, spoke about today's news regarding a marriage ruling by a Federal judge in Kentucky, about legislation in Utah, and about the high number of flights cancelled due to bad weather in the East today.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. RAINBOW KEY

A total of 14 nominations for the Rainbow Key awards had been received, including one received after the period requested for nominations, but before this meeting. The Advisory Board decided to include all 14 nominations for consideration. The Advisory Board discussed whether persons who are candidates for public office should be excluded from consideration, but took no action in this regard.

Robert Gamboa and Amy Ruskin opened discussion on the 14 nominations, which were, in the order received:

- (1) Jake Mason / WeHo Dodgeball
- (2) Ramiro Gomez
- (3) Marianne Williamson
- (4) National Council of Jewish Women
- (5) Noelle Carter and Valerie A. Moore
- (6) John A. Pérez
- (7) Larry Block
- (8) Felicia Park-Rogers
- (9) Rev. Kathy Cooper-Ledesma
- (10) J. Dallas Dishman, Ph.D.
- (11) Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles
- (12) Hank Scott
- (13) Jeff Zarrillo, Paul Katami, Kris Perry, Sandy Stier
(plaintiffs in Prop 8 Supreme Court case)
- (14) Kim Rocco Shields

After reviewing the group of nominations, the Advisory Board expressed interest in continuing to discuss eight of the nominations: NCJW, Noelle Carter and Valerie A. Moore, GMCLA, J. Dallas Dishman, the Prop 8 quartet (Zarrillo, Katami, Perry and Stier), John A. Pérez, Kim Rocco Shields, and Ramiro Gomez.

After further discussion, the Advisory Board took a second round of expressions of interest, with these results: NCJW, Noelle Carter and Valerie A. Moore, GMCLA, the Prop 8 quartet, Kim Rocco Shields, John A. Pérez, and J. Dallas Dishman.

Elisabeth Sandberg moved to adopt NCJW, Carter and Moore, GMCLA, the Prop 8 group, and Kim Rocco Shields as the “Top Five” to recommend to City Council, with John A. Pérez and J. Dallas Dishman stated as two additional nominations the Advisory Board had ranked highly. This was seconded by Enrique Reveles and unanimously approved.

The Advisory Board discussed ideas for how the awards program would be done, and will address this further at the next meeting, and when the City Council’s selections of honorees are known.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

V. REPORTS FROM LIAISONS AND COMMITTEES

This item was tabled to the next meeting.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE ADVISORY BOARD

Jeffrey Waack said he will be unable to attend the next meeting.

Robert Gamboa said the Advisory Board is invited to events sponsored by the ONE Archives at the USC Library. Further information at <http://one.usc.edu>.

A. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Matt Palazzolo asked that the joint project between the Advisory Board and the Transgender Advisory Board be on the next agenda for action. There was no objection.

Robert Gamboa asked that having a second round of activity for an Addiction Recovery and Sexual Health committee be on the next agenda, and there was no objection.

Laura Wise asked for the topic of doing outreach for a youth member of the Advisory Board be on the next agenda, and there was no objection. She asked for the City to issue a press release publicizing the availability of the position.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Staff reported that the joint event with the Transgender and Russian Advisory Boards is scheduled for 7 pm on Monday, March 24, 2014, in the Library Community Meeting Room.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no additional public comment.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 pm in memory of Kurt Peterson, West Hollywood resident, and Suzanne L. Hirschhorn, sister of Larry Block; and in celebration of Michael Sam, the Missouri Tigers football player and likely NFL draft selection, who came out this week.

Signed,



Robert Gamboa, Co-Chair



Amy Ruskin, Co-Chair