

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD**  
**LESBIAN AND GAY ADVISORY BOARD**  
**MINUTES – APRIL 10, 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 7:08 pm, Thursday, April 10, 2014, in the Library Community Meeting Room, 625 N. San Vicente Blvd., West Hollywood.

Present: Ivy Bottini, Paul Chavez, Robert Gamboa, Matt Palazzolo, Enrique Reveles, Amy Ruskin, Elisabeth Sandberg, Ruth Tittle, Jeffrey Waack

Not Present: Laura Wise

A quorum was present at all times. Also present was Jeff Book, staff liaison. Elisabeth Sandberg and Ivy Bottini joined the meeting in progress.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was repeated.

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 Elisabeth Sandberg, seconded by Matt Palazzolo.

E. MINUTES OF MARCH 13, 2014

The minutes of the meeting of March 13, 2014, were approved on a motion by Enrique Reveles, seconded by Matt Palazzolo, with Amy Ruskin and Jeffrey Waack abstaining due to absence.

F. ADJOURNMENT REQUESTS

Matt Palazzolo requested that the meeting be adjourned in memory of two who were killed on separate occasions this week in West Hollywood: Kurtland Ma, M.D., graduate of the Yale University School of Medicine, and John Winkler, an aspiring TV producer on the Comedy Central program Tosh.O.

Enrique Reveles requested that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Ric Rickles, longtime community member and former chair of the Senior Advisory Board.

Robert Gamboa requested that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Peter M. Wise, father of Advisory Board member Laura J. Wise.

Jeffrey Waack requested that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Marie Walker Watkins, grandmother of his former roommate.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

III. REPORTS FROM LIAISONS AND COMMITTEES

On the Addiction, Recovery and Sexual Health project, Robert Gamboa said the group is considering a date to meet.

On the Video Project, Robert Gamboa is meeting with Elizabeth Savage and Lisa Belsanti on April 21.

On Christopher Street West, Robert Gamboa said planning for sober space is ongoing.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. CONNECT OUR STORIES

The Advisory Board discussed the “Connect Our Stories” event held jointly with the Transgender and Russian Advisory Boards. Members felt it was successful event. Points for future discussion are: (1) are there ways to help LGBT people who want to immigrate to the United States; (2) are there ways to help LGBT people who want to stay in their own country and work for equal rights there; and (3) should a collaborative meeting of RAB, TAB, and LGAB be regularly scheduled.

B. THE EVOLUTION OF US

Matt Palazzolo said this joint event with the Transgender Advisory Board is planned for 7 to 9 pm on Wednesday, April 23. Staff noted that the City Council approved the use of \$600 as a honorarium, from Gay and Lesbian Programs, and \$300 for food, from Public Safety funding. Matt Palazzolo asked for volunteers to help with set-up and preparation of gift bags. The event will include keynote remarks, a question and answer period, and an informative speed mixer for those who wish to participate.

C. RAINBOW KEY

The Advisory Board set Tuesday, June 24, as the date for this year’s awards program, to be held in City Council Chambers, with a reception from 6 to 7 pm,

and the event from 7 to 9 pm. Advisory Board members are continuing with planning for various aspects of the event, including letters notifying honorees, confirming attendance, confirming technical needs for presentations, emceeing, ordering and picking up the awards, asking honorees for bio information, and considering photography and flowers for the event. Staff will do a press release and invitations to the City Council.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. LGBT RIGHTS IN NIGERIA

Robert Gamboa discussed the background of the current issue in Nigeria regarding LGBT rights. Ivy Bottini expressed interest in a march or rally on the issue.

Robert Gamboa moved to ask the City Council to communicate support to the LGBT community of Nigeria. This was seconded by Enrique Reveles and approved.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE ADVISORY BOARD

Robert Gamboa noted the press release seeking applicants for the youth position on the Advisory Board is out, and application forms are available.

A. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Robert Gamboa asked that the discussion points from the “Connect Our Stories” meeting be placed on the agenda: (1) ways to help LGBT people who want to immigrate to the United States; (2) ways to help LGBT people who want to stay in their own country and work for equal rights there; and (3) considering whether there should regular collaborative meetings of RAB, TAB, and LGAB.

Robert Gamboa asked for an item for the Advisory Board to consider sponsoring the sober space at the PRIDE Festival.

Matt Palazzolo asked for an item for the Advisory Board to consider sponsoring a gay-related food project at the PRIDE Festival.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

There were no additional items from staff.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Larry Block reflected on the presence of the City’s new rainbow-themed flag in the room, and said he was working on having small City flags available as well.

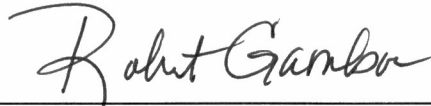
Natalie Mignon, who works in Recreation, spoke as a volunteer for the American Cancer Society, on behalf of the Relay for Life, being held Saturday, May 10, as a 24-hour walkathon at West Hollywood Elementary School. Jeff Parsley from the NO H8

campaign will be doing photographs, and the event is co-sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and other groups.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

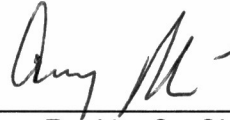
The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm in memory of Kurtland Ma, M.D.; John Winkler; Ric Rickles; Peter M. Wise; and Marie Walker Watkins.

*Signed,*



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Robert Gamboa, Co-Chair



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Amy Ruskin, Co-Chair