

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
LESBIAN AND GAY ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES – DECEMBER 11, 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 Enrique Reveles at 7:08 pm, Thursday, December 11, 2014, in the Library Community Meeting Room, 625 N. San Vicente Blvd., West Hollywood.

Present: Beth Bishop, Ivy Bottini, Paul Chavez, Robert Gamboa,
Matt Palazzolo, Enrique Reveles, Elisabeth Sandberg, Ruth Tittle,
Jeffrey Waack.

Not Present: Laura Wise.

A quorum was present at all times. Also present was Jeff Book, staff liaison. Matt Palazzolo, Council Deputy Michelle Rex, and Director of Human Services and Rent Stabilization Elizabeth Savage joined the meeting in progress.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Beth Bishop.

II. INSTALLATION OF NEW MEMBER

Council Deputy Michelle Rex administered the oath of office to Beth Bishop, who was installed as a new member of the Advisory Board. Board members congratulated her and said they were looking forward to working with her.

III. AGENDA AND MINUTES

C. REPORT ON POSTING OF AGENDA

Staff reported the agenda had been posted as required.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved on a motion by Elisabeth Sandberg, seconded by Robert Gamboa.

E. MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 13, 2014

The minutes of the November 13, 2014, meeting were approved on a motion by Ruth Tittle, seconded by Elisabeth Sandberg.

F. ADJOURNMENT REQUESTS

Robert Gamboa asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Dana Miller,

former APLA board chair, who produced or co-produced many benefit events, including the Toy Box Party, "Commitment to Life," "The Concert – 20 Years of AIDS," and "30 Heroes for 30 Years."

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

V. REPORTS FROM LIAISONS AND COMMITTEES

There were no reports from liaisons or committees.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. WORKPLAN

After discussing the priority items established at the study session, the Advisory Board adopted a proposed calendar of activities, as follows:

Before the Advisory Board's January 2015 meeting, schedules permitting, a committee on Addiction, Recovery and Sexual Health, consisting of Ivy Bottini, Robert Gamboa, Matt Palazzolo, Ruth Tittle, and Laura Wise will meet with City Social Services to discuss what is currently being done with regard to topics such as hepatitis C, binge drinking, bedbugs, meth recovery, sober sex, and HIV undetectability in serodiscordant relationships.

January 2015 – Receive briefing on the City's Aging in Place strategic planning process; name a representative to the Human Services Commission-led study session on Aging in Place to be held in Spring 2015; and address workplan items related to Social Services and Public Safety.

February 2015 – Discuss 2015 Rainbow Key nominations and make recommendations to the City Council regarding them. Time permitting, this meeting could also begin to address the items planned for the Outreach study session in April.

March 2015 – Address lesbian-related workplan items.

April 2015 – Conduct study session on Outreach.

May 2015 – Discuss participation in LA PRIDE Parade and Festival. If business from previous Advisory Board meetings warrants a public event, it could be held during this time.

June 2015 – Rainbow Key Awards (date to be determined), and LA PRIDE Parade and Festival (June 12-14, 2015).

The schedule was moved by Robert Gamboa, seconded by Matt Palazzolo, and adopted.

B. OUTREACH STUDY SESSION

The Advisory Board discussed what kind of input and information they would like to receive at the Outreach study session, which was scheduled for April 2015. Topics for the Outreach meeting include (1) Continue interaction with the community through activities and events, including partnership with groups to bring attention and action to issues; (2) Gay and Lesbian History – Provide training in history/herstory of Gay and Lesbian movement for new members, or as a public event that LGAB can attend, possibly by creating a traveling group of activists who will talk about the issues and history of the Gay and Lesbian movement; (3) Web Presence – Improve LGAB's presence on the Internet, within City guidelines; (4) Social Opportunities – Find a location for non-alcohol/drug social events, and provide options, such as arts, chess, or other activities; and (5) QueerFest – Cooperate with planning for QueerFest in Silver Lake.

The Advisory Board discussed several guests who could shed light on these topics, including the City's Public Information team.

With regard to literary events, the Advisory Board wants to coordinate with existing programs like WeHo Reads.

C. RAINBOW KEY MISSION

Staff reviewed the mission of the Rainbow Key Awards, as stated in nomination forms over several years, and as adopted by the City Council and the Advisory Board in 2013.

Ivy Bottini said the Rainbow Key Awards have traditionally been for people who have put a lot of time into their efforts to help the gay and lesbian community. She said she welcomes honoring younger people also, but believes these should be separate recognitions.

Robert Gamboa said he likes the way a mix of awards emerged from considering nominations for the 2014 awards. Elisabeth Sandberg and Matt Palazzolo said the current format provides the opportunity to bring generations together to learn about each other. Paul Chavez said the existing mission for the awards had worked well in 2014, and didn't need to be changed. Ruth Tittle said that longevity in service can be recognized where appropriate as part of individual awards.

To enhance outreach for the awards, Ivy Bottini suggested taking a full-page ad in *Frontiers* to advertise for Rainbow Key nominations.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

VIII. ITEMS FROM THE ADVISORY BOARD

Ivy Bottini asked Board members to contact their appointing Councilmembers to urge that the patio area on the second floor of the Werle Building be made into a usable space as part of renovations.

Robert Gamboa reminded members of #BOOM!, the sober New Year's Eve event being held for the second year in West Hollywood Park, sponsored by the City and the LA LGBT Center. The event is free and will run from 8 pm to 1 am.

Elisabeth Sandberg said she will be on sabbatical next semester, and due to travel expects that she will miss the meetings of January, May, and June.

Board Members welcomed Beth Bishop as a new member.

Beth Bishop said she was born in Rochester, Minn., attended school in Boston, is a Fulbright Scholar, speaks German, and owns and operates The Phoenix Effect, a metabolic boot camp in West Hollywood. Her degree is in political science, and she worked in microfinance before opening her company.

IX. ITEMS FROM STAFF

There were no additional items from staff.


X PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 pm in memory of Dana Miller, former APLA board chair, who produced or co-produced many benefit events, including the Toy Box Party, "Commitment to Life," "The Concert – 20 Years of AIDS," and "30 Heroes for 30 Years."

Signed,



Enrique Reveles, Co-Chair