

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
LESBIAN AND GAY ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES – APRIL 9, 2015
LIBRARY COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

A. **ROLL CALL**

The West Hollywood Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board was called to order at 7:09 pm on Thursday, April 9, 2015, in the Library Community Meeting Room, 625 N. San Vicente Blvd., West Hollywood.

Present: Ivy Bottini, Enrique Reveles, Matt Palazzolo, Ruth Tittle, Robert Gamboa, Kate Eggert, Lucas John Junkin.

Not Present: Laura Wise, Beth Bishop, Paul Chavez.

A quorum was present at all times. Also present were City Councilmember Lauren Meister, Interim Council Deputy Scott Schmidt and John Erickson staff liaison.

B. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was repeated.

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 Robert Gamboa, seconded by Ruth Tittle.

E. **INSTALLATION OF NEW MEMBERS**

Councilmember Lauren Meister administered the oath of office to new boardmembers Kate Eggert and Lucas John Junkin.

E. **MINUTES OF MARCH 12, 2015**

The minutes of the March 12, 2015, meeting were approved on a motion by Ruth Tittle, seconded by Matt Palazzolo.

F. **ADJOURNMENT REQUESTS**

Matt Palazzolo asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Taylor Alesana, a transgender teen who took her own life after being bullied because she was transgender.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

Jeffrey Waack, former Lesbian and Gay Advisory Boardmember, congratulated the new boardmembers. He thanked the board for the pleasure to serve with them and wished them well in future endeavors.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. RAINBOW KEY AWARDS

The Board reviewed the assigned roles and examined the budget for the upcoming Rainbow Key Awards on Thursday, June 18, 2015 at Fiesta Hall in Plummer Park.

- Fabricating the Awards – \$550.00; Robert Gamboa
- Catering - \$1,500; Laura Wise
- Program/Flyer Distribution - \$400.00; Matt Palazzolo
- Flowers - \$350.00; Robert Gamboa and Kate Eggert
- Entertainment – \$100 for Our Lady J Performance; Matt Palazzolo
- Emcee Script – Robert Gamboa agreed to share the script utilized last year with Co-Chair Laura Wise and Enrique Reveles.

The total estimated budget for the event is: \$2,350 and will be reported to the City Council for final approval.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

V. REPORTS FROM LIAISONS AND COMMITTEES

Robert Gamboa moved to appoint Lucas John Junkin as the Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board's liaison to the Transgender Advisory Board. Enrique Reveles seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously by the board.

Robert Gamboa provided an update about the upcoming PrEP and PEP event being organized by the National Minority AIDS Council (NMAC) on Wednesday, May 13, 2015. The event will conduct a "PrEP Access and Engagment" training for medical professional that serve West Hollywood Community members from 9:30 am – 3:00 pm in Fiesta Hall at Plummer Park and then conclude with a separate "PrEP Chat" community forum from 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm at the City Council Chambers.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE ADVISORY BOARD

Kate Eggert discussed the importance of safeguarding lesbian spaces in the City and spoke about the need to get lesbian specific nights back at local bars and nightclubs. She also spoke about her passion for historical preservation and specifically creating kiosks around the City that displayed information about the City of West Hollywood to better promote the historicity of the community as well as the City's dedication to LGBT issues. Additionally, she spoke about the loss of The Palms bar and how she would like to create a type of dedication plaque that can be placed outside its former location so that individuals are aware of the cultural history of the surrounding area.

Robert Gamboa inquired about a comprehensive list of all services ever provided to the gay, lesbian and transgender community since the City's inception. He shared that he will be traveling to Indiana in August and will proudly join others from across the nation in representing the LGBT community against Indiana's recent Religious Freedom Protection Bill and encouraged anyone who would also like to attend to contact him. Additionally, he inquired if the Board was on schedule in regards to the current work plan.

Ivy Bottini inquired about the current process for nomination and approval of Rainbow Key Award recipients and encouraged Robert Gamboa to make sure he and others attending the conference in Indiana to travel in large numbers.

A. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Kate Eggert proposed Lesbian Spaces and LGBT Historical/Information Kiosks as future agenda items. There was no objection.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

John Erickson, Staff Liaison, reported back on current medical services being offered at The Spot. Additionally, he updated the Board about the current status of any laws in the California State Legislature referring to the statute of limitation for rape, public spaces available to the Board to gather in regards to meeting spaces for lesbian women, updated the board that staff will make sure to get all information to Matt Palazzolo for the Rainbow Key Awards Flyer and to Co-Chair Laura Wise and Enrique Reveles for the emcee script. Lastly, he congratulated new boardmembers Kate Eggert and Lucas John Junkin on their recent appointment.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Victor Omelczenko, Public Facilities Commissioner, congratulated new boardmembers Kate Eggert and Lucas John Junkin and spoke about his work with the National Registrar of Historic Places and their current interest in safeguarding historical LGBT spaces. He encouraged anyone with an interest to attend upcoming an upcoming Historic Preservation Commission meeting.

Richard Maggio, Rent Stabilization Commissioner, congratulated new boardmembers Kate Eggert and Lucas John Junkin and mentioned that he is celebrating his 25th anniversary as a commissioner for the City of West Hollywood. Additionally, he serves as the liaison to the Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board for the Rent Stabilization Commission and will share any pertinent information with the board in the future.

Scott Schmidt, Interim Deputy, introduced himself as Councilmember Meister's Interim Deputy and congratulated new boardmembers Kate Eggert and Lucas John Junkin as well as others in the room. He updated the board about Councilmember Meister's recent accomplishments such as being appointed as the City's representative to the COG (Council of Governments) and how she will be bringing forth a recommendation regarding public transportation and the need to extend the Crenshaw Line through West Hollywood and that there will be a meeting where people can provide input on this issue on May 7th in Plummer Park. Additionally he spoke that Councilmember Meister along with the City Council recently recommended that Harvey Milk Day be an observed


holiday on May 22nd, 2015 and include free parking around the City as a result of the holiday.

Stephanie Harker, Rent Stabilization Commissioner, congratulated new boardmembers Kate Eggert and Lucas John Junkin. She spoke about the National Registrar of Historic Places push to include LGBT places in their registry. Additionally she spoke about the potential to change City Commission and Advisory Board meetings to new times to assure that interested individuals are able to attend all meetings around the City and the potential to stream meetings online on the City's website.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 pm in memory of Taylor Alesana.

Signed,


Enrique Reveles, Co-Chair