

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD**  
**LESBIAN AND GAY ADVISORY BOARD**  
**MINUTES – FEBRUARY 9, 2012**  
**COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM**

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. ROLL CALL

The West Hollywood Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board was called to order by Co-Chair Matt Palazzolo at 7:03 p.m., Thursday, February 9, 2012, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood.

Present: Ivy Bottini, Lucas John, Shawn Mimbs, Andrew Oldershaw,  
Matt Palazzolo, Enrique Reveles, Elisabeth Sandberg,  
Sue Sexton, Ruth Tittle.

Not Present: Creo Bettencourt.

A quorum was present at all times. Jeff Book, staff liaison, was also present. Council Deputy Michelle Rex joined the meeting in progress.

B. POSTING OF AGENDA

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

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as posted.

D. MINUTES

The minutes of the Jan. 12, 2012, meeting were approved on a motion by Elisabeth Sandberg, seconded by Enrique Reveles.

E. ADJOURNMENT REQUESTS

Matt Palazzolo requested that the meeting be adjourned in memory of nine teens who died by suicide in the Congressional district of Rep. Michele Bachmann (R-MN). Lucas John requested the meeting be adjourned in memory of Phillip Parker, 14, a student at Gordonsville High School in Tennessee, who died by suicide. Elisabeth Sandberg requested that the meeting be adjourned in celebration of the ruling by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, affirming the unconstitutionality of Proposition 8.

II. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Ben Coleman spoke on behalf of Keep West Hollywood Safe and asked if the Board was interested in helping form a Business Improvement District (BID) for West Santa

Monica Boulevard, which would assist with marketing, safety, and streetscape, as the Sunset BID does on Sunset Boulevard. This item was placed on the agenda for March.

### III. TASK FORCES AND LIAISONS

Sue Sexton said the Transgender Advisory Board (TAB) met last week and talked about the Council resolution on the TV show "Work It"; a recent training on transgender issues at the sheriff's department; continuing interest in a bullying task force; and holding of the Day of Remembrance. TAB member Maria Carmen Hinayon expressed interest in the task force scheduling a joint meeting between LGAB and TAB.

Regarding the Women's Advisory Board, Sue Sexton said Women's History Month is in March, with the Women's Conference in April. The board recently had an event on domestic violence in conjunction with NCJW.

Elisabeth Sandberg said the Lesbian Visibility Task Force met on Jan. 25 and is looking for permanent space for lesbians in the city. Each member is taking on tasks. Andrew Oldershaw suggested talking to Council members about vacant spaces that may be available. Lucas John mentioned Shoop's sandwich shop as a possible space.

Matt Palazzolo said that Councilmember Land's direct appointments to boards and commissions met recently, for an overview of what is happening in the city. Councilmember Land is the new executive director of The Trevor Project. He also said that Councilmembers D'Amico and Land are the subcommittee reexamining plans for Plummer Park.

Ivy Bottini asked for the Rainbow Key task force to meet soon. Sue Sexton said two or three community members are interested in helping with this year's program.

### IV. NEW BUSINESS

#### A. ADDICTION, RECOVERY AND SEXUAL HEALTH

Andrew Oldershaw said this task force has met. He distributed a survey they have developed for social services providers, and have plans to develop a survey for community members as well. He asked for comments on the survey for providers.

### V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

#### A. COLLABORATIVE EVENT WITH CSW

Matt Palazzolo said the CSW board was very welcoming to him as a liaison from LGAB, and that they were interested in doing a collaborative event, but not during Pride Month, which is already heavily scheduled. The Board added development of the event to their workplan, and approved formation of a task force consisting of Ivy Bottini, Andrew Oldershaw, and Matt Palazzolo, to attend the CSW board meeting, and brainstorm possible events. Community and media partners can be used for distribution of information on events like

Rainbow Key.

B. MISSION STATEMENT

Andrew Oldershaw reviewed five suggestions for the Mission Statement, submitted anonymously. Lucas John suggested reading then and coming back to the next meeting to discuss the best options.

C. WORKPLAN

The CSW collaborative event was added to the draft workplan. Addiction, Recovery and Sexual Health task force is aiming to distribute its first survey in March. Rainbow Key task force will meet soon. The joint meeting with Transgender Advisory Board is tentatively set for July.

D. LESBIAN VISIBILITY AND DIALOGUE WITH WOMEN

This item was tabled to the next meeting.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE ADVISORY BOARD

Shawn Mimbs discussed improving the Matthew Shepard Human Rights Triangle and West Hollywood Memorial Walk. This item was added to the next agenda. Matt Palazzolo said discussion on this should include ways to benefit public safety there.

Shawn Mimbs said the idea of improving gateway signage for the City, as discussed at recent LGAB meetings, will be on an upcoming Council agenda.

Sue Sexton spoke about inviting Andrew Campbell to discuss plans for this year's Pride Month.

Elisabeth Sandberg spoke about lectures co-hosted by the City with The Williams Institute, on Feb. 22 and March 20. She spoke about three UCLA events for women, and about the Gay & Lesbian Center's workers' rights clinic. A business professor at Woodbury University is studying consumer habits among same-sex couples expecting children. She also spoke about gathering links to companies that support (or do not support) LGBT issues.

Ivy Bottini said she was offended by content on the WeHo Confidential website. Board members discussed aspects of this, including posts referring to members of the Board, maintaining working relationships, and whether this is the business of the Board. Lucas John said he would consider Board members' thoughts.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Staff will apologize to Human Services Commissioner Jimmy Palmieri, who had planned to speak on an item but had to leave due to time.

VIII. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no additional items from the public.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m. in memory of nine teens who died by suicide in the Congressional district of Rep. Michele Bachmann (R-MN), and Phillip Parker, 14, a student in Tennessee, as well as in celebration of the ruling by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit, affirming the unconstitutionality of Proposition 8.

*Signed:*

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*Elisabeth Sandberg, Co-Chair*

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*Matt Palazzolo, Co-Chair*