

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD**  
**LESBIAN AND GAY ADVISORY BOARD**  
**MINUTES – APRIL 12, 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 Elisabeth Sandberg at 7:07 p.m., Thursday, April 12, 2012, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood.

Present: Ivy Bottini, Shawn Mimbs, Andrew Oldershaw, Enrique Reveles, Elisabeth Sandberg, Sue Sexton, and Ruth Tittle.

A quorum was present at all times. Jeff Book, staff liaison, was also present.

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, with Item IV.A. rescheduled above Item III.

D. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the March 8, 2012, meeting were approved on a motion by Enrique Reveles, seconded by Andrew Oldershaw.

E. **ADJOURNMENT REQUESTS**

Sue Sexton requested the meeting be adjourned in memory of Alexis Rivera, transgender rights activist. Ruth Tittle requested the meeting be adjourned in memory of Jonathan Agierre, store manager for Capitol Drugs. Elisabeth Sandberg requested the meeting be adjourned in memory of Olene Pleasants Book, mother of Jeff Book.

II. **ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no items from the public.

IV. A. **COMMUNITY SURVEY**

Daphne Dennis, Social Services Manager, provided information about previous surveys conducted by the City, as well as plans for a new community study focusing on social services needs. Similar surveys have been done periodically

since 1998, allowing comparison over time. The last large survey, in 2006, was sent to 4,000 randomly selected recipients, and about 600 were returned, which is a high rate of participation for this kind of survey. The size of the distribution of the new study is being considered. Staff will seek input from the Advisory Board on possibilities for questions.

### III. TASK FORCES AND LIAISONS

#### A. MARKETING

Andrew Oldershaw said the Marketing task force met, and discussed ways to create interesting video content. He discussed the 2011 music video (of Don McLean's "American Pie") featuring the people of Grand Rapids, Mich.

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

Andrew Oldershaw said they are working with David Giugni from Social Services Division regarding surveying social services providers.

#### C. JOINT MEETING WITH TRANSGENDER ADVISORY BOARD

A joint meeting with the Transgender Advisory Board is planned for Wednesday, June 27, in the Community Meeting Room at the Library. The agenda is being developed.

#### D. OTHER TASK FORCES

Sue Sexton spoke about the Women's Advisory Board's awards event, and the upcoming Women's Leadership Conference.

Elisabeth Sandberg and Ivy Bottini met with Maribel Louie, economic development analyst, to discuss the importance of a space and presence for lesbians in the city.

### IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

#### B. WORKPLAN/BUDGET

Andrew Campbell spoke about One City / One Pride events, which has an overall budget of \$81,010, with the City responsible for \$35,441. He said the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission has recommended \$21,441 from arts funding, and he requested that the Advisory Board recommend to City Council the amount of \$8,000 in support from the Gay & Lesbian Programs line item.

He reviewed a number of planned events that have specific gay and lesbian Content, including the Jean Cocteau program, Pacific Serenades, Les Fig Press, Vox Femina, and LGBT history.

After discussion, Sue Sexton moved to recommend \$8,000 in support as specified. This was seconded by Ruth Tittle, and approved 6 to 0, with Andrew

Oldershaw abstaining.

C. PLAYREADING FESTIVAL

Dan Berkowitz spoke about the Gay and Lesbian Play Reading Festival being held at the Celebration Theatre in June, and asked the Advisory Board to recommend to City Council the amount of \$1,000 in support from the Gay & Lesbian Programs line item.

After discussion, Ivy Bottini moved to recommend \$1,000 in support as specified. This was seconded by Andrew Oldershaw and unanimously approved.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. RAINBOW KEY

A report was presented on behalf of a task force including Lucas John, Ivy Bottini, Sue Sexton, Dan Berkowitz, Nadia Sutton, and Ben McCormick, to recommend to City Council a group of nine recipients for this year's Rainbow Key awards: Ben Patrick Johnson, David Cooley, Roots of Equality, Karina Samala, Diane Abbitt, Jeannette Bronson, Nadia Sutton, Carolyn Weathers, and Brenda Weathers.

Staff said there was strong encouragement from Council offices to limit the number of awards to a small group each year. Advisory Board members discussed the pros and cons of having a relatively smaller or larger group of recipients. Shawn Mimbs spoke in favor of a smaller number of awards, and possibly providing them in categories. Andrew Oldershaw spoke in favor of proceeding with the entire list at this time, and beginning planning for the 2013 awards in July 2012, to provide time to discuss options. Sue Sexton and Ivy Bottini spoke about the importance of recognizing people for their contributions while still present to know of the recognition. Enrique Reveles spoke in favor of planning for a smaller group of honorees.

Andrew Oldershaw moved to recommend \$3,500 in costs for the Rainbow Key event. This was seconded by Shawn Mimbs, and approved unanimously.

Sue Sexton moved to recommend the group of nine recipients. This was seconded by Ivy Bottini, and approved 6 to 1, with Shawn Mimbs dissenting.

B. GATEWAY SIGNAGE

Shawn Mimbs said the City is forming a task force on gateway signage, and that the message that the LGBT community should be represented in the gateway signage has been heard by Council.

C. MISSION STATEMENT

This item was tabled to the next meeting.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE ADVISORY BOARD

Shawn Mimbs spoke about requesting Council to increase funding for gay and lesbian programs.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

There were no additional items from staff.

VIII. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no additional items from the public.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m. in memory of Alexis Rivera, Jonathan Agierre, and Olene Pleasants Book.

*Signed:*

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*Elisabeth Sandberg, Co-Chair*