

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
LESBIAN AND GAY ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES – MAY 13, 2010
COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL

I. **CALL TO ORDER AND INSTALLATION**

A. **ROLL CALL**

The West Hollywood Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board was called to order by Co-Chair Dan Berkowitz at 7:05 p.m., Thursday, May 13, 2010, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood.

Members Present: Dan Berkowitz, Ivy Bottini, Angela Brinskele, Bryeon Earle, Ben McCormick, Matt Palazzolo, Enrique Reveles, Elisabeth Sandberg, Sue Sexton, Nadia Sutton, 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.

D. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Item 4A and 5A were moved to after the approval of minutes. The agenda was approved as amended.

E. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the March 11, 2010, meeting were approved on a motion by Ben McCormick, seconded by Elisabeth Sandberg, with Bryeon Earle abstaining due to absence from that meeting.

IV. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **REPORT OF ADVISORY BOARD TASK FORCE**

City Clerk Tom West spoke to the Advisory Board about the recent task force report regarding the city's advisory boards. Among the items adopted by Council: each board may have a youth, ages 15 to 18, as an ex officio member; co-chairs must rotate every year; each board will have a workplan approved by Council; annual report will be due in May each year; and the Board is to select a different member each month to report to the Council about the board's current activities.

Members who are absent from more than three regular meetings in 12 months will be deemed to have resigned. This Advisory Board is the only one to have co-chairs instead of a chair and vice chair. Election of officers is in July.

V. A. AIDS MEMORIAL

City Clerk Tom West said the proposal for an AIDS museum was submitted to the city's committee on March 8. That group will determine whether to forward it to the Public Facilities Commission.

II. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Rodney Scott, president of Christopher Street West/LA Pride, invited the board to this year's festival, which is the 40th anniversary. The mayor's reception is June 2, the festival is June 12-13, and the parade is June 13. He said Nadia Sutton has been selected as the recipient of this year's Morris Kight Lifetime Achievement Award. The board congratulated Nadia on this honor.

Gail Rolf spoke about Project 10, which was formed in 1984 and produces the Models of Pride conference each year at Occidental College. This year's conference is October 9. The possibility of sponsorship for this event was placed on the agenda for July.

Rafael Cosio, director of development at Gay & Lesbian Elder Housing, said they are partnering with CSW on a reception on June 4. He was recently appointed to the California Commission on Aging.

Steve Valentine said he is producing gay ballroom dancing classes with instructor Robert Tristan. They are looking for rehearsal space. The Abbey is doing a fundraiser to help them attend the Gay Games.

III. TASK FORCES AND LIAISONS

Dan Berkowitz reported on plans for the Rainbow Key luncheon, to be held Sunday, June 20, at The London West Hollywood. He also reported on plans for the Gay Play Reading Festival at Celebration Theatre, the Gaylarious comedy night at the Renberg, and other city-sponsored events during June.

The Advisory Board cancelled its June 10, 2010, regular meeting, and scheduled a special meeting for Wednesday, June 23, at Plummer Park.

Ivy Bottini thanked Bryeon Earle, Sue Sexton, and Dan Berkowitz, who helped plan the calendar of events.

Ben McCormick distributed buttons for the 40th anniversary of Pride, said the Board's application for the parade has been submitted, and asked about city t-shirts for the event.

He also discussed a recycling event, a medical drop box at the sheriff's station, and the Harvey Milk Day of community service.

Nadia Sutton spoke about the Milk Day event at Fairfax High School.

Sue Sexton said the Transgender Advisory Board spoke about the Trans Unity event, the "2 Spirits" screening, and transgender training for city staff. The Butch Voices item is on the City Council agenda for May 17.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

B. CREATING A DIVERSITY TASK FORCE

This item was postponed to July.

V. B. GAY & LESBIAN MUSEUM

Matt Palazzolo, Bill Gordon, Dan Berkowitz, Ivy Bottini, and Ben McCormick are a committee working on this project. Dan Berkowitz mentioned inviting Brad Burlingame to participate.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE ADVISORY BOARD

Bryeon Earle spoke about the Kids Fair.

Nadia Sutton attended the LGBT youth advocates task force.

Sue Sexton will be in the broadcast booth for the CSW parade.

Ben McCormick and Matt Palazzolo will look into the possibility of a Facebook page for the board.

Matt Palazzolo spoke about reports of a gay men's lap dancing club in Canada.

Dan Berkowitz spoke he spoke to the May 3 City Council meeting about the matter with Nakhone Keodara. He said that although Keodara had said he would collaborate on a joint statement, Keodara had only edited his blog to delete some material. Abbe Land condemned hate speech at the Council meeting, and he said he had also heard from Lindsey Horvath.

Angela Brinskele said there appeared to be something wrong with the tape of the special LGAB meeting on the city's website.

Elisabeth Sandberg said the Woodbury University LGBT group was given the advisor of the year award, and that she has been asked to create a Queer Studies minor program.

Ivy Bottini invited members to a performance at ONE Archives on May 16.

Dan Berkowitz requested that Adjournment Requests be added to future agendas, and asked that this meeting be adjourned in memory of Lena Horne and civil rights leader Dorothy Height.

Discussion of board member biographies was placed on the July agenda.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

There were no additional items from staff.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m., in memory of Lena Horne and Dorothy Height.