

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD**  
**LESBIAN AND GAY ADVISORY BOARD**  
**MINUTES – JANUARY 14, 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, January 14, 2010, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood.

Members Present: Dan Berkowitz, Ivy Bottini, Bryeon Earle, Bill Gordon, Ben McCormick, Matt Palazzolo, Enrique Reveles, Elisabeth Sandberg, Sue Sexton, Nadia Sutton, and Ruth Tittle.

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

The meeting was joined in progress by Councilmember Lindsey Horvath and Council Deputy Ivor Pine.

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 printed

D. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the Oct. 8, 2009, meeting were approved on a motion by Ben McCormick, seconded by Elisabeth Sandberg. The minutes of the Nov. 12, 2009, meeting were approved on a motion by Bryeon Earle, seconded by Bill Gordon. The minutes of the Dec. 10, 2009, meeting were approved on a motion by Bryeon Earle, seconded by Bill Gordon, with Ruth Tittle abstaining due to absence. Staff will check to see if the minutes of the September 2009 meeting were previously approved.

II. **ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Jason Crane spoke about plans to produce Mart Crowley's "The Boys in the Band" at the Coast Playhouse, in recognition of the 40th anniversary of the release of the 1970 film

version, directed by William Friedkin. There was discussion of this being an event for which the Advisory Board would consider recommending city co-sponsorship. Jason Crane directed people to his website, mightmyt.com, for further information.

Sabrina Petrescu spoke on behalf of LGBT outreach in the 2010 U.S. Census. Nadia Sutton recommended that board members let Sabrina know of community meetings where she could help spread this word.

### III. TASK FORCES AND LIAISONS

Liaisons were needed for the Rent Stabilization Commission, Senior Advisory Board, Public Safety Commission, Historical Preservation Commission, Transportation Commission, Disabilities Advisory Board, and Russian Advisory Board. A liaison is also needed for the newly formed Transgender Advisory Board.

Matt Palazzolo will be liaison to Historic Preservation, and Enrique Reveles will be liaison to Public Safety.

Bryeon Earle had spoken with Council Deputy Fran Solomon. He discussed the LGBT human rights speakers list, coming up in June.

Sue Sexton said Mayor Land's office wished everyone a happy new year, and was following the trial on the constitutionality of Proposition 8.

Dan Berkowitz, Sue Sexton, and Bryeon Earle met with the performing arts subcommittee of the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission. There is a poetry reading coming up, and cooperation on another comedy event appears likely.

Ruth Tittle said the Human Services Commission has been meeting with executive directors of social services agencies to discuss impacts of the economic downturn, and then approximately \$100,000 in additional funding will be available from the city for agencies that have been hurt by cutbacks from other government agencies.

Nadia Sutton said the Women's Advisory Board did not meet. She asked to be notified of women's events so she can pass the information along.

The Advisory Board was joined at this point by Councilmember Lindsey Horvath and Council Deputy Ivor Pine. Councilmember Horvath announced that the City will be celebrating Harvey Milk Day in 2010 with appropriate programming, and will be calling on the Advisory Board for assistance.

Elisabeth Sandberg and Ruth Tittle spoke about the Lesbian Visibility Committee helping Gay & Lesbian Elder Housing (GLEH). Councilmember Horvath noted that training in Facebook for Seniors will be offered in February, to help people who have not had access to e-mail. Ivy Bottini recommended that a voice-activated option be included.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. TOM OF FINLAND

Durk Dehner spoke on behalf of the Tom of Finland Foundation, noting it is their 25th year as a non-profit, and requesting that the City again co-sponsor the Erotic Arts Fair, as it has in previous years. This year's event is March 26-28. It was moved by Dan Berkowitz, seconded by Elisabeth Sandberg, and approved to recommend co-sponsorship to the City Council.

Durk Dehner said he thinks West Hollywood and Berlin should be sister/brother cities, because there are communities with many interests in common.

B. KIDS FAIR

Bryeon Earle recommended that the Advisory Board have its own table at the Kids Fair this year. Expenses are estimated at \$100 or less for supplies and equipment. It was moved by Elisabeth Sandberg, seconded by Ben McCormick, and approved, to present a table at the Kids Fair.

Staff will endeavor to find the existing banner or order a new one, so the Advisory Board can use it at this kind of event.

C. RENAISSANCE OF BUTCH-FEMME

Ivy Bottini said a group has formed in northern California and is holding an event in San Francisco to discuss butch/femme culture. There are discussions underway for holding an event along similar lines in the Los Angeles area. Staff will check to see whether park facilities may be available on the weekend of Sept. 25-26.

D. ONE ARCHIVE

Dan Berkowitz said he will approach the ONE archive about keeping a record of posters and other materials from Advisory Board-sponsored events and activities.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. FEBRUARY 13 EVENT

The recommendation to approve the February 13 intergenerational event will go to the City Council on January 25. The event is planned to be included on the city's television channel and streamed on the website. Dan Berkowitz spoke about plans for the event, which will be from 1 to 4 p.m. The events task force will meet to continue planning.

B. LGBT CONSUMER INFORMATION

This item was carried over to the next meeting.

C. LGBT MUSEUM

Ivy Bottini said an LGBT museum is needed, and recalled meeting with Brad Burlingame of the Convention and Visitors Bureau, who agreed it could be an attraction for the city.

It was moved by Elisabeth Sandberg, seconded by Bill Gordon, and approved to reconfirm the Advisory Board's commitment to working on an LGBT museum. Ben McCormick, Bryeon Earle, Dan Berkowitz, Ivy Bottini, and Bill Gordon will pursue this topic with the Public Facilities Commission.

There was discussion of asking Council to look into acquiring the building on the northeast corner of Santa Monica Boulevard and Doheny Drive, which would be an excellent location for a high-visibility project. A new task force was formed to discuss possibilities, including Bill Gordon (chair), Ben McCormick, Matt Palazzolo, Dan Berkowitz, and Ivy Bottini.

Staff will check with Sam Baxter to see if there is any existing city interest in that property.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE ADVISORY BOARD

Ivy Bottini spoke about the General Plan Advisory Committee. There will be a workshop on Jan. 30 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and the public is invited.

Ruth Tittle said it was important to help people be comfortable about providing information to the Census. She also said Capitol Drugs is holding an H1N1 immunization clinic this Wednesday and Saturday. She also requested the meeting be adjourned in memory of the victims in Haiti, as well as Shirley Kaplan and Mike "Rocky" Mansdorf, members of the Senior Advisory Board.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

There were no additional items.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m., in memory of those who were suffering in the hurricane devastation of Haiti, and of Shirley Kaplan and Mike "Rocky" Mansdorf.