

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD

WOMEN'S ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES

THURSDAY, July 27, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.

**Location: Community Conference Room
West Hollywood City Hall
8300 Santa Monica Blvd.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM.

A. Roll Call:

Kelly Alexander	Present
Nicole C. Curran	Resigned
Vicki Geis	Present
Lyndia Lowy, Vice Chair	Present
Stephanie Middler	Present
Rae Mitchell	Present
Marcy Norton	Present
Judith Resell	Absent
Madeleine Rackley, Chair	Present
Jessie Raeder	Present
Heidi Schroeder	Present

Staff: Lisa Belsanti and Larissa Fooks

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Minutes of May 25, 2006. The Minutes were amended to include Jesse Raeder's name under "I.A. Roll Call".

III. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no public speakers.

IV. BOARD RETREAT FOLLOW-UP

Boardmembers gave feedback about the retreat meeting held on Saturday, July 22nd. Boardmembers commented about what went well, what they found helpful, and what they thought still needed to be addressed. Staff gave a recap on agreements made at the meeting concerning ways to make the Board's meetings more efficient and productive. Subcommittee guidelines and a report form and a liaison report form were distributed. It was requested that written reports be prepared in order to help streamline the reporting process at the Board meetings. Staff facilitated discussion around the process for determining what issues the Board wants to focus. It was determined that the next steps will be to have a thorough discussion about the purpose of the Board and to review WAB's previous work plan.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Subcommittee Reports

There were no subcommittee reports.

1. **Status of Women in West Hollywood** – The Subcommittee will meet after the Board meeting adjourns to discuss next steps.
2. **5th Annual West Hollywood Book Fair, September 17, 2006-** Due to time constraints, it was suggested that planning efforts focus on next year's book fair. Further consideration will be made as part of the discussion of the upcoming work plan for the Board.
3. **40th Anniversary of the National Organization for Women-** The Subcommittee scheduled a meeting for August 3rd at 7pm.

VI NEW BUSINESS

A. Women's Equality Day, Saturday, August 26th

Nick Teske, City Council Intern, gave an update report on the *West Hollywood Pro Choice City Campaign*, which was created to encourage cities to declare themselves pro choice in support of women's reproductive rights. The campaign kick-off event is

scheduled for Monday, August 28th in conjunction with Women's Equality Day and WAB members were asked to participate. The Board also discussed attending the August 21st City Council meeting to receive a proclamation for Women's Equality Day.

B. California Commission on the Status of Women Hearings

Boardmembers expressed interest in participating in Commission hearings about the status of women and girls in California scheduled for September 20, 2006. The Board directed staff to provide more information about the Commission and specifics about subject matter.

C. Review of Calendar of Events

No Action Taken.

D. Election of Officers

The Board conducted their annual election of officers. Chairperson Rackley opened the floor for nominations. Heidi Schroeder and Lyndia Lowy were nominated for the office of chair. Lyndia Lowy was elected chair of the Board. Vote: 4-3-2. For the office of vice chair, both Stephanie Middler and Heidi Schroeder were nominated. Stephanie Middler was elected vice chair of the Board. Vote: 6-3-0.

VII. BOARD LIAISON REPORTS

Human Services Commission— Kelly Alexander reported. The Commission is reviewing grant applications for the City's social services funding. NCJW/LA is the only organization that focuses on women. Suggested identifying organization who cater solely to women.

VIII. ITEMS FROM THE BOARD

Kelly Alexander

Requested an updated Board roster.

Rae Mitchell

Asked if anyone had any suggestions for Breast Cancer Awareness Month in October.

Marcy Norton

Commented about home invasion robbery in West Hollywood and requested that public safety attend an upcoming Board meeting.

Lyndia Lowy

Commented about violence issues and the interstate abortion ban

Jesse Raeder

Announced that the California Federation of Labor just voted to opposed Proposition 85.

IX. ITEMS FROM THE STAFF

Lisa Belsanti announced that the City Council approved the idea of hosting a leadership conference and more information will be provided as plans develop. The City passed a resolution opposing Proposition 85. The Annual Board and Commission Congress is scheduled for October 14th.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The Women's Advisory Board adjourned at 8:35 PM their next regularly scheduled Board Meeting on at 7:00 PM on Thursday, August 24, 2006 in West Hollywood, CA 90069.