

**MINUTES  
LESBIAN AND GAY ADVISORY BOARD  
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 2016**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The January 14, 2016, meeting of the City of West Hollywood Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board was called to order at 7:03 pm by Co-Chair Robert Gamboa.

**A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

William Seegmiller led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**B. ROLL CALL**

Present: Kate Eggert, Robert Gamboa, Lucas John, James Duke Mason, Robert Oliver, Matt Palazzolo, Marquita Thomas, Ruth Tittle.

Not Present: Beth Bishop, Elizabeth Persen.

A quorum was present at all times. Also present were staff members John Erickson and Jeff Book.

**C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda was approved on a motion by James Duke Mason, seconded by Matt Palazzolo.

**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**1. MINUTES OF DECEMBER 10, 2015**

The minutes of the meeting of December 10, 2015, were approved on a motion by Ruth Tittle, seconded by Robert Oliver.

**E. ADJOURNMENT REQUESTS**

James Duke Mason requested that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Natalie Cole, David Bowie, and Alan Rickman. Matt Palazzolo requested that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Jeanne Córdova.

**F. PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Tyrrell Burriss, West Hollywood, spoke in support of Love No Hate.

2. Michael Blegen, West Hollywood, spoke about traveling from South Dakota and finding support at Love No Hate, which lends a hand to those in need.
3. Anthony D'Angelo, West Hollywood, spoke about meeting Nir Zilberman about three months ago, and about how Love No Hate had supported him, and feeds a lot of people.
4. Leonard Campbell, West Hollywood, said that he receives Supplemental Security Income (SSI) but knows that some areas are not his home. He said Nir Zilberman helps him.
5. Nir Zilberman, West Hollywood, thanked City commissions which he said had voted unanimously to open a shelter for those in need. He said Love No Hate supports all people. He spoke about the challenge of the El Niño weather, and said that people need shelter from 2 to 8 a.m.
6. William Seegmiller, representing the Los Angeles branch of CAST (Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking) spoke about Human Trafficking Awareness Month (January) and invited people to their Freedom Fair (8:30 a.m.) and 2-mile "Walk 4 Freedom" through Koreatown (9:15 a.m.) this Saturday, Jan. 16, based at Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 3300 Wilshire Blvd. (at Berendo St.).
7. James Wen, chair of Transgender Advisory Board (TAB), thanked Robert Gamboa for attending a meeting with Congressman Mike Honda (17<sup>th</sup> District, California), who has been appointed by President Obama to lead a task force on transgender issues. He spoke about TAB and the League of Women Voters of Los Angeles supporting a Trans Voter Empowerment Day; about the Trans Chorus; and about the Transgender Day of Visibility.
8. Catherine Gray requested to be on the Advisory Board's February agenda to seek support for a women's empowerment event to be held in November, on the theme of Live-Love-Thrive. She has spoken with City staff about timing and requirements for the meeting. She directs the website [365karma.com](http://365karma.com).

## **2. STUDY SESSION**

Kate Eggert and Robert Gamboa led a study session to help develop a workplan for the year. It began by collecting a large number of topics or opportunities the Board may want to consider, and then placing them in groups by subject matter, for further consideration. After discussion, the groupings, together with sub-topics, are:

## Lesbian

- Lesbian spaces
- Lesbian visibility
- Lesbian / Women's health

## LGBT Youth

- Youth trafficking and prostitution
- Youth homelessness
- Youth mental health
- Youth substance abuse
- What is the LGBT future?

## Spaces and Events for LGBT social gatherings

- "Third Space" – opportunities to get together that are not work, not bars, and not commercial space
- Citywide, inclusive events that bring people together to share an experience
- Playing a larger role in One City One Pride
- Screening series of films with LGBT relevance
- Sober events
- Speaker series
- Youth forum
- Social meetings / LGBT panel
- Meetings on LGBT future and the future of activism
- Recognizing Ivy Bottini

## Identity

- LGBT Businesses / LGBT Non-Profits
- Losing our identity
- LGBT history and preservation
- LGBT signage, branding, gateways, kiosks, and SMB/SVB intersection
- AIDS monument and plaques
- Commercial survey – LGBT context
- LGBT future
- Use of the SW corner of Crescent Heights/Santa Monica Blvd.

## Rainbow Key Awards

Education - Housing and Rental Issues, Affordable Housing,  
Changing the Ellis Act  
Ways to stop loss of LGBT residents, and increase them  
Ways to stop loss of LGBT businesses, and increase them

Health Education

PrEP education / women / data review / research  
Education about Substance Abuse  
HIV, HPV, Hepatitis C, and STI's in general

Social Services

Homeless services  
Mental health services  
Services regarding Substance Abuse  
Men's and Women's health  
Cancer support services  
Support for caregivers and patients

Other topics

Revising the Mission Statement

The Board will consider how to best focus its interests and set priorities at its upcoming meetings.

The February 11 meeting of the Board will consist mostly of consideration of nominees for Rainbow Key Awards. The Board is interested in holding the March 10 meeting of the Board as a conversation/narrative as a means of recognition of Ivy Bottini, who has asked that any recognition of her consist of an opportunity to sit down and talk with Board members.

John Erickson reported on several upcoming events. On Tuesday, Jan. 19, the City will mark the 43<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of Roe v. Wade with a rally prior to the City Council meeting. The kickoff of CityLineX, linking West Hollywood to the Hollywood & Highland Metro Station, will also be held on Tuesday, Jan. 19, prior to City Council. On Thursday, Jan. 21, there will be a reception marking the anniversary of Roe v. Wade at NCJW-LA, 543 N. Fairfax Ave., Los Angeles. And Saturday, Jan. 23, is the City's MLK Day of Service, in support of beautification at West Hollywood Elementary School.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT**


James Wen said that the Transgender Advisory Board will be doing a study session soon, and it was helpful to see how this Board goes about it.

**4. ADJOURNMENT**

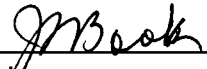
The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm in memory of Natalie Cole, David Bowie, Alan Rickman, and Jeanne Córdova.

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APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE LESBIAN AND GAY ADVISORY BOARD ON THE 11<sup>th</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY 2016.

  
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Co-Chair

Attest:

  
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Staff Liaison