

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD  
TRANSGENDER ADVISORY BOARD  
MINUTES FOR APRIL 12, 2017  
Special Meeting**

**7:00 p.m., Wednesday April 12, 2017  
RSH Hearing Room  
8300 Santa Monica Blvd.  
West Hollywood, CA 90046**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** –Chair Lachine called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Member Sanchez led the pledge.
3. **ROLL CALL** – Board Members present: Chair Coco Lachine, James Wen, Erika De La Cruz, Dr. Jaye Johnson, Alexis Sanchez, Drian Juarez, Karina Samala, Leslie Frias. Also present: Bonnie Smith, Staff Liaison and Bruce Robertson, Staff Assistant.

Absent: Justine Gonzalez.

4. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA** Motion to approve the agenda by Member Johnson seconded by Member Sanchez and approved.
5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Motion to approve the minutes of March 15, 2017 by Member De La Cruz seconded by Member Johnson and approved.
6. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**
7. **MEMBER COMMENTS**

Member Frias announced that she was recently selected to serve on the national training committee for NMAC as 1<sup>st</sup> classmate. Member Frias spoke of Bienestar an organization committed to serving the Trans Community through HIV education, medical and mental health care, housing, employment and visibility. She also announced that Bienestar would be holding an HIV testing event in April.

Member De La Cruz spoke about her involvement and desire to participate more in the Transgender Provider Meetings.

Member Juarez noted that she is working on the Trans Job Fair to be held in November and announced that Gender Odyssey Los Angeles would be holding a conference June 28 - 29, 2017 in Burbank, CA.

Member Samala spoke about attending the Transgender Provider Meeting.

Member Wen shared about his participation in Queer View - Religion & Identity in 2017, an event which screened LGBTQ films, including TransMormon. He also shared that the Human Rights Campaign is working on creating HRC Connect events, and would like to receive speaker suggestions from the Trans community. He also announced that the Trans Chorus of Los Angeles performed to two sold-out shows of Ziggy Stardust, and that Trans Service Provider Network (TSPN) voted to invite law enforcement representatives to its meeting with respect to a set of guidelines.

## **8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### 8A. Transgender Awareness Events

Staff updated the Board on possible locations for this year's Trans Day of Remembrance (TDOR) noting that there is limited space in West Hollywood able to accommodate the anticipated attendance of approximately 400. Possible venues might be the former French Market Place and the London Hotel noting that parking would be limited and/or expensive. Staff is also looking into Fairfax High School which, although not in West Hollywood, would be a venue able to accommodate the expected attendance and parking would also be available.

8B. Calendar of Events throughout the year  
No discussion.

## **9. NEW BUSINESS**

### 9A. Boy Scouts of America

Member Wen led the discussion on how the Community could reach out to Boy Scout leaders and parents suggesting ideas such as sponsoring a panel on Tran's issues with a time for questions and answers, or a Trans 101 classroom style educational forum. Members also discussed if there is sufficient interest from the Boy Scout community to warrant a forum or other educational event.

9B. Angel Santana, Friends Community Center  
No discussion.

### 9C. CSW Transgender Friday Night Party

The Board emphasized the importance of being included in the Friday night Pride celebration beginning with the traditional Dyke March after which a Trans stage with Trans performers be included in the night's festivities. Suggested entertainment were Trans entertainer Candis Cayne, a lip synch battle, Mariachi band and/or music by the Trans Chorus. It was also suggested that member Drian Juarez be the DJ.

Additionally members discussed ways in which the Trans community could be visible at the Resist March. Ideas included wrist bands or Trans flags. Additional discussion targeted whether Trans people should march as one contingent or as contingents within larger groups, i.e., Bienestar etc.

Member Samala suggested she invite March organizer Brian Pendleton to the next meeting.

### 9D. Transgender Day of Visibility

Chair LaChine expressed their disappointment in this year's attendance, most of which was limited to members of the Trans community. Even a press conference held by Los Angeles City Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell was not widely picked up by local news stations. Chair LaChine suggested TAB consider planning an event next year. The board agreed that better planning would improve the event and increase visibility, which is the goal.

## **10. ITEMS FROM STAFF**

None.

## **12. PUBLIC COMMENT**

David, FBI Los Angeles Field Office, invited Trans people to attend the upcoming Diversity Agent Recruitment Event, highlighting that the FBI's target audience at this event is those who believe they would not expect to be hired. He stated that the FBI wants to develop relationship with the Trans community emphasizing that Trans applicants will be tested on physical performance bases on the gender with which they identify. May 1<sup>st</sup> is application deadline.

**13. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

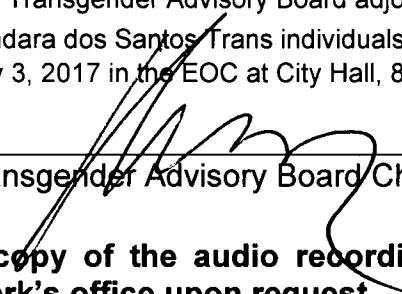
Member Wen reminded members of the upcoming Midnight Stroll at SMB & Wilcox Ave.


Member Johnson announced that his nephew was recently accepted by the FBI and congratulated Councilmember John Duran for his performance at the recent Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles.

Chair LaChine announced that the City will be hosting a "Protest Sign Making" event at The Abbey on May 22<sup>nd</sup>, in commemoration of Harvey Milk Day.

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

The Transgender Advisory Board adjourned at 8:30 PM in the memory Alphonza Watson and Dandara dos Santos Trans individuals who were recently murdered. The next meeting is scheduled for May 3, 2017 in the EOC at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood, CA

  
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Transgender Advisory Board Chair

  
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Staff Liaison

**A copy of the audio recording of this meeting can be obtained from the City Clerk's office upon request.**

***(Disclaimer: Staff records the meetings for the sole purpose of composing the official meeting minutes; therefore the recordings are not of commercial quality.)***