

**MINUTES**  
**LESBIAN AND GAY ADVISORY BOARD**  
**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD**

**APRIL 13, 2017**

**7:00 PM**

**FIRST FLOOR COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM**  
**8300 SANTA MONICA BLVD**  
**WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA 90069**

**1. CALL TO ORDER** – Co-Chair Marquita Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm.

**A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Councilmember John Duran led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**B. ROLL CALL -**

**PRESENT:** Lauren Costine, Megan Cotanch, Kate Eggert, Robert Gamboa, Lucas John, Sue LaVaccare, James Duke Mason, Marquita Thomas

**ABSENT:** Robert Oliver, Matt Palazzolo

**ALSO PRESENT:** David Giugni, Social Services Manager; Hernan Molina, Governmental Affairs Liaison; Corey Roskin, David Escobedo, Jeff Book

**INSTALLATION OF NEW MEMBER**

Councilmember John Duran thanked the members of the Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board for the work they do for the City. He administered the oath of office to Lauren D. Costine, newly appointed member, who was congratulated by Board members on her appointment.

**C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Robert Gamboa moved to approve the agenda, with the addition of moving Item 4.A. (Legislative Update) ahead of Item 3.A. (Dyke March Update). This was seconded by Lucas John and approved.

**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the March 9, 2017, meeting were approved on a motion by Sue LaVaccare, seconded by Kate Eggert, with Lauren Costine abstaining.

## **E. PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Ann P. Meredith, writer-director-producer, spoke about her project "Lost Girls: Rediscovering Lesbians and Lesbian Culture in West Hollywood," and invited the Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board to support the project.
2. Lee Walkup, chair of Senior Advisory Board, spoke about the Senior Health Fair on May 17 and the televised Senior Advisory Board meeting on May 24. He also spoke about signing of a law that would permit states to defund Planned Parenthood.
3. Teri Mayer of the Career Center at West Hollywood Library said an "overqualified job seeker" workshop will be held on April 20.
4. A gentleman said he was speaking on behalf of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Los Angeles Field Office and its LGBT Advisory Committee. He said there will be a diversity recruitment event on May 9, and invited anyone who is interested to attend and apply.

## **2. CONSENT CALENDAR:**

There were no items on the Consent Calendar. As previously determined, the meeting moved to Item 4. A.

## **4. NEW BUSINESS:**

### **A. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Hernan Molina spoke about legislative topics related to the Gay and Lesbian community, including LGBT representation in the census; the crisis in the Gay community in Chechnya; the Affordable Care Act; the proposed repeal of the Costa-Hawkins law; reform of the Ellis Act; sanctuary city status; and immigration.

He spoke about the item on the April 17, 2017, City Council agenda which calls on the Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board and the Russian Advisory Board to help ensure that constituents and allies join efforts to denounce human rights violations in Chechnya.

Advisory Board Members expressed interest in continuing involvement in legislative matters. Robert Gamboa will meet with Hernan Molina to discuss ways that the Board can be involved.

## **3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

### **A. DYKE MARCH UPDATE**

Staff discussed current plans for the Dyke March in June, including possible routes and destinations. Supervisor Sheila Kuehl is planning to attend.

**B. 2017 RAINBOW KEY AWARDS**

Advisory Board members chose June 14 over June 21 as the date for this year's Rainbow Key Awards, to be held in the City Council Chambers. Motion by Sue La Vaccare, seconded by Lucas John, and approved.

**C. NEXT STEPS ON WORKPLAN**

Members discussed progress by subcommittees on the parts of the current workplan. Robert Gamboa and James Duke Mason are working on the LGBT Future; Kate Eggert, Marquita Thomas, and Megan Cotanch are working on Lesbian Spaces, including discussion of how to attract more lesbian-owned businesses to the city; and Kate Eggert and Matt Palazzolo are working on LGBT Signage.

**4. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR:**

There were no Excluded Consent items.

**5. ITEMS FROM STAFF:**

There were no additional items from staff.

**6. PUBLIC COMMENT**

David Tiktin, West Hollywood, introduced himself as a member of the Bisexual community who is interested in the prospects for the Advisory Board's bisexual subcommittee. [Since the Advisory Board ended recruitment of City residents for the subcommittee in January 2017 after none applied, the Advisory Board will discuss at the next meeting how to proceed.]

**7. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS:**

Lauren Costine joined the subcommittee working on LGBT Signage.

Kate Eggert said the new Environmental Impact Report on the Robertson Lane project indicates that 60% of the Factory building would be demolished. She asked for City development staff to give a presentation to the Advisory Board, for discussion of this plan's impact.

Marquita Thomas said the LA Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce is doing a careers event soon, and will be holding a networking mixer on May 4 at iHeart Media in Burbank.

Robert Gamboa asked for the topic of supporting Ann P. Meredith's project, "Lost Girls: Rediscovering Lesbians and Lesbian Culture in West Hollywood," to be placed on the next agenda. There was no objection, and this was approved.

Robert Gamboa asked for the topic of how to memorialize the victims of the 2016 attack on the Pulse nightclub in Orlando, Florida, to be placed on the next agenda. There was no objection, and this was approved. The first anniversary of

the attack is June 12. It was the deadliest incident of violence against LGBT people in US history, the deadliest mass shooting by a single shooter in US history, and the deadliest terrorist attack in the US since the September 11 attacks in 2001.

Board Members asked about the emergency action taken at the last meeting to request that John Erickson be reinstated as LGAB staff liaison. Staff said that the City Manager received and considered the request, has consulted with relevant management staff, and has denied it. [Also, it should be noted that this staff person now works in the Economic Development Department.]

Board Members welcomed Lauren Costine to the Board.

**9. ADJOURNMENT:**

The Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board adjourned at 9:12 pm to its next regular meeting, which is at 7 pm, Thursday, May 11, 2017, in the First Floor Community Conference Room at West Hollywood City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood 90069.

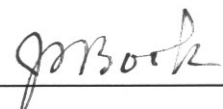
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APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE LESBIAN AND GAY ADVISORY BOARD ON THE 11<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MAY 2017



Co-Chair

Attest:



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Staff Liaison