

MINUTES

LESBIAN AND GAY ADVISORY BOARD

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD

APRIL 12, 2018

7:00 PM

LIBRARY COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM
625 NORTH SAN VICENTE BOULEVARD
WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA 90069

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Co-Chair Megan Cotanch called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – John Erickson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. ROLL CALL –

PRESENT: Lauren Costine, Megan Cotanch, John Erickson,
Jason Frazier, Robert Gamboa, Lucas Junkin,
Sue LaVaccare, Marquita Thomas.

ABSENT: Samantha Lavin, James Duke Mason.

ALSO PRESENT: Peter Noonan, Acting Director of Human Services and Rent
Stabilization; David Escobedo and Jeff Book.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ACTION: Approval of the agenda was moved by John Erickson, seconded by Marquita Thomas, and unanimously approved by roll call vote.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION: Approval of the minutes of the March 18, 2018, meeting was moved by John Erickson, seconded by Marquita Thomas, and passed 6 yes, 1 no (Jason Frazier), and 1 abstaining (Robert Gamboa). [Note: It was brought to attention that there are two errors in the March 18 minutes, so a corrected version will be brought back to the May 10 meeting for approval.]

E. PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Nadia Sutton, a member of the Women's Advisory Board (WAB), works with the Los Angeles Youth Advocacy Coalition. She spoke about She noted many areas of commonality between this Advisory Board and WAB.

2. Karen Eyres, chair of Women's Advisory Board, said there are many common goals and causes between the boards. She said perhaps WAB could co-sponsor or collaborate with LGAB on the proposed screening of "Seeing Allred."

3. Mike Che, Cultural Affairs Coordinator, spoke about several events including National Poetry Month; an exhibit regarding Christopher Isherwood and Don Bachardy; and a poetry event regarding historic Route 66. He provided updated information on One City One Pride.

F. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Lucas Junkin said he recently had a tour of the Werle Building and that it's not particularly suited for public meetings because of its relatively small size and the limitations of nearby parking.

Jason Frazier asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Carmen Gloria Duran, mother of Mayor Pro Tempore John Duran.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no items on the Consent Calendar.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. PLANS IN HONOR OF MATT PALAZZOLO

Subject: The Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board will discuss further details of the proposal to honor Matt Palazzolo.

John Erickson said he had spoken with James Duke Mason and Peter Noonan about the Advisory Board's interest in an ongoing recognition in memory of Matt Palazzolo. Peter Noonan said if the Advisory Board wished to recommend that the City Council consider an arts scholarship in memory of Matt Palazzolo, that the next step would be for Board to form a recommendation and take a vote. He said that if approved by the board, the recommendation would be forwarded to the City Clerk, who would then give it to the Council subcommittee that reviews items brought forward by Advisory Boards and Commissions. The Council subcommittee consists of the Mayor and the Mayor Pro Tempore, who would decide if the recommendation would be placed on a City Council agenda. He said this procedure would be used for recommendations the Advisory Board may make in the future. John Erickson said it will be important for Advisory Board members to talk with Council Members to encourage them to place this on their agenda.

The Advisory Board discussed what type of recognition to recommend, including whether it would be for arts or a broader definition, whether it should be intended for young, up-and-coming and/or emerging artists, would be for one person per year, or could be divided, and whether to recommend a particular amount.

John Erickson moved to recommend that the City Council consider establishing an annual grant in honor of Matt Palazzolo, in an appropriate amount, such as \$3,000, for an emerging artist, writer, or entertainer, to

support local celebrations of LGBT history. This was seconded by Robert Gamboa, and passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

B. LESBIAN-THEMED COFFEE SHOP

Subject: The Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board will consider recommending to the City Council that when West Hollywood Park improvements are being completed, and a Request for Proposals is issued for operation of West Hollywood Park commercial space both in the City Council Chambers building and the new Recreation building, that plans for one or more of the spaces include the concept of being Lesbian-themed.

Board Members indicated they passed the same recommendation at the previous meeting, but for clarity, Marquita Thomas moved the recommendation as stated. This was seconded by Lauren Costine and approved 7 yes, 1 abstention, on a roll call vote, with John Erickson abstaining.

C. DYKE MARCH SUBCOMMITTEE

Marquita Thomas provided an update on planning for the 2018 Dyke March, and on the meeting of the Dyke March subcommittee on April 2, 2018.

D. RAINBOW KEY AWARDS

The Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board made further plans for the 2018 Rainbow Key Awards, to be held Tuesday, June 5, 2018, in the City Council Chambers, and agreed to the following roles:

With honoree Rudy Akbarian – Marquita Thomas, Sue LaVaccare

With honoree Kathy Griffin – Sue LaVaccare, Jason Frazier

With the Palazzolo Family – Robert Gamboa

With honoree Brian Pendleton – Jason Frazier, Robert Gamboa

With honoree Bamby Salcedo – Sue LaVaccare, John Erickson

With honoree Elizabeth Savage – Lauren Costine, Lucas Junkin

Greeting arrivals in the lobby – All members

Members who were not present can join any of the groups they wish.

Script – Co-Chairs (Megan Cotanch, James Duke Mason)

with assistance from Robert Gamboa

Emcee – Co-Chairs

Photo/Video coordination – John Erickson

Staff will arrange for food, drinks, fabrication of the awards, flowers, event photography and poster, requesting bios from honorees and introducing them to their contacts above.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. SOCIAL APPS INFORMATION SHARING/HIV STATUS

Peter Noonan, Acting Director of Human Services and Rent Stabilization, said this topic had been raised by members of the City Council, who asked the Advisory Board to discuss it. Aspects include protecting information provided to social apps, and protecting users' anonymity, particularly in unfriendly territories.

John Erickson suggested inviting Drían Juarez, now with Grindr for Good, to speak. Staff will invite representatives of the apps and report back to the Advisory Board. Without objection, the Board continued this item to their next agenda.

B. BI VISIBILITY DAY EVENT

David Tiktin, representing "amBi – LA's Bi Social Community", said September 23 is Bisexual Visibility Day, and that the group working on Bisexual Visibility would like the City to consider an event to be held on September 22 in the West Hollywood Park Auditorium. Potential plans include a broader weekend of events, including educational, social, and march elements.

John Erickson moved to recommend that the City Council co-sponsor Celebrate Bisexuality Weekend through support of a social event on Saturday, September 22, waiving fees, parking, security and permitting costs, including alcohol permit, and provide publicity through the City. This was seconded by Marquita Thomas and unanimously approved on roll call vote.

John Erickson moved that the Board create a committee to work with the Bisexual group. This was seconded by Jason Frazier and unanimously approved. Members of the committee will be John Erickson, Jason Frazier, Robert Gamboa, Sue LaVaccare, and Marquita Thomas.

C. SEEING ALLRED

John Erickson spoke about sponsoring a screening of the film "Seeing Allred," about attorney Gloria Allred. Without objection this item was continued to the next agenda. Jason Frazier asked for clarification on the meaning of sponsoring, co-sponsoring, and endorsing an event.

D. PLANNING FOR 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF LGAB

John Erickson noted that the 30th anniversary of the Advisory Board is coming up, and moved to create a subcommittee that will consider appropriate recognition. This was seconded by Robert Gamboa and unanimously agreed. The committee will include Megan Cotanch, Jason Frazier, Robert Gamboa, and Lucas Junkin.

5. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no items on the Excluded Consent Calendar.

6. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Staff spoke about Assembly Bill 2943 by Assemblymember Low, which would prohibit sexual orientation conversion therapy.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no additional public comment.

8. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

A. LIAISON REPORTS

John Erickson attended the Women's Advisory Board, and thanked them for the Women's Leadership Awards.

B. OTHER ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Marquita Thomas spoke about the efforts of Equality California to remove from the state's sexual offender registry a large number of gay men who were arrested under now-discredited laws.

Lucas Junkin requested that the Board take up a "pass the torch" speaking opportunity for those who participated in earlier decades of lesbian and gay activism. There was no objection, and this item was placed on the next agenda.

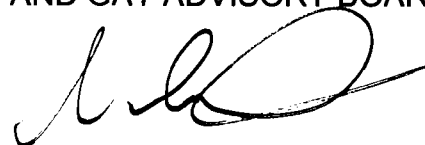
Board Members welcomed Peter Noonan as Acting Director.

Jason Frazier spoke about the Gay Men's Chorus Voice Awards, to be held May 5, featuring honors for Tony-winning actor Billy Porter and political commentator Ana Navarro.

9. ADJOURNMENT

In memory of Carmen Gloria Duran, the Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board was adjourned at 9:18 p.m. to its next special meeting, to be held at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, May 10, 2018, in the Library Community Meeting Room, 625 North San Vicente Boulevard, West Hollywood 90069.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE LESBIAN AND GAY ADVISORY BOARD ON THE 10TH DAY OF MAY 2018.



Co-Chair

Attest:



Secretary