

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

**SEPTEMBER 13, 2018  
7:00 PM**

**FIRST FLOOR COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM  
WEST HOLLYWOOD CITY HALL  
8300 SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD  
WEST HOLLYWOOD 90069**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Co-Chair Jason Frazier called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

**A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Megan Cotanch.

**B. ROLL CALL –**

**PRESENT:** Megan Cotanch, John Erickson, Jason Frazier, Robert Gamboa, Lucas John, James Duke Mason, Alana Roshay, Sepi Shyne, Marquita Thomas

**ABSENT:** Lauren Costine

**ALSO PRESENT:** Corri Planck, Strategic Initiatives Manager; Jeff Book, Jenny Ivanova.

Board Member Marquita Thomas joined the meeting in progress.

**C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**ACTION:** John Erickson moved to approve the agenda, but taking up Item 4.C. (Endorsing 2019 Performance of “The Vagina Monologues”) before Item 3.A. This was seconded by Robert Gamboa and approved 8 to 0.

**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**ACTION:** Two changes were made to the minutes of the August 9, 2018, meeting. In Item 1.E., a reference to September 4 was changed to August 6, and in Item 8.B. the spelling of Board Member Alana Roshay’s name was corrected. With those changes, approval of the minutes was moved by John Erickson, seconded by Alana Roshay, and approved 6 to 0, with Megan Cotanch and Lucas Junkin abstaining.

**E. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Alexis Sanchez, Chair of the Transgender Advisory Board, spoke about the recent murders of four young black trans women: Londonn Moore Kinnard, North Port, Florida; Dejanay Stanton, Chicago, Illinois; Vontashia Bell, Shreveport, Louisiana; and Shantee Tucker, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She asked everyone to join in remembering them and protesting their deaths in a moment of silence at noon on Friday, Sept. 14.

Board Member Thomas joined the meeting at this point.

Corri Planck said the Board is being recorded under a new system that will enable podcasting of the meetings, and therefore happenings that are not apparent from a recording, such as entrance of a member, should be spoken for the record.

**F. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

John Erickson asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of those whose names were called by Alexis Sanchez.

Sepi Shyne agreed with that adjournment request.

Robert Gamboa asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of three West Hollywood residents who died in the attack of Sept. 11, 2001: David Reed Gamboa Brandhorst, who would be 20 years old now if he had lived, and his fathers, Daniel Brandhorst and Ronald Gamboa.

John Erickson asked that the adjournment also be in memory of Charles "Chic" Burlingame II, pilot of American Airlines Flight 77, who was the brother of Brad Burlingame, who served as president of the West Hollywood Convention and Visitors Bureau for 18 years; and in memory of all LGBT victims of the 9/11 attack, both known and unknown.

Lucas Junkin said he would join the moment of silence on Sept. 14.

Marquita Thomas asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Aretha Franklin and Sen. John McCain.

**2. CONSENT CALENDAR**

There were no items on the Consent Calendar.

**4. NEW BUSINESS**

Item 4.C. was taken out of agenda order.

**C. ENDORSING 2019 PERFORMANCE OF "THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES"**

*Subject: The Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board will consider endorsing the February 16-17, 2019, performances of Eve Ensler's "The Vagina Monologues," sponsored by Hollywood NOW, the City of West Hollywood, and the Transgender Advisory Board.*

John Erickson was recused from voting or participating in discussion of this item because he is an officer of Hollywood NOW.

Public Comment: Karen Eyres discussed Hollywood NOW's plans for the 2019 performance of "The Vagina Monologues," and requested the Board's endorsement.

**ACTION:** Marquita Thomas moved to endorse the 2019 performance of "The Vagina Monologues," being organized by Hollywood NOW. This was seconded by Sepi Shyne, and unanimously approved, 8 to 0, with John Erickson recused and not voting.

Marquita Thomas requested that if this item comes for future agenda, it could be placed on the Consent Calendar.

### 3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

#### A. PLANS IN HONOR OF MATT PALAZZOLO

*Subject: The Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board will continue discussion of how to honor Matt Palazzolo.*

Corri Planck said the City Council committee which reviews proposals from boards and commissions had declined the Board's request to initiate a grant/scholarship in memory of Matt Palazzolo, and said there were other places, like The Point Foundation, which could administer such a grant, and that if the City were to do this, it could be setting a precedent on the passing of other commission and board members. Board Members discussed alternative ideas, such as naming one of the Rainbow Key awards, asking a representative of the Point Foundation to attend, and raising money for a scholarship. The matter was carried over for further discussion.

#### B. RAINBOW KEY AWARDS

*Subject: The Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board will continue discussion of the 2018 Rainbow Key Awards and finalize membership of a planning committee for the 2019 Rainbow Key Awards.*

At the August 2018 meeting, Jason Frazier, Robert Gamboa, James Duke Mason, and Sepi Shyne said they were interested in being on a planning committee for the 2019 Rainbow Key Awards. John Erickson said he was also interested.

**ACTION:** Lucas John moved to designate John Erickson, Jason Frazier, Robert Gamboa, James Duke Mason, and Sepi Shyne as the planning committee for the 2019 Rainbow Key Awards. This was seconded by Robert Gamboa and unanimously approved, 9 to 0, on a roll call vote. (Note: Membership of the committee was amended later in the meeting.)

#### C. PLANNING FOR 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF LGAB

*Subject: The Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board will continue discussion of recognizing the 30th anniversary of the Board, which was created on February 6, 1989.*

Board Members talked about acquiring a list of things the Board has accomplished since its founding, having displays at a celebration, perhaps using the upper floor of the Library, interviewing former members, having a month leading up to the anniversary on February 6, involving young people. The matter was carried over for further discussion.

#### 4. NEW BUSINESS

##### A. ELECTING A REPRESENTATIVE TO SERVE ON THE SELECTION COMMITTEE FOR A TRANSGENDER ARTS INITIATIVE GRANT AND ONE CITY ONE PRIDE ARTS GRANT APPLICATIONS

*Subject: The Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board will consider electing one representative from the Board to serve on a selection committee for a Transgender Arts Initiative Grant and One City One Pride Arts Grant applications.*

**ACTION:** Robert Gamboa moved to designate Lucas Junkin as the Board's representative, with Alana Roshay as alternate. This was seconded by John Erickson and unanimously approved, 9 to 0, by roll call vote.

**ACTION:** After discussion, John Erickson moved to make these changes to committee membership: James Duke Mason to serve on the 30th Anniversary committee instead of Rainbow Key; Marquita Thomas to serve on Rainbow Key; and John Erickson to not serve on the 30th Anniversary committee. This was seconded by Sepi Shyne and unanimously approved, 9 to 0, by roll call vote.

As amended, the committee memberships are:

Rainbow Key Planning: John Erickson, Jason Frazier, Robert Gamboa, Sepi Shyne, Marquita Thomas.

30th Anniversary Planning: Lauren Costine, Robert Gamboa, Lucas Junkin, James Duke Mason, Alana Roshay.

##### B. C.I.T.Y.x1 YOUTH GROUP'S 2018 THANKSGIVING EVENT

*Subject: The Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board will consider recommending that the City Council approve co-sponsorship of C.I.T.Y.x1's 2018 "The Big Feast" Thanksgiving event for LGBTQ youth, and authorize an expenditure from the Lesbian and Gay Programs line item.*

Carlos Sosa, Executive Director of The C.I.T.Y.x1 Youth Group, spoke about the Board's history of support for this event. This year's Big Feast is planned for 6 to 9 p.m., Sunday, November 18, 2018, in the Hollywood Banquet Hall. He also said he'd be willing to provide information from prior events for the Board to use in its 30th anniversary effort.

Marquita Thomas moved to recommend the 2018 event for support by the City Council. This was seconded by Robert Gamboa. John Erickson proposed a friendly amendment to increase the amount requested for authorization to \$1,000. This was accepted by the maker and seconder of the motion, and the amended motion was unanimously approved, 9 to 0.

John Erickson thanked Carlos Sosa for his personal leadership of this organization and its events for LGBTQ youth, over many years.

The board again noted that for future agendas, this item could be placed on the Consent Calendar.

Item 4.C. was considered earlier in the meeting.

**5. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR**

There were no items on the Excluded Consent Calendar.

**6. ITEMS FROM STAFF**

Corri Planck introduced Jenny Ivanova. She said that the process for the new Community Study to guide Social Services programming begins on Tuesday, Sept. 25, with an event from 6 to 8 pm at Plummer Park. She also spoke about the Be Well WeHo and Mindfulness classes that the City is conducting, and reminded Board members about the Board and Commission training being held on Wednesday, September 26. She said there will be a presentation at an upcoming meeting about the LA LGBT Center's Anita May Rosenstein Campus, scheduled to open in early 2019. Staff spoke about events being held by JQ International with co-sponsorship by the City, including "Trans Equality Brunch" (Nov. 18).

**7. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no additional public comment.

**8. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

**A. LIAISON REPORTS**

John Erickson attended the Transgender Advisory Board meeting. He asked for their event schedule to be sent to the Board. He also attended the Women's Advisory Board in August, where they discussed legislative items.

Robert Gamboa said the Bi Subcommittee met, and is cooperating with amBi in an event on September 22, that will include a rally and march.

Sepi Shyne said this is believed to be the first Bi Pride celebration anywhere in the United States, and she thanked David Tiktin for his work to make the event happen.

Jason Frazier said the Public Safety Commission did not meet this month.

Lucas Junkin attended the LGBT Center's career speaker event.

James Duke Mason spoke about the City's substantial financial support for the LGBT Center's senior housing project.

Marquita Thomas spoke about a Cultural Diversity certification program to be held on Sept. 20, which is especially useful to human resources staff. She attended an event with Los Angeles City Councilmember Mitch

O'Farrell, who is creating a mandatory training for Los Angeles City staff regarding the trans community.

**B. OTHER ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

John Erickson thanked people who helped with the amBi and Women's Equality Day events. He thanked the Board for co-sponsoring "The Vagina Monologues," and welcomed Jenny Ivanova.

Robert Gamboa said the Gay Freedom Band of Los Angeles will hold its 40th Anniversary concert at 3:30 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 21, 2018, in First Congregational Church of Los Angeles. He said the Band was founded in Morris Kight's living room, and used Plummer Park's Great Hall in early days.

Jason Frazier said he has accepted a position in corporate development for the LA Gay Men's Chorus, which is looking forward to hosting the Mexico City Gay Men's Chorus next month, including a joint concert at the Alex Theatre on October 13. Due to those commitments, he will be absent next month. He also spoke about Models of Pride, which will be held on October 20.

Marquita Thomas said the LA Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce will hold the 6th Annual LGBT Mega Mixer at the W Hollywood, 6 to 9 p.m., on Tuesday, October 9. The event usually has at least 500 attendees. She also spoke about the passing of Aretha Franklin and Sen. John McCain.

James Duke Mason asked that the meeting also be adjourned in celebration of the wedding of Co-Chair Lauren Costine.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

In memory of Londonn Moore Kinnard, Dejanay Stanton, Vontashia Bell, Shantee Tucker, David Reed Gamboa Brandhorst, Daniel Brandhorst, Ronald Gamboa, Charles "Chic" Burlingame II, all LGBT victims of the 9/11 attack known and unknown, Aretha Franklin, and Sen. John McCain, and in celebration of the wedding of Co-Chair Lauren Costine, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. to its next regular meeting, at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, October 11, 2018, in the First Floor Community Meeting 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 13TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2018

Attest:

  
Co-Chair

  
Secretary