

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

**NOVEMBER 8, 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 Lauren Costine called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sepi Shyne.

B. ROLL CALL –

PRESENT: Lauren Costine, Jason Frazier, Robert Gamboa,
Lucas Junkin, James Duke Mason, Sepi Shyne

ABSENT: Megan Cotanch, Alana Roshay, Marquita Thomas

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

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ACTION: Jason Frazier moved to approve the agenda, but taking up Item 4.A. (2019 West Hollywood Community Study Focus Group) before Item 3.A. This was seconded by Lucas Junkin and approved unanimously by roll call vote.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION: Robert Gamboa moved to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2018, meeting. This was seconded by Jason Frazier and approved 5 to 0 by roll call vote, with Lauren Costine abstaining.

E. PUBLIC COMMENT

Billy Francesca, who has been appointed to the Advisory Board by Councilmember Horvath and will be sworn in at the December meeting, introduced himself and spoke about his background in promotion. He is looking forward to serving on the Board.

John Erickson, who has been appointed to the Planning Commission, said he enjoyed serving on the Advisory Board with all of its members. He said he will still be active as a community member in the topics that the Board considers.

F. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Sepi Shyne said she would like to place on an agenda a switch in the membership of two Advisory Board committees, by exchanging positions with Lucas Junkin regarding the 30th Anniversary committee and the Rainbow Key planning committee. Corri Planck said this could be accomplished by an administrative change.

Robert Gamboa asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of the victims of the Nov. 7, 2018, shootings at the Borderline Bar and Grill in Thousand Oaks, including Sgt. Ronald Helus, a 29-year law enforcement veteran who was shot as he ran toward the danger.

James Duke Mason asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Caesar Torres, former general manager of Revolver and Here Lounge.

Robert Gamboa asked that the meeting be adjourned in celebration of a record number of LGBT victories in the midterm election, held two days before.

Sepi Shyne asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Jinx Beers, founder of the Lesbian News and board member of the June Mazer Lesbian Archive. She was a 2009 recipient of the Rainbow Key Award.

Board Members thanked John Erickson for his service before, during, and after serving on the Advisory Board, and welcomed Billy Francesca.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no items on the Consent Calendar.

4. NEW BUSINESS

Item 4.A. was taken up next, as directed in Item 1.C.

A. 2019 WEST HOLLYWOOD COMMUNITY STUDY FOCUS GROUP

Subject: The Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board will provide input for the 2019 City of West Hollywood Community Study through participation in a focus group facilitated by the City's consultant, Raimi + Associates.

Corri Planck spoke about the Community Study that is underway as part of the process to determine which social services the City will focus on during 2019-2022. It includes interviews, focus groups, a statistically valid survey, and a questionnaire open to all respondents. The Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board is one of the focus groups.

Melissa Johnson-Stark and Monica Guerra of Raimi + Associates led the discussion, which involved the City's existing social services, the most important community needs, and what kinds of services would help.

Board Members spoke about safety on the streets, in neighborhoods, and around the dog park on San Vicente Boulevard; whether current estimates

correctly reflect the number of lesbians; the inadequacy of census and survey categories regarding orientation and race; the impact of the rising cost of living here; the diversity of the City's; why people move away; inadequacy of street lighting; and cleanliness of the streets, among other subjects. The consultants will analyze responses from the Board and other focus groups in preparation for the Community Study report in 2019.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. REVIEW OF BI PRIDE CELEBRATION

Subject: The Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board will discuss the City's first Bi Pride Celebration, held on September 22, 2018.

Board members thought the event was a success, and were looking forward to the next event in 2019. Robert Gamboa thanked David Tiktin for working with the Board to help this first event occur. Duke Mason spoke about the distance between the Board's first consideration and the event itself. Sepi Shyne said the event appears to have been the first of its kind in the world.

Public Comment: David Tiktin thanked the Board Members for their support of the event, which had been a success.

B. PLANS IN HONOR OF MATT PALAZZOLO

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

Corri Planck relayed that the Advisory Board does not have the authority to fundraise for the Point Foundation as a Board, or to attach the Board's name to any programs of the Foundation. Sepi Shyne said that representatives from the Point Foundation could attend the 30th Anniversary event and publicize their process. Robert Gamboa and Jason Frazier will be in touch with the Palazzolo family to discuss this further.

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.

Lauren Costine reported on discussions by the Board's committee to plan the 30th Anniversary event, and noted that an event didn't have to occur in February, because the entire year is the 30th Anniversary year. Robert Gamboa said that while researching early minutes of the Board he read the report of the 1988 Task Force that led to the City's foundation of the Board. He said the committee is interested in having the history displayed in the City, similar to the way the City's homeless information panels are currently displayed. Duke Mason said the event should make the Board's work accessible to community members who don't know about it, informing new residents while honoring those who have served. This subject will be kept on upcoming agendas.

4. NEW BUSINESS

The New Business item was completed earlier in the meeting.

5. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no items on the Excluded Consent Calendar.

6. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Corri Planck said she would contact the City's Social Services Division about the LA LGBT Center's funding gap related to HIV/STD testing, provided a handout on HIV 50+ and social services, said that LA LGBT Center staff will make a presentation to the Board regarding the new Anita May Rosenstein campus, and reminded Board Members of their ethics training program on November 10 and the Annual Congress of Boards and Commissions on November 28.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no additional public comment.

8. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

A. LIAISON REPORTS

There were no additional liaison reports.

B. OTHER ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

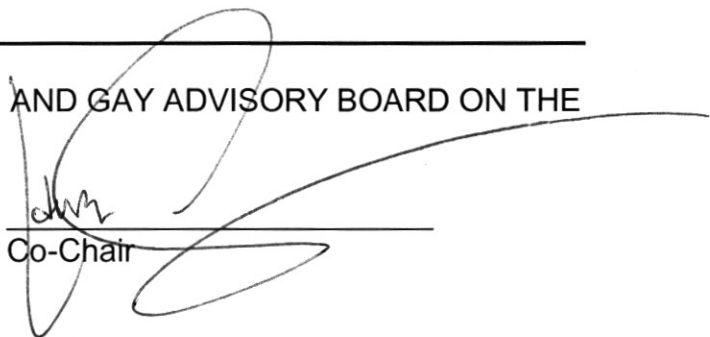
Robert Gamboa and Lucas Junkin asked that loss of funding for HIV/STD testing by the LA LGBT Center be placed on the next agenda. This was placed on the agenda by consensus.

9. ADJOURNMENT

In memory of Caesar Torres, Jinx Beers, the victims of the Nov. 7, 2018, shootings at the Borderline Bar and Grill in Thousand Oaks, including Sgt. Ron Helus; in celebration of a record number of LGBT victories in the midterm election of November 6, 2018; and with congratulations to John Erickson on his appointment to the Planning Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 8:49 p.m. to its next regular meeting, at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, December 13, 2018, in the First Floor Community Meeting Room at West Hollywood City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood 90069.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE LESBIAN AND GAY ADVISORY BOARD ON THE
13TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2018

Attest:



Co-Chair

Secretary