

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD  
TRANSGENDER ADVISORY BOARD  
MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 2023 – 6:00 PM**

**COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL  
8300 Santa Monica Boulevard  
West Hollywood, California 90069**

The West Hollywood Transgender Advisory Board acknowledges that the land on which we gather and that is currently known as the City of West Hollywood is the occupied, unceded, seized territory of the Gabrieleño Tongva and Gabrieleño Kizh peoples.

If special assistance is required to participate in this meeting, (e.g., an American Sign Language interpreter for people who are Deaf or hard of hearing), you must call or submit your request in writing to the Office of the City Clerk at (323) 848- 6800 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. The City TTY line is (323) 848-6496.

**1. CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Nash called the meeting to order at 6:01pm.

A. Land Acknowledgment –Vice-Chair Ruiz

*“The West Hollywood Transgender Advisory Board acknowledges that the land on which we gather and that is currently known as the City of West Hollywood is the occupied, unceded, seized territory of the Gabrieleño Tongva and Gabrieleño Kizh peoples.”*

B. Pledge of Allegiance – Boardmember Samala

*“I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.”*

**C. Roll Call**

Present: Chair Nash, Vice-Chair Ruiz, Boardmember Samala, Boardmember Alexander, and Boardmember Kacy.

Absent: Boardmember Brown, Boardmember Gray, Boardmember Robinson, Boardmember Luna.

Also present: Moya Marquez, Community Programs Coordinator and TAB Liaison, Jennifer Del Toro, CLA Acting Manager, and Tatyana Rodzinek, Acting Recording Secretary.

**D. Approval of the May 3, 2023 Meeting Agenda**

The Board was requested to approve the May 3, 2023, Meeting Agenda as posted.

**ACTION:** Motion to approve agenda by Boardmember Samala and seconded by Boardmember Alexander. Motion passed.

**E. Approval of the April 5, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

The Board was requested to approve the minutes of the April 5, 2023 meeting minutes.

Member Kacy made corrections to the Trans Joy event title

**ACTION:** Motion to approve by **Boardmember Samala** and seconded by **Boardmember Alexander** and approved by a roll call vote.

**F. Public Comment**

*The public is given the opportunity to address the Board on any item within its responsibility. Speakers are limited to two minutes each. If you would like to present a public comment at the meeting, please see the section titled "TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PUBLIC MEETING" on the first page of this Meeting Agenda.*

There were no comments.

**2. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**WeHo Pride**

The Board continued discussion on how it wishes to participate in this year's WeHo Pride Festival, to be held in WeHo Park, Friday, June 2 – Sunday, June 4, 2023.

Board member Kacy spoke about the representation of the transmask community and its representation at WeHo Pride.

The Board was pleased with the changes to the location of their booth this year to Santa Monica Boulevard. The Board questioned whether they would receive tickets from JJLA this year and stressed the importance about the City/JJLA providing more visibility to the trans community this year (and especially the trans masculine community), considering recent anti-trans sentiment in the country.

Boardmember Kacy also talked about the photobooth.

**ACTION:** Chair Nash made a motion to create a Subcommittee consisting of Boardmember Alexander and Chair Nash to coordinate the TAB's Trans Booth at WeHo Pride. Seconded by Member Alexander. Motion passed

**3. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Appointments to Review Panels for Arts Division Programs**

Rebecca Ehemann, Arts Division Manager, spoke about the Drag Laureate program and explained the terms and rules. Rebecca asked the Board to appoint two members to serve on review panels for Arts Division Programs including a member to participate in the review of Drag Laureate applications and attend the May 25, 2023 meeting of the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission, and a member to participate on the Arts Grant Program Peer Review Panel and attend the September 14, 2023 meeting of the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee.

Vice Chair Ruiz asked when the applications would be reviewed

Member Alexander asked about the deadline for applications.

**Eva Angeloff** spoke about the Arts Grants and about the new process of reviewing grants as well as the requirements. Eva highlighted the fact that the arts grants are available now and will close July 1, including the transgender Arts Initiative Grant category which has a \$6,500 maximum award. Eva also encouraged the board members to attend the Arts Division Grants workshop on May 24 at 1pm. On zoom, and informed the board that they can get all this information via the city website. Eva asked to appoint a board member

**ACTION: 1).** The Transgender Advisory Board appointed a member to participate in the review of Drag Laureate applications and attend the May 25, 2023 meeting of the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission.

Vice Chair Ruiz made a motion to appoint member Alexander, Chair Nash seconded. Motion passed

**2).** The Transgender Advisory Board discussed the appointment of a member to participate on the Arts Grant Program Peer Review Panel and attendance the September 14, 2023 meeting of the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee.

Vice Chair Ruiz made a motion to postpone the appointment until new members of the board come on board. Member Alexander seconded. Motion passed.

**Member Kacy joined the meeting at 6:19.**

**B. Legislative Briefing**

The Board received a briefing from Hernan Molina that covered the City's support of legislation in California affecting the trans and LGBTQ+ community, and the potential avenue for influence the City has in federal legislation. The Board and Hernan also discussed the potential effectiveness of putting more focus on trans issues through CalCities' GLBTQ Caucus of the League of California Cities.

Member Alexander asked for the list of bills.

Hernan talked about the bills that do not have a prospect.

Vice Chair Ruiz asked about bills on immigration.

Chair Nash asked how the board could support the legislative work that the city is doing.

**ACTION: No action taken**

#### **4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Karen Eyres, newly appointed Human Services Commissioner, and West Hollywood Resident, spoke about their newly appointed position and the City's recent declaration of itself as a sanctuary city for the Trans Community. She also discussed a future event for the Foundation for the AIDS Memorial Monument that would be requesting support and stories from the Trans Community.

#### **5. ITEMS FROM THE BOARD**

Vice Chair Ruiz

1. Asked to put on the agenda the screening of a film *Pierce Me*, which is a Brooklyn romantic story starring a trans Latina drag queen Chiquitita. An actor James Hightower is a film basically, that's going to be introducing a very kind of joyous kind of relationship between trans folk.

Made a motion to set up the film screening. Seconded by member Kacy. Motion passed

2. Vice Chair Ruiz also talked also about setting up and hosting a Legal Clinic for trans community. Seconded by Boardmember Alexander. Motion passed by a roll call vote.

Member Kacy invited everyone on the board to attend queer prom, which is on June 1 and encouraged everyone to attend in order to show the representation of the community.

Member Alexander spoke about a rally in honor of a deceased Banco Browne who was killed in San Francisco. The rally is going to be at Hollywood and Highland at 630 in front of the Walgreens.

Chair Nash congratulated member Kacy on their appointment to the commission.

#### **6. ITEMS FROM STAFF**

There were no items from staff.

#### **7. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Nash wanted to adjourn the meeting in honor of Banko Brown, a houseless black transgender man in San Francisco who was shot and killed by a private security guard after shoplifting from Walgreens. Earlier this week, the San Francisco DA announced the security guard will face no charges for the death of Brown.

The Transgender Advisory Board adjourned at 7:01 p.m. to its regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, June 7, 2023, at 6:00p.m. to be held in-person at West Hollywood City Hall 1<sup>st</sup> floor Community Meeting Room at 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood, CA 90069.

**Liaison List:**

**Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission – Vacant**  
**Business License Commission – Board Chair Nash**  
**Historic Preservation Commission – Board Vice Chair Ruiz**  
**Human Services Commission – Board Member Luna**  
**Public Safety Commission – Board Member Alexander**  
**LGBTQ+ Advisory Board – Board Member Luna**  
**Senior Advisory Board - Board Member Samala**  
**Women’s Advisory Board - Board Member Brown**

DocuSigned by:  
*Shane Nash*  
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Shane Nash, Chair

Attest:

DocuSigned by:  
*Tatyana Rodzinek*  
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Tatyana Rodzinek, Acting Recording Secretary