

**MINUTES  
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD  
LGBTQ+ COMMISSION**

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, 2023  
7:00 P.M.**

**WEST HOLLYWOOD CITY HALL  
1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR – COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM  
8300 SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** – Moya Marquez, Community Programs Coordinator, called the meeting to order at 7:04pm.
- 2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT:** Read by Commissioner Sotile  
*“The West Hollywood LGBTQ+ Commission 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.”*
- 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Commissioner Kacy led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 4. ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Patrick Ryan Blood, Ron Z. Cortes, Chiedu Egbuniwe, Nik Kacy, Renee F. Sotile, Alec White,

**ABSENT:** Amber Whittington

**5. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**

**ACTION:** Table items 8.A. and 8.B. and approve the meeting agenda of July 13, 2023. Motion by Commissioner Kacy, seconded by Commissioner Sotile, and approved.

**6. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**

**ACTION:** Motion to approve the July 13, 2023 Meeting Minutes by Commissioner Blood, seconded by Commissioner Kacy, and approved.

**7. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Mayor Pro Tempore, John Erickson apologized for not being able to attend the Commission’s first meeting but expressed gratitude and excitement for the

Commissions future work.

\*Public comment submitted via email included as attachment.

## 8. NEW BUSINESS:

### A. ELECTION OF CHAIR

*TABLED*

### B. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

*TABLED*

### C. UPDATE ON PUBLIC SAFETY EQUIPMENT, TECHNOLOGY, AND SECURITY ENHANCEMENTS TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY SAFETY

The LGBTQ+ Commission received an update and provided feedback on various public safety equipment, technology, and security enhancements as well as a drone and fixed camera pilot program with a real-time watch center to help support community safety efforts in West Hollywood. Danny Rivas, Director of Community Safety, led the presentation, and was joined by Captain Moulder and Lieutenant Lapkin who were available to answer questions.

The Commission's feedback included general discontent with the amount of time provided to review the report. Their feedback will be incorporated in the Community Safety Study Session on Monday, August 14<sup>th</sup>.

**ACTION:** Motion to extend meeting by 15 minutes, Commissioner Blood, seconded by Commissioner Cortes, and approved.

### D. WEHO PRIDE

The LGBTQ+ Commission received an update regarding the City's WeHo Pride 2023 event from Cleo Smith, Event Services Manager and Megan Reath, Event Services Supervisor. The Commission shared positive thoughts and considerations and also highlighted areas of improvement and suggested Events staff look into the following for next year's Pride event: 1) Discounts for West Hollywood residents for next year's event, and 2) sliding scale entry fees or potentially having the City subsidize ticket fees.

### E. RAINBOW KEY AWARDS 2023

The LGBTQ+ Commission received a brief overview of the history, guidelines, and process of the Rainbow Key Awards and discussed how to proceed with the 2023 Rainbow Key Awards Ceremony.

**ACTION:** Motion to extend meeting by 10 minutes by Commissioner Blood, seconded by Commissioner Cortes, and approved.

**ACTION:** Motion to create Rainbow Key Awards subcommittee to help plan the next Rainbow Key Awards Ceremony consisting of Commissioner Blood, Commissioner Cortes, and Commissioner Sotile, and approved.

## 9. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

## 10. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS

### Commissioner Blood

Thanked Community Safety Director, Danny Rivas, Captain Bill Moulder, and Cleo Smith, the City's Event Services Manager.

### Commissioner Cortes

No comments.

### Commissioner Egbuniwe

Thanked the Commissioners, staff, and each of the City staff members that provided presentations to the Commission.

### Commissioner Kacy

Asked staff to clarify how the Commission can make statements on incidents and hate crimes that involve members of the LGBTQ+ community. Staff liaison, Jennifer Del Toro, suggested the Commission appoint a liaison to the Public Safety Commission and will follow-up with staff and report back.

**ACTION:** Motion to extend meeting to 9:35pm by Commissioner Cortes, seconded by Commissioner Kacy, and approved.

### Commissioner Sotile

Provided a brief event attendance report on their attendance at events throughout the City, including the swearing-in of Drag Laureate, Pickle, and National Night Out events. Commissioner Sotile also thanked Mayor Pro Tempore Erickson, the Commission, and staff.

### Commissioner White

Congratulated Commissioner Kacy on their upcoming show and provided a brief event attendance report on their attendance at events throughout the City, including the swearing-in of Drag Laureate Pickle, and National Night Out events. Commissioner Kacy also thanked each of the City staff members that provided presentations to the Commission.

The Commission asked staff to clarify if the Commission can make official statements denouncing hate crimes or incidents involving LGBTQ+ individuals.

**ACTION:** Motion to appoint Commissioner Blood to draft a statement on behalf of the LGBTQ+ Commission's discontent with the amount of time provided to review the update on public safety equipment, technology, and security enhancements staff report. Motion by Commissioner Kacy, seconded by Commissioner Blood and

approved.

**11. ITEMS FROM STAFF**

None.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

The LGBTQ+ Commission adjourned at 9:44PM to its next regular meeting on Thursday, September 14, 2023, at 7:00 PM, at West Hollywood City Hall – 1<sup>st</sup> Floor – Community Meeting Room, located at 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard.

DocuSigned by:

*Chiedu Egbuniwe*

8DC062E570084F8...

Chair Egbuniwe

DocuSigned by:

*Jasmine Duckworth*

87AE64300A8B4B0...

Recording Secretary | Jasmine Duckworth