

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

THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2025 – 7:00 P.M.

**WEST HOLLYWOOD CITY HALL
1ST FLOOR – COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM
8300 SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD, WEST HOLLYWOOD CA 90069**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Whittington called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

A. LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT:

Read by Chair Whittington

"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."

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner White led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. ROLL CALL

Present Commissioner Ron Cortes (*Arrived at 7:30*)
Commissioner Chiedu Egbuniwe
Commissioner Shane Ivan Nash
Commissioner Michael Roberts
Commissioner Renee F. Sotile
Commission Vice Chair Alec White
Commission Chair Amber Whittington

Absent: Commissioner Shane Ivan Nash
Commissioner Michael Roberts

Also Present: Commission Liaison Jennifer Del Toro
Recording Secretary Moya Márquez

D. APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 13, 2025 AGENDA

The Commission was asked to approve the March 13, 2025 Meeting Agenda with a request from staff to move item 4.A. and 4.B. to after item 2.

ACTION: Approval of the March 13, 2025 Agenda as amended was **motioned**

by Commissioner Egbuniwe, seconded by Commissioner Sotile, and approved unanimously.

E. APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 13, 2025 MINUTES

The Commission was asked to approve the February 13, 2025 Meeting Minutes.

ACTION: Approval of the February 13, 2025 meeting minutes was motioned by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Egbuniwe, and approved unanimously.

F. PUBLIC COMMENT

JOE GREEN, West Hollywood, Disability Advisory Board liaison, reported on recent items heard by the Disability Advisory Board, including a meeting to address emergency preparedness within the disabled community. He also reported that the Los Angeles County Commission on HIV met today and will be honoring March 20th as Native American HIV Awareness Day, and March 29 as Transgender Day of Visibility.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

None.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. LESBIAN AND QUEER WOMEN'S VISIBILITY WEEK

The LGBTQ+ Commission received an update from staff on Lesbian and Queer Women's Visibility Week programming.

Jennifer Del Toro, Staff Liaison, reported that the L-Project is considering hosting a mini film festival on Sunday, April 27 at the Council Chambers. The time of the event and finalized movie selection is to be determined. The L-Project is considering charging a nominal fee to the event. She also reported that Nancy Mancini is not interested in moving forward with the sporting-related event.

Chair Whittington suggested that the L-Project could consider an early-bird free ticketing.

Commissioner Cortes suggested that the Commission would like to see free admission and potentially a paid RSVP with a swag bag – or some incentive.

Staff liaison Del Toro suggested that the Commission could receive a proclamation at the April 27, 2025 City Council meeting.

ACTION: Move to suggest that the L-Project create a second event for the City's celebration of Lesbian and Queer Women's Visibility Week for the

remaining \$2,500 was **motioned by Commissioner Cortes, seconded by Commissioner Whittington and approved unanimously.**

B. RAINBOW KEY AWARDS – 2024 AWARDS CEREMONY

The LGBTQ+ Commission received an update from staff on the 2024 Rainbow Key Awards Ceremony.

Staff reported that the finalized date was Sunday, April 6, 2025 at 6PM. Staff reminded the Commissioners of their responsibilities.

ACTION: None. Received and filed.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. RECORDING AND PUBLISHING COMMISSION MEETINGS ON CITY'S WEBSITE

The City Clerk discussed recording and publishing Commission meetings on the City's website as well as an overview of the Brown Act and Rosenberg's Rules of Order.

As per the action on item 1.D., items 4.A. and 4.B were heard immediately after item 2 on the agenda.

ACTION: None. Received presentation from the City Clerk.

B. 2025-2026 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

The Commission received a brief presentation from the Governmental Affairs Liaison about how the legislative affairs team monitors legislative initiatives introduced in Sacramento and Washington, DC, and then works with different parties to develop a City position on a given legislative initiative (bill), following the Council approved legislative priorities.

As per the action on item 1.D., items 4.A. and 4.B were heard immediately after item 2 on the agenda.

Commissioner Cortes arrived to the meeting at 7:30PM.

Governmental Affairs Liaison Molina talked about the legislative process in the state and offered to meet with Commission members to address issues that they wish to raise in relation to legislative items either within the County or State.

ACTION: None. Received presentation from the Governmental Affairs Liaison.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

6. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Egbuniwe asked to adjourn in memory of Linda Becerra Moran and Sofia Gubaidulina.

Commissioner Sotile spoke about helping Chair Whittington on her idea to ask the County to re-start the LAPD LGBTQ+ Commission. She also spoke about the upcoming inauguration of the City's first-ever Cat Mayor.

Vice Chair White reported that he attended Councilmember Erickson's meeting in the park. He also wished everyone a Happy Woman's Day, including Yola Dore who is receiving the City's Herstory Award tonight. He also wished everyone a happy Purim and happy Nowruz. He asked to adjourn in the memory of the mother of previous LGAB Boardmember Robert Gamboa.

Chair Whittington reported that she would be receiving a Truth Award. She also thanked staff for their hard work.

7. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Moya Marquez, Community Programs Coordinator, spoke about the Trans Job Fair taking place on March 27, 2025 at LA City College.

Jennifer Del Toro, Staff Liaison, spoke about future workplan items that will be coming to future Commission meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

The LGBTQ+ Commission adjourned in memory of Linda Becerra Moran, Sofia Gubaidulina, and the mother of former LGAB Member Robert Gambo at 9:06pm to its regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, April 10, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. to be held in West Hollywood City Hall - 1st Floor Community Meeting Room at 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood, CA 90069.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE LGBTQ+ COMMISSION ON THIS 8th DAY OF MAY 2025.


Amber Whittington | Commission Chair


Moya Márquez | Recording Secretary