



LA COUNTY
LGBTQ+
COMMISSION

STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS
FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
LGBTQ+ COMMISSION
KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 140A
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

Friday, February 14, 2025

9:30 AM

AUDIO LINK FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING.

Attachments: [Hyperlink](#)

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Call to Order, Roll Call

Chair Plascencia called the meeting to order at 9:31 AM Annie Patpatian, administrative staff, called the roll.

A quorum was established with 9 (nine) members present.

Present: Chair Héctor Trinidad Plascencia, Vice Chair Sydney Rogers,
Second Vice Chair Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Jerry
P. Abraham, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven
Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner
Eddie Martinez and Commissioner Alejandro Soria

Absent: Commissioner Tonya Martin and Commissioner Luis Vasquez

2. Land Acknowledgement

Sunitha Menon, Executive Director, read the Los Angeles County Land Acknowledgment.

3. Moment of Silence

Chair Plascencia led the “Moment of Silence” inviting everyone to take three breaths for past, future and present trans and queer LGBTQ+ given and chosen lineage.

4. Approval of December 10, 2024 meeting minutes

On motion of Commissioner Khan-Valbuena, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, this item was approved with the following vote:

Ayes: 8 - Chair Héctor Trinidad Plascencia, Vice Chair Sydney Rogers, Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Eddie Martinez and Commissioner Alejandro Soria

Abstentions: 1 - Second Vice Chair Terra Russell-Slavin

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Tonya Martin and Commissioner Luis Vasquez

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No members of the public addressed the Commission on this item.

II. DISCUSSIONS

5. Discuss and take action on selecting two at-large commissioners from four candidates nominated by the Ad Hoc Commissioner Selection and Interview Process for the At-Large Members Subcommittee to be recommended to the Board of Supervisors for consideration of appointment to the LGBTQ+ Commission.

Commissioner Martinez, Chair of Ad Hoc Committee for commissioner selection and interview process for at large members, provided an update to the Commissioners that the top four candidates have been selected and the four candidates are present virtually. Each Commissioner was instructed to vote for the top two candidates of these four to recommend for appointment by the Board of Supervisors.

Candidates Javier Solis, Jackie Steele, Jer Adrienne “Juju” Lelliott and Yolanda Whittington were given five minutes each to explain their experience, history, and interest in serving on the Commission. Each candidate responded to questions posed by Commissioners.

Members of the public Chi Chi Navarro, Byron José and Johana Rodriguez addressed the Commission on this item.

After discussion, on motion of Vice Chair Roger, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, the Commissioners voted for two candidates,

and the majority approved Jer Adrienne “Juju” Lelliott, while Javier Solis and Yolanda Whittington were tied with the following vote:

Javier Solis	Commissioner Abraham, Commissioner Arnzen, Commissioner Fisher, Commissioner Martinez, Commissioner Soria
Jackie Steele	Commissioner Khan-Valbuena and Vice Chair Rogers
Jer Adrienne Lelliott	Chair Plascencia, Vice Chair Rogers, Second Vice Chair Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Arnzen, Commissioner Fisher, Commissioner Khan-Valbuena
Yolanda Whittington	Chair Plascencia, Second Vice Chair Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Abraham, Commissioner Martinez, Commissioner Soria

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Chair Plascencia notified the Commission of the tie for the second candidate between applicants Javier Solis and Yolanda Whittington. Chair Plascencia opened the floor for discussion on the remaining two candidates.

Members of the public Javier Solis, Byron José, Chi Chi Navarro and Maya Daniels addressed the Commission on this item.

After discussion, on motion of 2nd Vice Chair Russell-Slavin, seconded by Vice Chair Rogers, the Commission voted to nominate Yolanda Whittington by the following vote:

Javier Solis	Commissioner Arnzen and Commissioner Martinez
Yolanda Whittington	Chair Plascencia, Vice Chair Rogers, Second Vice Chair Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Abraham, Commissioner Fisher, Commissioner Khan-Valbuena , Commissioner Soria

Chair Plascencia notified the Commission that another motion is needed to recommend both Jer Adrienne “Juju” Lelliott and Yolanda Whittington to the Board of Supervisors for appointment.

No members of the public addressed the Commission on this item.

After Public Comment, on motion of Commissioner Arnzen, seconded by Vice Chair Rogers, the Commission approved recommending both Jer Adrienne “Juju” Lelliott and Yolanda Whittington to the Board of Supervisors for appointment with the following vote:

Ayes: 9 - Chair Héctor Trinidad Plascencia, Vice Chair Sydney Rogers, Second Vice Chair Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Eddie Martinez and Commissioner Alejandro Soria

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Tonya Martin and Commissioner Luis Vasquez

6. Discuss and take possible action on recommendations from the Community Engagement Standing Subcommittee (CESS) about CESS proposed purpose and objectives and on proposed LGBTQ+ organization tracking document.

Commission Arnzen, Chair of the Community Engagement Standing Subcommittee presented the Commission the updated purpose and objectives of CESS.

Member of the public Ricardo Sebastian addressed the Commission on this item.

After discussion, on motion of Commissioner Abraham, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, a motion to approve the purpose and objectives with the incorporated changes passed with the following vote:

Ayes: 9 - Chair Héctor Trinidad Plascencia, Vice Chair Sydney Rogers, Second Vice Chair Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Eddie Martinez and Commissioner Alejandro Soria

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Tonya Martin and Commissioner Luis Vasquez

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Commissioner Arnzen presented the LGBTQ+ tracking document and the intention of its use for the CESS group. Chair Plascencia opened the floor for discussion.

Member of the public Chi Chi Navarro addressed the Commission on this item.

After discussion, on motion of Commissioner Arnzen, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, the Commission approved the LGBTQ+ tracking document with the following vote:

Ayes: 9 - Chair Héctor Trinidad Plascencia, Vice Chair Sydney Rogers, Second Vice Chair Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Eddie Martinez and Commissioner Alejandro Soria

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Tonya Martin and Commissioner Luis Vasquez

7. Discuss and take possible action on determining whether the Ad Hoc Strategic Planning, Vision, Mission, and Tenets Subcommittee has fully accomplished its tasks, and whether it should be discharged.

Commissioner Abraham, who is the interim Chair of Ad Hoc Strategic Planning, Vision, Mission, and Tenets Subcommittee updated the Commission that the work of the subcommittee has concluded in identifying the activation areas. Chair Plascencia opened the floor for discussion.

Member of the public Jessica Brown addressed the Commission on this item.

After Public Comment, on motion of Commissioner Arnzen, seconded by Vice Chair Rogers, the Commission approved the discharge of the Ad Hoc Strategic Planning, Vision, Mission, and Tenets Subcommittee with the following vote:

Ayes: 9 - Chair Héctor Trinidad Plascencia, Vice Chair Sydney Rogers, Second Vice Chair Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Eddie Martinez and Commissioner Alejandro Soria

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Tonya Martin and Commissioner Luis Vasquez

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RECESS

The Commission took a recess at 11:21 AM and reconvened at 11:35 AM. Annie Patpatian, administrative staff, called the roll to determine if a quorum was present.

A quorum was established with nine (9) members present.

Present: 9 - Chair Héctor Trinidad Plascencia, Vice Chair Sydney Rogers, Second Vice Chair Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Nic Arzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Eddie Martinez and Commissioner Alejandro Soria

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Tonya Martin and Commissioner Luis Vasquez

8. Discuss and take action on whether the LGBTQ+ Commission will participate in the Building Trust Summit, estimated to take place in May 2025.

Chair Plascencia reminded the Commission that Commissioner Khan-Valbuena and Second Vice Chair Russell-Slavin are both leading the safety activation priority area.

Carla Ibarra, Los Angeles Civil Rights Department Representative, presented Building Trust Summit goals and objectives. She requested that the Commission join and support the Building Trust Summit which requires the participation in biweekly planning meetings for insights and guide event execution. Carla Ibarra responded to questions posed by Commissioners.

Members of the public Luisa Flores Urrutia, Byron José and Chi Chi Navarro addressed the Commission on this item.

After public comment, on motion of Vice Chair Rogers, seconded by Commissioner Soria, approved the commissioners participation of Commissioner Khan-Valbuena and Second Vice Chair Russell-Slavin in the Building Trust Summit on behalf of the LGBTQ+ Commission with the following vote:

Ayes: 9 - Chair Héctor Trinidad Plascencia, Vice Chair Sydney Rogers, Second Vice Chair Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Eddie Martinez and Commissioner Alejandro Soria

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Tonya Martin and Commissioner Luis Vasquez

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- 9. Updates from the Ad Hoc Subcommittee planning for the 2025 Annual Retreat and discuss and take possible action including, but not limited to: date, time, and location.

Commission Fisher, Chair of the Ad Hoc Subcommittee for the 2025 Annual Retreat, provided the commission an update on the progress of the planning and opened the floor for discussion on possible retreat dates.

Member of the public Chi Chi Navarro addressed the Commission on this item.

After Public Comment this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [PUBLIC COMMENT/WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE](#)

- 10. Discuss and take action on identifying members for the ad hoc Annual Report subcommittee.

Chair Plascencia notified the Commission that they have a responsibility to submit the annual report for 2024. Chair Plascencia recommended to the Commission that an Ad Hoc Committee be formed for the annual report for 2024.

Chair opened the floor for discussion. Vice Chair Rogers and Commissioner Arnzen agreed to join the Ad Hoc Committee for the Annual Report for 2024.

No members of the public addressed the Commission on this item.

Attachments: [PUBLIC COMMENT/WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE](#)

- 11. Discuss and take possible action on including an African Diaspora land acknowledgement on agendas for regular Commission meetings.

Vice Chair Rogers led the discussion regarding adding the African Diaspora land acknowledgement to the LGBTQ+ Commission meetings.

The Commissioners discussed on whether more inclusive wording can be added to cover all minorities.

Member of the public Diamond Cruz, Louie Z., Manny Escoto, Talise Snyder, Byron José, and Chi Chi Navarro addressed the Commission on this item.

After discussion, on motion of Vice Chair Rogers, seconded by Commissioner Abraham, the Commission approved the motion to amend the acknowledgement, then share the revised version with the Commission for approval with the following vote:

Ayes: 9 - Chair Héctor Trinidad Plascencia, Vice Chair Sydney Rogers, Second Vice Chair Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Eddie Martinez and Commissioner Alejandro Soria

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Tonya Martin and Commissioner Luis Vasquez

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- 12.** Report back from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health on the Trans, Gender Expansive, and Intersex Wellness Initiative Motion. Discuss and take possible action in response to the report back including, but not limited to, sending a letter of support to the authors of the Trans, Gender Expansive, and Intersex Wellness Initiative.

Chair Plascencia reminded the Commission in November 2024, the Board of Supervisors approved the TGI WEI motion. The LGBTQ+ Commission was included as a support for the Department of Public Health, which is leading the work.

Sonya Vasquez, the Director of the Center for Health Equity, presented to the Commission the next steps for the 60-day report back and how the Commission can support them. Sonya Vasquez responded to questions posed by Commissioners.

Members of the public Manny Escoto, Johana Rodriguez, Louie Z.,

Gabye Sandres, Maya Daniels, Carla Ibarra, Byron José, Ricardo Sebastian and Chi Chi Navaro addressed the Commission on this item.

Chair Plascencia opened the floor for discussion regarding the drafted letter of LGBTQ+ Commission in support of TGEI2S+ the initiative.

Members of the public Maya Daniels and Byron José addressed the Commission on this item.

After discussion, on motion of 2nd Vice Chair Russell-Slavin, seconded by Commissioner Abraham, the Commission approved the sending the drafted letter to the Board of Supervisors with the following vote:

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Commissioner Eddie Martinez departed the meeting at 1:27PM.

III. MISCELLANEOUS

Matters Not Posted

- 13.** Matters not on the posted agenda to be placed on the agenda for discussion and action at a future meeting of the LGBTQ+ Commission.

Chair Plascencia opened the floor to any matters not on agenda to be presented without discussion.

No new matters were introduced by the Commissioners.

Public Comment

- 14.** Opportunity for members of the public to address the LGBTQ+ Commission on items of interest that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the LGBTQ+ Commission.

Chair Plascencia opened the floor to any Public Comment.

Member of the public Camila Camaleon, Carla Ibarra and Chi Chi Navarro addressed the Commission on this item.

Attachments: [PUBLIC COMMENT/WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE](#)

Adjournment

15. Adjournment of the February 14, 2025, LGBTQ+ Commission meeting.

Chair Plascencia adjourned the meeting at 1:27 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for March 14, 2025, at 9:30 AM.