

MAYOR'S LGBTQ+ ADVISORY BOARD



A NEW DAY.

Mayor's LGBTQ+ Advisory Board Meeting

Friday, May 1, 2026, 12:30 PM to 2:00 PM

Main Library | 303 N Laura St | First Floor Lounge

Meeting Notes – May 1, 2026

Advisory Board Members Present: Dan, Jim, Manny, Marie, Jake, Mason, Amy, Karrissa, Jessica

Present online: Sara King

Excused Absences: Cindy, Derrick

Staff: Kara Tucker, Jimmy Midyette

MLGBTQ+ Advisory Board Meeting Notes of 05/01/26 Meeting

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1. **The meeting was called to order by Jessica Sabin, Vice Chair.**
2. **Minutes from the April meeting were approved.**
3. **Josh Hicks, CHCD office was the guest speaker. The following was discussed:**
 - **Affordable Housing Initiatives and Programs:** discussed the city's affordable housing strategies, including new down payment assistance, capital stack, utility grant, and rental assistance programs, highlighting the mayor's historic investment and the challenges posed by rising costs and federal/state funding requirements.
 - **Impact of Federal Executive Orders and DEI Laws on Funding:** addressed the complications arising from federal executive orders and new DEI laws, including uncertainty in definitions, restrictions on targeting specific populations, and the risk of losing federal funding if programs are found in violation, with ongoing consultation with OGC and Travis.
 - **Discrimination in Housing and Remediation Processes:** discussed types of discrimination encountered in housing, including income-based and landlord bias, reviewed relevant federal, state, and local laws, and described the Human Rights Commission's role in investigating and resolving complaints.
 - **Community Events, Visibility, and Advisory Board Activities:** board members reviewed upcoming community events, discussed the board's involvement in city proclamations, and planned for increased visibility through name tags, signage, and participation in local activities, including Pride events and the bridge march.

Chair: Cindy Watson | **Vice-Chair:** Jessica Sabin | **Secretary:** Karrissa Wade-Davis | **Members:** Jacob Eleazer, Amy Glassman, Mason Manion, Jim Piggott, Manuel Andrade, Daniel Merkan, Derrick Scott III, & S. Marie Hester
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- **Data Collection, Reporting, and Housing Analysis:** discussed the limitations and possibilities for collecting demographic data on housing, the need for a comprehensive state of housing report, and the challenges posed by departmental silos and compliance requirements.
- 4. **Kara Tucker, staff, discussed the following:**
 - **Trust Fund Review:** discussed board operations, including updates from subcommittees, the status of the trust fund under review by the Office of General Counsel, and ongoing efforts to comply with new legislation affecting board activities.
- 5. **Subcommittee Committee Reports were made by chairs.**
- 6. **Follow-up tasks were discussed:**
 - **Federal Funding Compliance:** Consult with OGC or relevant legal advisor to clarify what is allowed regarding federal dollars and executive orders and invite them to a future meeting to explain the decision. (Kara)
 - **State of Housing Report Data:** Request demographic breakdowns and relevant data for the upcoming State of Housing report from Travis and the pet council, if available. (Kara)
 - **Community Calendar Collaboration:** Coordinate with community members and existing organizers to enhance or create a comprehensive LGBTQ community calendar for events in Jacksonville. (Kara, Jessica)
 - **Youth Engagement in Subcommittee:** Reach out to young people and Mayor's Youth Advisory Council to determine appropriate age and process for youth participation in the LGBTQ Advisory Council town hall. (Amy)
 - **Subcommittee Program Planning:** Add planning for the June town hall and related events to the education and policy committee meeting agenda and invite all members to participate. (Tereese)
 - **Name Tag Procurement:** Finalize details for board member name tags, including city logo and pronouns, and collect member information for ordering. (Kara)
 - **Trust Fund Legal Review:** Follow up with Office of General Counsel regarding the review and determination of the trust fund for the Hispanic board and implications for purchasing items like name tags. (Kara)
 - **Event Visibility and Participation:** Ensure board representation and visibility at upcoming community events, including the mural unveiling, big gay picnic, and bridge march/lighting.
- 7. **Public Comment and Announcements were made.**

Meeting Adjourned.

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