



**MIAMI-DADE COUNTY OFFICE OF COMMUNITY ADVOCACY
LGBTQIA+ ADVISORY BOARD WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, October 08, 2025, 3:00 P.M. – 5:30 P.M.

Miami-Dade County Public Library

Northeast Dade Aventura Branch

2930 NE 199th Street Aventura, Florida 33180

Mission

The Miami-Dade County LGBTQIA+ Advisory Board is comprised of individuals who are working directly to improve the lives of the LGBTQIA+ community.

The purpose of the Board is to advise the Board of County Commissioners with respect to laws and policies that support Miami-Dade County's LGBTQIA+ residents, visitors, and businesses, to ensure a strong voice for the LGBTQIA+ community in local government and public policy and to encourage and support the development of the LGBTQIA+ community.

This diverse group of leaders plays a critical role in prioritizing the LGBTQIA+ community in all legislative and budget efforts. The board partners with local government entities and promotes and advances LGBTQIA+ initiatives. To accomplish its objectives, the Board builds working relationships with county leaders and their representatives.

Agenda

I. Call to Order at 3:08PM by Chairman Trueba

II. Roll Call

Members' Present

District 2 Tim Wagoner, D4 Cindy Brown, D6 Chairman Ariel Trueba, D7 Kevin Correa, M.A. #1 Grace C. Lopez, M.A.#2 Dr. Travis L. Stokes.

Members' Not Present

D1 Patricia Hernandez, D3 Bobby Joe Bracy, D5 Paul Thomas, D8 Jennifer Stephenson, D11 Harold Marrero, D13 Erik Martin.

Guest Present

Alexis Moseley D4 District Coordinator

NO QUORUM; ONLY (6) SIX OUT OF TWELVE (12) APPOINTED MEMBERS PRESENT

Meeting turned into a working group with no vote or action taken

- III. Reasonable Opportunity to Be Heard
 - A. D4 District Coordinator Introduced herself and shared job functions
- IV. Approval of Agenda **(Actionable Item) No action taken**
- V. Approval of Minutes **(Actionable Item) No action taken**
 - a. May 2025
 - b. July 2025
- VI. GMCVB Update
 - a. Dan Rios, Director LGBTQ Tourism Marketing
Mr. Rios was unable to attend
- VII. New Business
 - a. TGK Site Visit Discussion
Dr. Stokes shared that the visit was very eye-opening and that the tour was highly detailed.
 - b. State of the Community
Chairman Trueba shared his concerns with the removal of the Miami Beach Rainbow Crosswalk as it seems costly to taxpayers that we are removing historical marker for our community. He hopes Maimi Beach can continue to make their residents and visitors from our community feel safe.

Director Paez is concerned as we are having very scary times. He continues to monitor all levels F/S/L for either legislation, executive orders or policy changes.
 - c. Chair/Vice Chair Elections at Annual (November) Meeting
Chairman Trueba thanked the board for having trusted him during his tenure. Next meeting the floor will open for nominations for both Chair and Vice Chair. In the meantime, nominations for either position may be sent to Director Paez. No nominations announced during the work group.
- VIII. Old Business
 - a. Ad Hoc Working Group In-Person Meeting Date
Deferred as D11 Member (Marrero) is the lead in the project and was absent
- IX. The Liebe Gadinsky Future Agenda Item(s)
 - a. No future items brought forward.
This item is in honor of former Member Gadinsky. However, it caused too many questions. Going further it will be "**Future Agenda Items**"

- X. Chairman's Report
 - a. Unfortunately, his father passed away and had to return home while attending the NGLCC Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada. Is partnering with Lisette Garcia Executive Director of the local LGBTQ Chamber.
- XI. Director's Report

Last Meeting was Wednesday, July 23, 2025. That day we did the headshots.
Hope everyone liked their headshots.

Budget preparations & Hearing
Budget hearing
Sept 04 4:30AM
Sept 18 4:00AM

September 2025
South Florida Human Trafficking Task Force Training

TGK Jail Tour

Last month, our Office had the privilege of accompanying members of the LGBTQIA+ Advisory Board on their first-ever site visit to the Turner Guilford Knight Correctional Center — known to most as TGK. This visit marked a meaningful step forward in our commitment to ensure that every Miami-Dade County department, including our corrections system, understands and upholds the dignity and safety of LGBTQIA+ individuals in their care.

What made this visit remarkable was the openness of the facility's leadership team. They provided full access to intake areas, housing units, reentry programs, and they engaged with board members in a thoughtful discussion about existing challenges — from staff, training, and housing placement, as to access gender-affirming care, and grievance protocols.

Director Paez thanked our board members who participated for their professionalism and compassion. Your engagement underscored our board's mission — that advocacy is not only about policy, but presence.

In closing, this visit was more than a tour; it was an act of visibility. For the first time, Miami-Dade's LGBTQIA+ Advisory Board walked through TGK's doors — not as observers, but as partners in progress.

Several key takeaways emerged:

1. Awareness and Willingness: Staff at TGK demonstrated a genuine interest in learning more about LGBTQIA+ issues. They acknowledged that while training modules exist, there is room to deepen understanding, especially regarding transgender and non-binary individuals.

2. Housing and Safety: The facility is navigating complex federal and state standards on housing placements. Our role as a board could be instrumental in offering best-practice recommendations that balance safety, dignity, and the inmate's self-identified gender.
3. Mental Health and Reentry: TKG is expanding access to counseling and reentry programming. We discussed how LGBTQIA+ affirming mental health support can reduce isolation and improve outcomes both inside and upon release.
4. Ongoing Collaboration: Perhaps the most significant outcome of the visit is the establishment of an open channel between our Advisory Board and Corrections leadership. This is an opportunity for continued dialogue — potentially leading to a joint training or awareness initiative in 2026.

I want to thank our board members who participated for their professionalism and compassion. Your engagement underscored our board's mission — that advocacy is not only about policy, but presence. I would also like to thank the Miami-Dade County Corrections & Rehabilitation Department for their collaboration and dedication to service.

MDCR-Transgender Committee meetings are on a "as needed" basis. Discussions are related to transgenders that have been arrested.

Working together with the Miami-Dade LGBTQ & Allay Chamber of Commerce and assisted with Rainbow Sidewalk March held on Sunday, August 31, 2025

Attended the Miami Beach LGBTQIA+ Committee for September 2025

Vacation the week of Monday, September 29, 2025, through Friday, October 3, 2025. Will also be out on vacation in November/December. The dates are Monday, November 24, 2025, through Friday, December 5, 2025.

XII. Announcements

- a. Next Monthly Meeting
Wednesday, November 12, 2025, at 3PM
Miami-Dade County Public Library
South Miami Branch
6000 Sunset Drive
South Miami, Florida 33143
- b. The Miami-Dade County Hispanic Affairs Advisory Board 2025 Hispanic Heritage Month Calendar was shared with the members and library staff.

XIII. Adjournment 3:57PM