

ARTICLE CLXII. - MIAMI-DADE COUNTY LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, QUEER, INTERSEX, ASEXUAL, PLUS ("LGBTQIA+") ADVISORY BOARD

Footnotes:

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Editor's note— Ord. No. 19-94, § 1, adopted Oct. 3, 2019, amended the Code by the addition of Art. CLXII, §§ 2-2391—2-2397; however, said provisions have been redesignated as Art. CLXII, §§ 2-2401—2-2407, at the editor's discretion, for purposes of allowing future expansion of the Code.

Sec. 2-2401. - Creation.

There is hereby created and established the Miami-Dade County Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual, Plus ("LGBTQIA+") Advisory Board.

(Ord. No. 19-94, § 1, 10-3-19; Ord. No. 23-39, § 2, 6-21-23)

Sec. 2-2402. - Composition; membership.

- (a) *Composition.* The LGBTQIA+ Advisory Board shall be composed of 15 voting members appointed by the Board of County Commissioners and the County Mayor. Each member of the Board of County Commissioners may appoint one person to the LGBTQIA+ Advisory Board and the County Mayor may appoint two members.
- (b) *Qualifications.* Each member of the LGBTQIA+ Advisory Board shall be a permanent resident and duly qualified elector of Miami-Dade County, unless the Board of County Commissioners waives the residency requirement by a two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) vote of its membership, and shall be of an outstanding reputation of integrity, responsibility, and commitment to serving the community. Members shall be appointed in accordance with Sections 2-11.38 and 2-11.38.1 of the Code. The membership of the LGBTQIA+ Advisory Board shall be broadly representative of the various social, racial, religious, linguistic, cultural, economic, national origin and geographic groups comprising the population of Miami-Dade County. Each member shall have an outstanding reputation for community pride, interest, integrity, responsibility, and business or professional ability and a documented commitment to the LGBTQIA+ community.
- (c) *Compensation.* LGBTQIA+ Advisory Board members shall serve without compensation but shall be entitled to reimbursement for parking in a County leased or owned parking facility.
- (d) *Vacancies.* Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner by which the original members were appointed, with a special emphasis on choosing persons who represent the demographic composition of the entire community.
- (e)

Tenure of Members. All members shall serve terms of three years, except the two board members initially appointed by the County Mayor, who shall serve staggered terms of one and two years, respectively. In the event the County Mayor reappoints an initial board member or appoints a new board member to replace an initial board member, such board members shall serve no more than two consecutive and complete terms of three years each. Further, the term limits of board members who are appointed to the LGBTQIA+ Advisory Board by a County Commissioner shall be in accordance with Section 2-11.38.2 of the Code, as may be amended from time to time.

- (f) *Attendance.* Attendance requirements for members shall be in accordance with Section 2-11.39 of the Code. If a member fails to comply with the attendance requirements, or voluntarily resigns the member shall forfeit their membership.

(Ord. No. 19-94, § 1, 10-3-19; Ord. No. 23-39, § 2, 6-21-23)

Sec. 2-2403. - Organization.

- (a) *Bylaws, Rules, and Regulations.* The LGBTQIA+ Advisory Board shall establish, adopt, and amend bylaws, rules, and regulations for its own governance.
- (b) *Officers.* The LGBTQIA+ Advisory Board shall elect a chairperson and a vice-chairperson from among its members, who shall serve at the will of the LGBTQIA+ Advisory Board. The chairperson shall preside at all meetings. The vice-chairperson shall act as chairperson in the absence of the chairperson.
- (c) *Staff Support.* The Office of Community Advocacy, or its successor office, shall provide to the LGBTQIA+ Advisory Board appropriate support to enable the board to carry out its duties and responsibilities. Among such other duties and responsibilities, the Office of Community Advocacy shall:
 - (1) Maintain and keep the records of the LGBTQIA+ Advisory Board, including ensuring the LGBTQIA+ Advisory Board's roster is current;
 - (2) Prepare, in cooperation with the chairperson, the agenda for each meeting;
 - (3) Be responsible for the preparation of such reports, documents, resolutions, or correspondences as the LGBTQIA+ Advisory Board may direct;
 - (4) Take minutes and make such minutes available on the Miami-Dade County website; and
 - (5) Generally administer the business and affairs of the LGBTQIA+ Advisory Board, subject to budgetary limitations.
- (d) *Quorum.* To transact any business or exercise any power vested in the LGBTQIA+ Advisory Board, a quorum consisting of no less than eight voting members shall be present. The LGBTQIA+ Advisory Board shall not transact business or exercise its powers unless a majority of the quorum in attendance agrees to the activity.

(e) *Committees.* The LGBTQIA+ Advisory Board may appoint committees to accomplish its tasks.

(Ord. No. 19-94, § 1, 10-3-19; Ord. No. 21-34, § 16, 4-20-21; Ord. No. 23-39, § 2, 6-21-23)

Sec. 2-2404. - Meetings.

The LGBTQIA+ Advisory Board shall hold regular monthly meeting and such other meetings, as it deems necessary. The chairperson, or a minimum of eight LGBTQIA+ Advisory Board members upon written request to the chairperson, may call for a special meeting.

(Ord. No. 19-94, § 1, 10-3-19; Ord. No. 23-39, § 2, 6-21-23)

Sec. 2-2405. - Powers and duties.

The LGBTQIA+ Advisory Board shall have the following powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities:

- (a) To serve as a vehicle for a systematic and periodic assessment of the quality of life of LGBTQIA+ residents of and visitors to the County;
- (b) To foster mutual understanding, tolerance, and respect for the LGBTQIA+ community in the County;
- (c) To cooperate in the development of educational programs dedicated to the improvement of the lives of LGBTQIA+ residents and visitors by eliciting support from public and private entities engaged in the inculcation of ideals of tolerance, mutual respect and understanding for the LGBTQIA+ community;
- (d) To make recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners with respect to all issues affecting or relating to the LGBTQIA+ community;
- (e) To recommend solutions to the social, economic, cultural and political problems in the LGBTQIA+ community, as well as to serve as liaison between the LGBTQIA+ community and the County community at large;
- (f) To make recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners as to steps that can be taken to encourage and attract LGBTQIA+ businesses to the County, to assist LGBTQIA+ businesses located in the County, and to promote economic development in the LGBTQIA+ community;
- (g) To make recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners as to steps that can be taken to promote positive images and concepts of the LGBTQIA+ community as well as promote their many contributions to our society;
- (h) To conduct studies through fact-finding and analysis of problems encountered by the LGBTQIA+ community, provided, however, any study that requires an appropriation of funds to cover the cost associated with the study shall be subject to the Board's approval;

- (i) To recommend revisions in County policies and procedures having potentially negative consequences for LGBTQIA+ individuals;
- (j) To serve as a forum to which individuals and groups can express concerns related to issues of homophobia, transphobia, and other forms of discrimination against or hatred toward individuals on account of individuals' actual or perceived identification as LGBTQIA+;
- (k) To continue to strengthen ties with the larger County community;
- (l) To conduct outreach to other entities and the community, including but not limited to the County's LGBTQIA+ community;
- (m) To work closely with other County boards, including, but not limited to, the Miami-Dade Commission on Human Rights, Miami-Dade HIV/AIDS Partnership, Miami-Dade Community Relations Board, and similar boards; and
- (n) To perform such other duties as may from time to time be assigned to it by the Board of County Commissioners.

(Ord. No. 19-94, § 1, 10-3-19; Ord. No. 23-39, § 2, 6-21-23)

Sec. 2-2406. - Applicability of County rules and procedures.

The LGBTQIA+ Advisory Board shall at all times operate under all applicable provisions of Florida's open government laws, including but not limited to the Government in the Sunshine Law and the Public Records Act, Section 286.0114, Florida Statutes, which requires that the public be given reasonable opportunity to be heard on any proposition before the LGBTQIA+ Advisory Board. Additionally, the LGBTQIA+ Advisory Board shall be governed by all State and County conflict of interest laws, as applicable, including the Miami-Dade County Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance, Section 2-11.1 of the Code of Miami-Dade County.

(Ord. No. 19-94, § 1, 10-3-19; Ord. No. 23-39, § 2, 6-21-23)

Sec. 2-2407. - Reports.

The chairperson or vice-chairperson shall present to the Board of County Commissioners on an annual basis a written report describing the LGBTQIA+ Advisory Board's activities and shall appear as needed before the Board of County Commissioners to present any matters pertinent to the LGBTQIA+ Advisory Board. The completed reports required by this section shall be placed on an agenda of the Board of County Commissioners pursuant to Ordinance No. 14-65.

(Ord. No. 19-94, § 1, 10-3-19; Ord. No. 23-39, § 2, 6-21-23)

Sec. 2-2408. - Financial Support for the LGBTQIA+ Advisory Board.

There is hereby created the Miami-Dade County LGBTQIA+ Advisory Board Trust Fund (the "Trust Fund"). The County Mayor or County Mayor's designee is hereby authorized and directed to establish the Trust Fund, in which will be placed all donations, contributions, and funds received by the LGBTQIA+ Advisory Board. All monies in the Trust Fund shall be disbursed following approval by the LGBTQIA+ Advisory Board and in accordance with the provisions of this article. The funds placed into the Trust Fund shall be used only to fund conferences, projects, activities, and special events which further the purposes of the LGBTQIA+ Advisory Board.

(Ord. No. 22-161, § 2, 12-6-22; Ord. No. 23-39, § 2, 6-21-23)

Secs. 2-2409. - Reserved.