



## Maryland Commission on LGBTQIA+ Affairs

Meeting Minutes  
December 2, 2024  
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM  
Zoom Virtual Meeting

### Commissioners Present:

Lee Blinder, Chair  
Joan Bryan  
Josie Caballero  
Mickey Dhir  
Kurt Doan  
Nicole Hollywood

Paula Neira  
Wendy Novak  
Brandon Russell  
Sarah Stern  
Joe Toolan  
Ly Xīnzhèn Zhǎngsūn (they/them),  
(Lydia X. Z. Brown)

### Commissioners Absent:

Kijana West, Vice Chair  
Ali K.C. Bell  
Debb Dunn  
Anthony Fox  
Tina Jones  
Asher Kennedy  
Stephen Martin  
M Pease

### Staff Present:

Jeremy Browning, Director, Maryland Commission on LGBTQIA+ Affairs  
Taylor Harer, Special Assistant, Maryland Commission on LGBTQIA+ Affairs  
Krystal Quinlan, Assistant Attorney General

- I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to Order by Chair Blinder at 6:11 PM. Housekeeping and Meeting Guidelines were read and acknowledged. Additionally, meeting attendees were reminded to add their pronouns to their Zoom names and instructions were provided.
- II. Roll Call: Roll call was conducted by Chair Blinder and provided a review of the voting procedures using the Zoom reaction functions to indicate vote (green "check" to indicate "yea" and the red "X" to indicate "nay" and no action to abstain).

- III. Agenda Approval: Chair Blinder presented the meeting's agenda and called for a vote to approve the agenda as written. The agenda was approved with all in favor.
- IV. Minutes Approval: Chair Blinder presented the minutes from the November 4, 2024 Commission meeting and called for a vote to approve the minutes as written. The floor was opened for discussion with no commentary from the Commission. A vote was called and the minutes were approved with all in favor.
- V. Discussion: Post Election Survey, Community Needs, & Recommendations: Director Browning presented a review of the survey findings. The survey resulted in 786 responses with representation from all 24 jurisdictions.
- VI. Discussion and Approval: 2025 Strategic Planning
  - Director Browning provided an overview of the mission, vision, and values document, citing examples from the Strategic Planning Retreat that was held in September.
  - Commissioner Toolan read through the examples of mission, vision, and values statements, including the proposed statements. The floor was opened up for discussion and feedback. Minor adjustments were made to the drafts provided based on discussion and feedback.
  - Chair Blinder called for a motion to approve the mission, vision, and values statements. Commissioner Ly Xīnzhèn Zhǎngsūn made a motion to approve the mission, vision, and values as amended and Commissioner Hollywood seconded. The floor was opened for additional discussion. The motion passed with an abstention from Commissioner Dhir.
  - Discussion: 2025 Strategic Plan. Commissioner Toolan provided an overview to the 2025 Strategic Plan. The floor was opened for comments and discussion. Minor adjustments were made to the draft provided based on discussion and feedback. Chair Blinder called for a vote to approve the 2025 Strategic Plan as presented. Commissioner Toolan made a motion to approve the document and Commissioner Bryan seconded. The motion passed with all in favor.
- VII. Open Forum for Questions or Comments: Brief announcements were made by commissioners and staff.
- VIII. Closing Remarks: Chair Blinder made brief closing remarks and expressed gratitude to commissioners and staff.
- IX. Adjournment: Chair Blinder adjourned the meeting at 7:59pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Special Assistant, Taylor Harer