

WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES – NOVEMBER 8, 2011
COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

The West Hollywood Human Services Commission was called to order by Chair Mark Zangrando at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 8, 2011, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard.

A. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The pledge of allegiance was led by Commissioner Davis.

B. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Ruth Cislowski, Steven L. Davis, Jimmy Palmieri, Bob Shepard, Heidi Shink, Anne-Marie Williams, Mark Zangrando.

Not Present: None.

A quorum was present at all times. Also present were Councilmember John D'Amico; Council Deputy Michelle Rex; Sam Baxter, Human Services Director; David Giugni, Leslie Isenberg, and Jeff Book. Councilmember John Heilman joined the meeting in progress.

C. **POSTING OF AGENDA**

The secretary reported notices for the meeting had been posted as required.

D. **PROCEDURE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

Persons desiring to address the meeting were asked to complete a form.

II. **INSTALLATION**

The oath of office was administered to Jimmy Palmieri by Councilmember D'Amico, and he was declared installed as a new commissioner.

III. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the October 13, 2011, meeting were approved on a motion by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Shepard, with Commissioner Palmieri abstaining.

IV. **ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Chris Clarkin, chair of the Public Safety Commission, thanked Commissioner Williams for her work with PATH, and congratulated the Commission on choosing liaisons. He also discussed community engagement with the Sunset Strip Business Improvement District (BID).

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION WITH PATH AND SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Katie Hill, director of program development at PATH, and Rudy Salinas, director of outreach, provided a detailed overview and update on the work of PATH. Since its founding in 1984, PATH has worked to provide assistance to the homeless, through street outreach, transitional housing, and access to an extensive set of social and development services. They discussed PATH's facilities and activities, the vulnerability index, and the Shelter Plus Care (S + C) Program

Jim Farrell of the West Hollywood Sheriff's Department, discussed interaction between law enforcement and the homeless in West Hollywood, and their cooperation with PATH.

The speakers responded to questions about the programs, including the long-term nature of providing shelter, determination of greatest vulnerability, and recertification of eligibility for programs.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. WORLD AIDS DAY PROGRAMMING

David Giugni reported on recognitions planned by the City for Thursday, Dec. 1, which is World AIDS Day. He said an estimated 2,005 residents have died from AIDS, based on known, reported cases.

B. BOARD AND COMMISSION LIAISONS

Commissioner Davis said the City should reinstitute the chairs' meetings, which used to be held as a way to bring leaders of the boards and commissions together, to share information.

Commissioners agreed to serve as liaisons for the following groups:

Arts & Cultural Affairs Commission – Heidi Shink
Disabilities Advisory Board – Anne-Marie Williams
Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board – Jimmy Palmieri
Russian Advisory Board – Bob Shepard
Senior Advisory Board – Mark Zangrando
Transgender Advisory Board – Steven Davis, Ruth Cislowski
Women's Advisory Board – Heidi Shink

C. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The floor was opened for nominations for chair. Commissioner Shepard nominated Commissioner Zangrando. This was seconded by Commissioner Cislowski. There were no other nominations. On a motion by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Cislowski, nominations were closed and

Commissioner Zangrando was elected.

The floor was opened for nominations for vice chair. Commissioner Shepard nominated Commissioner Cislowski. This was seconded by Commissioner Williams. There were no other nominations. On a motion by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Shink, nominations were closed and Commissioner Cislowski was elected.

VII. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Davis noted this is his 18th year on the Commission. He attended the social services providers' meeting this month.

Commissioner Cislowski spoke about the Congress of Boards and Commissions, held recently at the new Library. She said she is glad the Commission is back to a full membership of seven, and requested that a retreat be held for the purpose of learning more about each other.

Commissioner Shink spoke about continuing with visits to agencies, about a medical event held on October 26, and about the Transgender Day of Remembrance planned for Nov. 20.

Commissioner Williams said she is planning to take a tour of PATH at 2:30 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 18.

Commissioner Shepard thanked PATH staff for their presentation.

Commissioner Palmieri said the presentation had been excellent, and invited people to bingo for the Tweakers Project, on Dec. 7 at Hamburger Mary's. He is also distributing safer sex packets, and they are available.

Commissioner Zangrando welcomed Commissioner Palmieri to the Commission.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Leslie Isenberg said that Rudy Salinas had intended to invite commissioners to ride along with the PATH outreach team on some occasion. Commissioners Williams and Shink expressed interest in doing this.

David Giugni said Daphne Dennis had finalized a list of agency presentations for the year, with similar services grouped together. PATH was the first of these. He also spoke about the annual agency orientation meeting, and the release of the RFP for substance abuse treatment.

Commissioner Zangrando asked for agency representatives to be reminded to keep their presentations tight, and Commissioner Cislowski said it is helpful to receive something in writing from the agencies prior to their presentations.

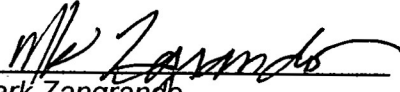
VIII. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no additional items from the public.

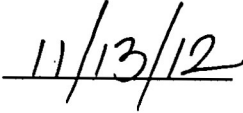
IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Signed:



Mark Zangrando



11/13/12