

WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES – JULY 12, 2011
COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

The West Hollywood Human Services Commission was called to order by Vice Chair Mark Zangrando at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, July 12, 2011, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall.

A. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The pledge of allegiance was led by Sam Baxter.

B. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Ruth Cislowski, Brian Pendleton, Heidi Shink, Anne-Marie Williams, Mark Zangrando.

Not Present: Steven L. Davis.

A quorum was present at all times. City staff members present included Sam Baxter, Director of Human Services; Daphne Dennis, Social Services Administrator; Olivia Walker, Recreation Services Manager; Council Deputy Michelle Rex; David Giugni, Marisela Labrado, Stephanie Martinez, Cleo Smith, Chris Worland, and Jeff Book.

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 OF NEW MEMBERS**

The oath of office was administered to Brian Pendleton, who was declared installed as a new commissioner.

The oath of office was administered to Anne-Marie Williams by her father, Frank E. Williams, acting as the city clerk's designee, and she was declared installed as a new commissioner.

Heidi Shink was previously installed as a new commissioner.

III. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Due to a vacancy in the office of chair, the floor was opened for nominations. Commissioner Cislowski nominated Commissioner Zangrando. There were no other nominations. Commissioner Pendleton moved to close nominations and declare

Commissioner Zangrando elected. This was seconded by Commissioner Shink, and approved.

Since Commissioner Zangrando had been serving as vice chair, this created a vacancy in that office. The floor was opened for nominations, and Commissioner Zangrando nominated Commissioner Cislowski. There were no other nominations. Commissioner Shink moved to close nominations and declare Commissioner Cislowski elected. This was seconded by Commissioner Pendleton and approved.

IV. MINUTES

The minutes of the May 10, 2011, meeting were approved on a motion by Commissioner Cislowski, seconded by Commissioner Zangrando, with Commissioners Pendleton, Shink, and Williams abstaining.

V. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Robert Boller, director of programs at Project Angel Food, thanked the Commission, staff, and residents of the city for support over many years, and described the current challenges and successes of the agency during the economic recession.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. RECREATION DIVISION OVERVIEW

Olivia Walker, Recreation Services Manager, presented an overview of programs and developments in the Recreation Division, noted that July is Parks and Recreation Month, and said that major changes and improvements are underway or imminent in both Plummer Park and West Hollywood Park.

Recreation Supervisors Chris Worland and Stephanie Martinez, Special Events Supervisor Cleo Smith, and Aquatics Coordinator Marisela Labrado spoke about their areas, and introduced several users of recreation programs, who spoke about their experiences. Speakers included Michelle Liberman, Tatyana Zvereva, Alexandra Nichols, Lee Nichols, Samantha Camarinta, and Marga DeEguiliar.

Milena Simonova, a local resident, spoke about concerns with children having been moved to a different space due to park renovations. She said she has written to the Recreation Services Manager about these concerns.

Sam Baxter said the opening of the new library in West Hollywood Park is to be Oct. 1, with a "soft opening" in mid-September. Tennis courts on top of the new parking facility will open at that time. The next step in that park is returning to parkland the temporary parking area in the northern part of the park, removal of the old library and its parking lot, and expansion of green space in those new areas.

Staff spoke about mitigation efforts to keep programs active during the park renovations, including exploration of joint-use agreements with Fairfax High School and other spaces adjacent to the city.

B. CITY SUBSIDIZED TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS

David Giugni presented a overview of city-subsidized transportation programs, including taxi vouchers, CityLine, Dial-a-Ride, and other modes. Conversion to the TAP card system has been implemented, and cards can be loaded online after the City receives payments, although some residents prefer to appear in person.

Commissioner Pendleton asked if the City had considered using the sides, back, and interior of the vehicles for marketing purposes. Staff said they would look into this as a potential source of revenue. Commissioner Cislowski asked for the vehicles to pay attention to schedules of street cleaning and other vehicles' use of the streets, to avoid crowding. Commissioner Williams spoke on how these services can be made more convenient and accessible to the average person, and Commissioner Shink spoke about visibility and outreach for the transportation services.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. ADULT DAY HEALTH CARE AND STATE BUDGET

Daphne Dennis described the adult day programs that have existed, ranging from social centers to nursing care. The City previously sponsored Partners, an adult day health care (ADHC) center for seniors and persons living with AIDS, which was the first of its kind. It was operated by Los Angeles Free Clinic and then by Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles.

Due to state budget cutbacks, many adult day care programs are expected to close by August. That will affect hundreds of West Hollywood community members and their families. Staff is working with agencies to move people into alternative programs where possible.

B. AUGUST MEETING

The Commission discussed whether to hold the August regular meeting as an orientation session for new members. Since one additional appointment is pending, staff will check with commissioners on availability for meetings once the roster of members is full. The August general meeting may be rescheduled, or two meetings may be held in September.

VIII. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Zangrando recognized Hywel Sims for his excellence as a member of the Commission and as chair, and said he will be missed at the meetings.

IX. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Daphne Dennis said planning and coordination meetings with social services agencies are being held this month, and as always, commissioners are welcome to attend any or all of them.

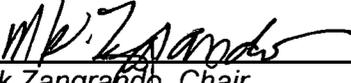
X. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Ruth Tittle, attending as liaison for the Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board, thanked those who attended the Rainbow Key event on June 21 at Pacific Design Center, and said she was glad to meet the new commissioners.

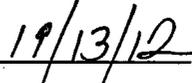
XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Signed:



Mark Zangrando, Chair



11/13/12