

WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES – MARCH 12, 2013
COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

The West Hollywood Human Services Commission was called to order by Chair Ruth Cislowski at 6:07 p.m., Tuesday, March 12, 2013, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood.

A. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was repeated.

B. **ROLL CALL**

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

Not Present: Heidi Shink.

A quorum was present at all times. Staff members present included Daphne Dennis, David Giugni, Perri Sloane Goodman, and Jeff Book. Council Deputy Michelle Rex was also present.

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. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the Jan. 8, 2013, meeting were approved on a motion by Commissioner Shepard, seconded by Commissioner Zangrando.

The minutes of the Feb. 12, 2013, meeting were approved on a motion by Commissioner Zangrando, seconded by Commissioner Davis, with Commissioner Cislowski abstaining due to absence.

III. **ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Shawn Kravich of the Los Angeles HIV Law & Policy Project introduced himself to the Commission and spoke about their work creating a central intake point for persons seeking legal assistance with these issues.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. TAXI COUPON SUBSIDY PROGRAM – TRANSITION TO SWIPE CARD

Perri Sloane Goodman spoke about these matters, which will be an item to the City Council next week. The City of Los Angeles converted to swipe cards a few years ago. The cards only charge the exact amount for the service, with no reimbursement paperwork for taxi drivers. The City's share of costs is already budgeted in the Prop A expenditures for this year, and will not require additional funding. Booklets will be \$8 for \$28 in value, with a maximum of \$14 per ride.

Commissioners spoke about how cards are acquired and refilled, about companies taking a share of the pay, and about feedback from users. Commissioner Davis moved to approve this item going forward to Council, which was seconded by Commissioner Zangrando, and approved.

B. PRESENTATION FROM THE SABAN FREE CLINIC

From the Saban Free Clinic, the Commission welcomed Jeff Bujer, Chief Executive Officer, and Sergey Sergeev, Chief Operating and Financial Officer. They said the Free Clinic has been in existence since 1967, and has been a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) since 2012. In July 2013, it will become the Saban Community Clinic. Jeff Bujer noted that he previously shared the CEO position with Hon. Abbe Land.

They discussed the number of West Hollywood participants in the program, which they said was about 4% of the total. The demographics of West Hollywood participants are similar to those of the overall client base.

They spoke about the continuing existence of volunteer opportunities, although they have been converting from being a volunteer-driven operation to being a medical home for the patients, with full-time staff seeking to pair clients with primary care physicians. Nevertheless help is always needed with outreach. They would like to talk more with the City about targeted outreach, including to the Russian-speaking population.

Commissioners discussed volunteer management, accuracy in knowing the shape of the City, and the role of outreach when there are already patients who are waiting to receive care. They were congratulated on the name change, and confirmed that services will continue to be free for those who meet the criteria for that.

C. CONFIRMATION OF RFP SCHEDULE

Daphne Dennis noted that the Commission will meet on July 16 rather than July 11, and that both the April 9 and July 16 meetings are planned to be televised on the city cable system.

D. COMMUNITY STUDY UPDATE

Daphne Dennis said she met with the Commission's subcommittee on the community study earlier this evening, and that the Community Study meeting, concluding public input on this year's study, will be held at Plummer Park on March 14.

V. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Palmieri spoke about the Martin Luther King Day of service, and about helping with clothes at the Gay & Lesbian Center youth program.

Commissioner Zangrando said the Community Study has been rolled out well, and that he appreciated commissioners being interviewed.

Commissioner Davis spoke about the Commission being involved in the Community Study.

Commissioner Williams said the "She" group will be meeting again in April, and thanked staff for their help.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

The secretary noted that May 21, 2013, is the city general election in Los Angeles, which in West Hollywood will consist of a runoff for the LA Community College District Board of Trustees.

Daphne Dennis spoke about the Women's Leadership Conference, Women's History Month, and the Kids Fair.

She also provided an update on the number of beds that are available to West Hollywood at the Madison and Hollywood locations of PATH.

VIII. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

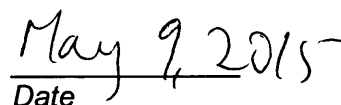
There were no additional items from the public.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm, in memory of Albert Reaven, father of Commissioner Ruth Cislowski.

Signed:


Ruth Cislowski, Chair


Date