

WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES – APRIL 16, 2013
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

The West Hollywood Human Services Commission was called to order by Vice Chair Steven L. Davis at 6:03 p.m., Tuesday, April 16, 2013, in the Council Chambers at 625 N. San Vicente Blvd., West Hollywood.

A. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was repeated.

B. **ROLL CALL**

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

Not Present: Bob Shepard.

A quorum was present at all times. Staff members present included Daphne Dennis, David Giugni, and Laura Schoonover.

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 March 12, 2013, meeting were corrected to reflect the proper spelling of Commissioner Cislowski's father's name (Reaven), and were then approved on a motion by Commissioner Zangrando, seconded by Commissioner Williams.

The minutes of the March 19, 2013, meeting were corrected to reflect that Commissioner Shink was present, and Commissioner Palmieri was not, and were then approved on a motion by Commissioner Shink, seconded by Commissioner Zangrando.

The minutes of the April 9, 2013, meeting were approved on a motion by Commissioner Zangrando, seconded by Commissioner Shink.

III. **ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Michelle Upchurch of the Chiron Center Inc. Crisis Response Team spoke about that group's services, which they have provided in West Hollywood, Beverly Hills, Culver

City, Marina del Rey, and other locations. They are reintroducing their services to West Hollywood, and look forward to participating in the RFP process.

Mike Aguilera, a resident of West Hollywood who represents Congressman Adam Schiff, introduced himself and thanked commissioners for their service.

Rick Watts said that the Commission should focus more attention on substance abuse, particularly crystal meth, which he said was a significant problem in West Hollywood and the LGBT community.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. PRESENTATION ON MEDICAL CARE COORDINATION AND INTEGRATED CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES

David Giugni introduced Chris Brown, director of health and mental health programs at the LA Gay & Lesbian Center, who introduced Luis Gitron and Diane Cooperin. They described the way the Center has integrated case management staff in medical care, and the benefits this has produced.

B. RE-PROGRAMMING SAVINGS FROM 2011-12 SOCIAL SERVICES CONTRACTS

David Giugni reported \$8,939 in contract savings from the 2011-12 social services contracts, and discussed how these funds accumulate. Staff recommended using this to augment the urgent funds available to community members at the Comprehensive Services Center of Jewish Family Service.

Marina Berkman of JFS said the agency would be able to distribute the funds, and gave examples of how the agency uses the urgent funds.

Commissioners discussed possible uses of the funds, whether they should be targeted for rent or other needs, and whether it was necessary to decide now. Daphne Dennis said the rental assistance program through Jewish Free Loan has been approved.

Commissioner Davis moved to accept the staff recommendation and allow JFS to allocate the funds as they see fit. This was seconded by Commissioner Shink.

Nichole Hemans of Women Helping Women (NCJW/LA) said their agency would be willing to accept the funds and use them for rental assistance.

The motion was approved 4 to 2, with Commissioners Cislowski, Davis, Shink, and Williams voting yes; and Commissioners Palmieri and Zangrando voting no.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. SOCIAL SERVICES PROGRAM PRIORITIES - 2013 FUNDING PROCESS

Daphne Dennis said recommendations from community study were the starting point for staff in looking at what to discuss in the RFP document for prospective applicants to provide social services. Target populations that may be particularly at risk were also identified. Women were identified as a target population

Commissioner Zangrando asked that reference to those concerned about homelessness be worded to include those who are at risk for homelessness. Commissioner Cislowski said that mental health should be highlighted. Commissioners discussed.

B. 2013 REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL DOCUMENT

Commissioner Davis moved to accept the recommendation as edited. This was seconded by Commissioner Zangrando and approved.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioners spoke about panels and discussions sponsored by the City.

Commissioner Williams spoke about CicLAvia.

Commissioner Zangrando asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Brett Shaad, and Commissioner Cislowski asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Sal Castro.

Commissioner Cislowski asked whether the City encourages collection of unused toiletries at conferences and conventions held here, for distribution to PATH and the Jeff Griffith Youth Center. Staff said they will look into the possibility.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Leslie Isenberg commented on activities for Senior Month.

Daphne Dennis spoke about a photographic display occasioned by Women's History Month.

Corri Planck spoke about Kids Fair.

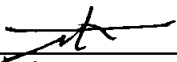
VIII. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no additional items from the public.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8 p.m. in memory of the victims of the Boston Marathon attack; Sal Castro; and Brett Shaad.

Signed:



~~Ruth Cislowski, Chair~~
Steven L. Davis

5-9-15

Date