

**WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES – JULY 8, 2014**  
**LIBRARY COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM**

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

The West Hollywood Human Services Commission was called to order by Chair Steven L. Davis at 6:01 p.m., Tuesday, July 8, 2014, in the Community Meeting Room at the West Hollywood Library, 625 N. San Vicente Blvd., West Hollywood.

A. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Hernan Molina.

B. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Rob Bergstein, Ruth Cislowski, Steven L. Davis,  
Barbara Meltzer, Anne-Marie Williams.

Not Present: Andrew Oldershaw, Jimmy Palmieri.

A quorum was present at all times. Staff present included: Elizabeth Savage, Director of Human Services and Rent Stabilization; David Giugni, Social Services Manager; Leslie Isenberg, Corey Roskin, Hernan Molina, and Laura Schoonover.

C. **POSTING OF AGENDA**

The secretary reported that 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 May 13, 2014, were approved on a motion by Commissioner Bergstein, seconded by Commissioner Cislowski.

The minutes of June 10, 2014, were approved on a motion by Commissioner Cislowski, seconded by Commissioner Bergstein, with Commissioners Davis and Meltzer abstaining due to absence.

III. **ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Wendy Goldman spoke on behalf of Seniors Helping Seniors, West Los Angeles, a new in-home support agency supporting the LGBT market. The agency employs people 50 and older to help seniors with housekeeping, transportation, pet care, and related aspects. She provided brochures with information about the agenda.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Hernan Molina, Senior Management Analyst who provides legislative and advocacy services for the City, spoke about the current legislative session in Sacramento and its relation to social services. There has been change as the economy has begun to recover from the recent recession, and also due to voters' adoption of Proposition 30, which affected state revenues.

He spoke about the Primary Strategic Goals, Ongoing Strategic Programs and Core Values of the City, as well as processes in the 2013-2014 State Legislative Session and the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress, particularly with regard to the new state budget and its effect on human services and health care.

B. DATA COLLECTION ON TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY MEMBERS

David Giugni spoke about how the City and social services agencies gather data about transgender community members, including which words are used for various categories.

A panel of agency staff members spoke on the subject, including Lisa Kimsey, operations manager at LA LGBT Center; Glenn Lindsey, LA LGBT Center; Juli Carlos-Henderson, LA HIV Epidemiology Department; and Drían Juarez, of the LGBT Center's Transgender Economic Empowerment Program (TEEP).

The intake form for Health and Mental Health Services at the LA LGBT Center currently provides open-ended options for birth sex (male, female, intersex, decline, other); gender identity (male, female, trans MTF, trans FTM, genderqueer, other); gay, bisexual, heterosexual, lesbian, questioning, other; and preferred gender pronouns (he/him, she/her, zie/zhie/hir, other).

Drían Juarez said the City can set a new standard by initiating use of these categories with their funded social services agencies, along with culturally competent training in how to gather the information. She spoke in favor of using the terms trans male, trans female, and gender-nonconforming.

Commissioners and panel members discussed changes in terminology and how they may affect programs.

Commissioner Bergstein said he would like the Commission to consider an item for the City to require social services agencies to use this terminology, and to assist agencies that may need help with training. Commissioner Davis also spoke in favor of the item coming back on a future agenda.

C. CALENDAR OF HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION AGENDA ITEMS

Leslie Isenberg presented an overview of the work the Commission does on a recurring basis, including:

January – Year-End Report on Social Services; Homeless Count (every two years, next in 2015); and RFP Schedule (beginning in 2016). February – RFP proposed calendar (2016). April – Re-programming of contract savings; Senior Month report. May – HIV Prevention Month and programs. June – Mid-Year Report on Social Services. August – Often no meeting. September – Contract Renewals. October – Rent Stabilization and Housing annual report. November – Election of Officers. December – Recreation Services report.

Commissioner Davis said he would like to hear from Recreation more often than just once a year, and recalled that Recreation staff used to appear periodically with updates on various aspects of programs.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Bergstein asked that the document from Hernan Molina, regarding strategic goals, be copied and distributed to commissioners.

Commissioner Meltzer attended a workshop on relationships. She also met with Kathleen Sullivan, director of senior services at the LA LGBT Center. She discussed the need for family caregiver support. She attended a meeting of the Los Angeles Alliance for Community Health and Aging, which includes the Partners in Care Foundation. She would like the Commission to hear from that foundation.

Commissioner Williams spoke about remarks by Ben Coleman, community member, on homelessness. She said she has learned of a dog theft ring underway in the city, and she would like to speak to Public Safety about it.

Commissioner Davis said the LA PRIDE parade went better than in recent years, and had increased participation from younger people and animals, which was a step in the right direction.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

David Giugni spoke about invoices received from Tarzana Treatment Center and Substance Abuse Center of Long Beach as of June 2014, and how they compare to funding anticipated in these agreements. He said staff will return in September with a recommendation on moving these agencies from a fee-for-service basis to a regular social services agency contract. Commissioner Cislowski said she would like both agencies to do a proposal on what they would do with funding as a regular contract.

David Giugni reminded Commissioners that they usually do not meet in August, and asked them to consider holding a facilitated, four-hour retreat in September, in addition to the regular meeting. Commissioners discussed whether this should be held in August or September.

The Commission agreed to cancel the August regular meeting for lack of a quorum.

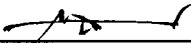
VIII. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no additional items from the public.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Signed:

  
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Steven L. Davis, Chair

9-9-14  
Date