

**WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES – July 9, 2013**  
**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

The West Hollywood Human Services Commission was called to order by Chair Ruth Cislowski at 6:02 p.m., Tuesday, July 9, 2013, in the City Council Chambers at 625 N. San Vicente Boulevard, West Hollywood.

A. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ruth Cislowski

B. **ROLL CALL**

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

A quorum was present at all times. Staff members present included Elizabeth Savage, Director, Department of Human Services and Rent Stabilization; Daphne Dennis, David Giugni, Leslie Isenberg, Corri Planck, and Acting Secretary 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**

A motion by Vice Chair Davis to approve the minutes of the June 25, 2013 meeting was seconded by Commissioner Shink. The motion was approved (6-0-1) with Chair Cislowski abstaining. (6-0-1).

III. **ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Chair Cislowski made an announcement regarding the availability of applications for the City of West Hollywood Inclusionary Housing Low Income Waitlist. She also gave instruction regarding completing a speaker slip and the two minute time limit for public comment.

IV. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A. **CONTRACT AWARD FOR "TLC" DOOR TO DOOR TRANSIT SERVICE**

David Giugni announced a staff recommendation to award a contract for TLC Door to Door Transit Service to MV Transportation, Inc. Vice Chair Davis made a

motion to approve the staff recommendation. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. The motion was passed (7-0-0).

**B. STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SOCIAL SERVICES FUNDING 2013-2014**

Daphne Dennis, Social Services Manager, gave background information on the community outreach that has taken place and about the input that the City received from the public. She thanked all of the applicants for their participation in RFP process. She thanked the Commission for their participation in the Community Study process.

Corri Planck, Social Services Program Administrator, spoke regarding the community recommendations that the City received from the Community Study.

Leslie Isenberg, Social Services Program Administrator, spoke regarding the City funded grant program for rental assistance that is offered through National Council of Jewish Women. She also spoke of the rental assistance loan program that was launched in early June 2013 and is administered by Jewish Free Loan Association.

David Giugni spoke of funding for substance abuse and rehabilitation programs. He also announced a staff recommendation to continue the City's contract with the McIntyre House.

**V. PUBLIC HEARING**

The Commission conducted a public hearing on social services proposals for the contract year beginning Oct. 1, 2013.

SALLY VALENZUELA, LOS ANGELES, and parents of children that are enrolled in the school, spoke regarding Pathways West Hollywood Preschool. They thanked the Commission and the City of West Hollywood for their funding and their commitment to the preschool program.

BRIAN HARDIN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding the McIntyre House. He thanked the Commission and City Staff for their support and he spoke of the importance of the work that is done through the program.

ARON ROSS, LOS ANGELES, spoke regarding the McIntyre House. He thanked the Commission and City Staff for their support and he spoke of the importance of the work that is done through the program.

TOMAS ZAMUDIO, LOS ANGELES, spoke regarding the McIntyre House. He thanked the Commission and City Staff for their support and he spoke of the importance of the work that is done through the program.

KYLE KEPP, LOS ANGELES, spoke regarding the McIntyre House. He thanked the Commission and City Staff for their support and he spoke of the importance of the work that is done through the program.

MICHELLE KEZIRIAN, LOS ANGELES spoke regarding Bet Tzedek Legal Services as well as future projects and funding needs.

ALLA CHASNIK, LOS ANGELES, spoke regarding Bet Tzedek Legal Services as well as future projects and funding needs.

TAMARA GUREVICH, WEST HOLLYWOOD, a Bet Tzedek client, spoke regarding the services she has received from Bet Tzedek. She also spoke of how helpful Bet Tzedek has been to the Russian speaking community.

AVA ROSE, VENICE, spoke regarding the National Council of Jewish Women – Women Helping Women and her support of the staff recommendation for funding from the City of West Hollywood.

RACHEL RESNICK, LOS ANGELES, spoke regarding the National Council of Jewish Women – Women Helping Children. She thanked staff and the Commission for their continued support and spoke of her support of the staff recommendation for funding from the City of West Hollywood.

CHRISTINE CHOUCHEANIAN, LOS ANGELES, spoke regarding AVIVA Family and Children Services and of her support of the staff recommendation for funding from the City of West Hollywood.

ROBERT SOLDIER, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding Aids Project Los Angeles – Back to Life Program. He spoke of the counseling, education and group support that was made available to him and of his gratitude to the program.

TEIA KEENAN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding Being Alive and of the variety of services that are available.

KEVIN KURTH, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding Being Alive and thanked the staff and Commission for their continued support for the program.

DANIEL ROBISON, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding Being Alive and thanked the staff and Commission for their continued support for the program.

AROIS MOE, LOS ANGELES spoke regarding Project Angel Food and of the importance of quality food for people dealing with the various effects of AIDS.

BARNEY CHANGE, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke of his volunteer work for Project Angel Food and of the importance of quality food for people who are dealing with the various effects of AIDS.

FRED SUMMERS, LOS ANGELES, spoke regarding JFS – Food and Resource and of his appreciation of continued funding for the program. He also spoke of his desire for additional funding for expanded programs and to offset cost of living increases.

ROGER COGGAN, LOS ANGELES, spoke of the LA Gay and Lesbian and his appreciation for continued funding from the City of West Hollywood.

MARIANA MARROQUIN, LOS ANGELES, spoke of the LA Gay and Lesbian and her appreciation for continued funding from the City of West Hollywood.

KATHLEEN SULLIVAN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center Senior Services Program and thanked staff and Commission for funding of the program.

KUBI GROMBELSKI, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke of the LA Gay and Lesbian and his appreciation for all the services that are offered by them.

ELEANOR BARRETT, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke of the LA Gay and Lesbian and her appreciation for all the services that are offered by them.

FRANK GALASSI, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke of the LA Gay and Lesbian and his appreciation for all the services that are offered by them.

LARRY RUBINSTEIN, LOS ANGELES, spoke of the LA Gay and Lesbian and his appreciation for all the services that are offered by them.

RONN JONES, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding LA Gay and Lesbian Center and his appreciation for all of the services that are offered by them.

MIKE RIZZO, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding the Crystal Meth Recovery Services offered through the LA Gay and Lesbian Center and the effects of the sequester on their funding.

HUGO BRAHAM, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding the Crystal Meth Recovery Services offered through the LA Gay and Lesbian Center how those services have helped him in his recovery.

GLENN LINDSAY, HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding the LA Gay and Lesbian Center, the various services that are offered and his appreciation of the continued support and funding from the City of West Hollywood

SIMON COSTELLO, spoke regarding the LA Gay and Lesbian Center's Children Youth & Family Services, and expressed his appreciation for the continued support from the City of West Hollywood.

JOSEPH WARREN, LOS ANGELES, spoke regarding St. Thomas of the Apostle and the Homeless Services Program. He expressed his appreciation for the City of West Hollywood's continued support.

MARGUERITE WOMACK, spoke regarding the JVS Continued Workforce Development Program and expressed her appreciation for the continued support from the City of West Hollywood.

RAY MONTOYA, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding the JVS Continued Workforce Development Program and how the services offered have helped him to find employment.

LUCY MARTIN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding the JVS Continued Workforce Development Program and how the services offered have helped her to find employment. She expressed her appreciation for the continued support from the City of West Hollywood.

ARTHUR ROMO, LONG BEACH, spoke regarding the Substance Abuse Foundation. He expressed his appreciation for the City of West Hollywood's support and spoke of the funding opportunities he hoped to see in the future.

SOFIA KOMSKAYA, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding the West Hollywood Community Senior Center and the many benefits it offers to the senior community as well as the people who volunteer.

LUKE MALLARI & GUEST, LOS ANGELES, spoke regarding the Saban Free Clinic and the services that they provide to the community. He expressed his appreciation for the continued support from the City of West Hollywood.

RAFAEL COSIO, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding the Frontiers Awareness and Education Foundation and how the services they offer benefit many of the agencies working within the city.

DAVID STERN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding the Frontiers Awareness and Education Foundation. He addressed the staff recommendations and thanked the staff and Commission for their support.

HERMAN OSORIO, LOS ANGELES, spoke regarding PATH and introduced other speakers to talk about their experience with PATH.

JEFFREY YUBLAN, LOS ANGELES, spoke regarding PATH and of the services that were made available to him and how he benefitted from those services. He thanked the City of West Hollywood for their support of PATH.

ZONDRE JOHNSON, NORTH HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding PATH and of the services that were made available to her and how she benefitted from those services. She thanked the City of West Hollywood for their support of PATH.

DEBORAH D. ROGERS, NORTH HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding PATH and of the services that were made available to her and how she benefitted from those services. She thanked the City of West Hollywood for their support of PATH.

COURTNEY KANAGI, LOS ANGELES, spoke regarding PATH and reported on how many West Hollywood community members have been served by their services. She thanked staff and Commission for their ongoing support.

CHRISTOPHER LANDAVAZO, WEST HOLLYWOOD spoke regarding PATH and the Cops for Causes program. He thanked staff and the Commission for their ongoing support.

COLLEEN MURPHY, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding PATH and their efforts to assist the homeless in the West Hollywood area. She thanked staff and the Commission for their ongoing support.

MARINA BERKMAN, spoke regarding JFS Jewish Family Comprehensive Services. She thanked staff and Commission for ongoing support. She commented on the staff recommended funding and the issue of possible cuts in services.

JENNIFER CHENG, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding JFS Social Services and how she and others have benefitted from the services that they offer.

OLGA VOLOVER, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding JFS Social Services and how she has benefitted from the services that they offer.

CATHY REBACK, LOS ANGELES, spoke regarding the Friends Research Institute. She thanked staff and Commission for their ongoing support.

DAHLIA FERLITO, LOS ANGELES, spoke regarding the Friends Research Institute. She thanked staff and Commission for their ongoing support.

MARK MILLER, SANTA MONICA, spoke regarding Project Chicken Soup. He expressed his feelings regarding the staff recommendation to not fund the projects services and offered reasons why their services are needed.

CATHRYN FREIDMAN, spoke regarding Project Chicken Soup. She expressed her feelings regarding the staff recommendation to not fund the projects services and offered reasons why their services are needed.

LINDA BENOIT, LOS ANGELES, spoke regarding Project Chicken Soup. She expressed her feelings regarding the staff recommendation to not fund the projects services and offered reasons why their services are needed.

TAD GREENBERG, LOS ANGELES, spoke regarding Project Chicken Soup. He expressed his feelings regarding the staff recommendation to not fund the projects services and offered reasons why their services are needed.

LAUREN SELILAN, LOS ANGELES, spoke regarding Project Chicken Soup. He expressed his feelings regarding the staff recommendation to not fund the projects services and offered reasons why their services are needed.

ROSALYN GRUEN, BEVERLY HILLS, spoke regarding Project Chicken Soup. He expressed his feelings regarding the staff recommendation to not fund the projects services and offered reasons why their services are needed.

TYLER BAKER-WILKINSON, spoke regarding The Spot and the services that they offer. He thanked staff and Commission for their continued support.

JAKLE DEL ROSSO, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding The Spot and the services that they offer. He thanked staff and Commission for their continued support.

DIANE SCHNEIDER, LOS ANGELES, spoke regarding the Nutrition Lunch program offered through Jewish Family Services Los Angeles. She thanked staff and Commission for their continued support.

STEVE WAYLAND, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding PAWS LA. He thanked staff and Commission for their continued support.

LISA BENDIMEZ, LOS ANGELES, spoke regarding IMCES (Institute for Multicultural Counseling and Education Services). She asked staff and Commission to reconsider their recommendation on funding their program.

JAMES PELK, LOS ANGELES, spoke regarding IMCES (Institute for Multicultural Counseling and Education Services). She asked staff and Commission to reconsider their recommendation on funding their program.

LELAND KEEL, LOS ANGELES, spoke regarding IMCES (Institute for Multicultural Counseling and Education Services). She asked staff and Commission to reconsider their recommendation on funding their program.

HEATHER HARRISON, LOS ANGELES, spoke regarding IMCES (Institute for Multicultural Counseling and Education Services). She asked staff and Commission to reconsider their recommendation on funding their program.

MARY KIRCHEN, LOS ANGELES, spoke regarding Housing Works. She thanked staff and Commission for their support.

SHAWN KRAVICH, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding LA HLPP. He thanked staff and Commission for their support.

YOLA DORE, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding her gratitude for all of the different social services programs and how they have benefitted her.

BRETT HOLLAND, LOS ANGELES, completed a speaker slip but was unable to speak. He submitted a brief written statement to staff which was forwarded to the Commission and is included in this packet.

Staff answered questions from the Commission regarding some of the information that they had received during the course of the meeting.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

VII. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

There were no items from the Commission.

VIII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

There were no items from staff.

IX. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no additional items from the public.

X. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:37 pm, the meeting was continued to the next regularly scheduled meeting at 6:00 pm on July 16, 2013.

Signed:

  
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Ruth Cislowski, Chair

Date May 9, 2015