

**WEST HOLLYWOOD  
DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD  
MINUTES  
March 1, 2004**

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairperson Cherner called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

**2. ROLL CALL:**

PRESENT: Norman Cherner, Jordan Chinich, Debra Chodash, Phyllis Coto, Bryan Dahlgren, Yola Dore, and Ann Semonco

ABSENT: Suzanne Dietrich and Joel Ring

ALSO PRESENT: Staff Liaisons Leslie Isenberg and Kim Patterson

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** The agenda of March 1, 2004 was approved.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The minutes of the February 4, 2004 meeting were approved with corrections.

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There were no public comments.

**6. STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Inna Epshteyn, Disability Specialist, reported a very busy January at the West Hollywood Comprehensive Services Center. They served 70 disabled clients, 9 of whom were new. They held their 3<sup>rd</sup> social club meeting of a half dozen people. The group discussed topics for future meetings. She sent out the Friendship Club flyer to their clients. Chairperson Cherner asked if a chart could be compiled so that the DAB could compare the monthly client numbers. He also suggested that the flyer include the day of the week, as well as the date.

Ms. Isenberg added that the social club details have been put on the City's cable channel. She also told the DAB that the August 13, 2003 minutes have been amended to reflect that the motion to recommend

to City Council that their meetings be real-time captioned was passed. In addition she told the DAB that one of the most important items on tonight's agenda was to approve the work plan.

## **7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

### **A. Project Angel Food Presentation**

Joya Parenteau, Program Director, gave an overview of the services that Project Angel Food offers to its 1,000 clients, which now includes 50 people with disabilities other than HIV/AIDS. She answered questions from the DAB and received a unanimous vote of support from the Board.

### **B. Outdoor Dining**

This item was tabled because the City staff from the Community Development Department was unable to attend.

### **C. Subcommittees**

Ms. Isenberg began by defining the difference between an ad hoc (time-limited) and standing (long-term) subcommittee. The DAB decided to continue discussion of this item at a future meeting.

### **D. Workplan**

The DAB approved the workplan with 2 changes: 1) to add a task under Objective 1 to advocate for affordable healthcare for people with disabilities, and 2) to reword the pedestrian safety task to read "For purposes of advocating for people with disabilities, ensure compliance with current right of way and sidewalk laws." Chairperson Cherner requested that the DAB members prioritize the tasks within each objective, and select the 3 most important tasks overall that they want to accomplish.

### **E. Liaisons**

Chairperson Cherner suggested that City Council and the Sister Cities Committee be added to the list of possible groups with which to liaison. Ms. Semonco suggested that the DAB wait until the full Board can finalize liaisons. A motion was passed to establish liaisons to various boards and commissions with actual assignments to be determined at a later date.

## **F. Closed Captioning of City Council Meetings**

Real-time captioning will be agendaized at the next Council meeting on Monday, March 15, 2004. Chairperson Cherner urged the entire DAB to attend.

## **8. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There were no public comments.

## **9. DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:**

Ms. Semonco distributed MTA flyers announcing upcoming public meetings and drew attention to Lines 20 & 21 as key to West Hollywood.

Ms. Dore thanked the DAB and staff for the birthday cake at the last meeting.

Ms. Coto suggested that the DAB have some hospitality people to keep on top of members' sicknesses, birthdays, etc. Ms. Dore volunteered to be responsible for cards for special occasions, something she is already doing.

Ms. Coto also encouraged the DAB to notify Ms. Patterson if they are interested in having the City line up a bus for trips to the Hollywood Bowl.

Mr. Dahlgren asked what the procedure was for agendaizing presentations from the two groups that he works with who are interested in talking with the DAB. Chairperson Cherner said that Mr. Dahlgren could contact either Ms. Isenberg or him.

The DAB gave their best wishes to Chairperson Cherner for his surgery tomorrow.

Chairperson Cherner thanked the DAB for the card. He said that tomorrow's election was very important, both for the candidates and for the propositions.

Ms. Dore told the DAB to be sure to check that their ballot is properly secured before voting.

**10. ADJOURNMENT:**

Chair Cherner adjourned the Disabilities Advisory Board meeting at 8:50 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 24 at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Conference Room of City Hall.

G: human/soc-svcs/misc/Disabilities Advisory Board/minutes-030104