

WEST HOLLYWOOD COMMITTEE ON DISABILITY

MEETING SUMMARY

APRIL 8, 1993

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Michealjohn Horne
Deirdre Hays
Bill Stirrup
Jane LaRue

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Keith Jefferies
Louise Mebane
Will Scoles
Z Zimmermann

STAFF:

Perri Sloane
Gregg Bruschaber

VISITORS: Public Comment

Renae Dean
Irene Oppenheim
Sylvia Feldman
Carmen Appelgren
Donald Fisher

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 pm in the Community Conference Room located in City Hall, 8615 Santa Monica Boulevard.

II. PRIOR METING SUMMARY:

The meeting summary of March 11, 1993, was reviewed and the consensus of the Committee was to accept the summary as written.

III. INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Introductions were deferred to the start of the Public Comments session at 4:00pm. Gregg Bruschaber informed the members present that Z Zimmermann was readmitted to the hospital for post operative complications. The committee wished to send Z their thoughts and support for a good recovery.

IV. OUTREACH PLANNING:

Members of the committee discussed ways to focus the public comments to issues relevant to the committee and the community. The following questions developed for the prior month were reviewed and found to be appropriate for the current session:

(Item IV. con't.)

1. Do you live or work in West Hollywood?
2. What services are you now using in the City?
3. Do you experience any "gap" in services?
4. Are there services you know about, or have used in other Cities that West Hollywood lacks?
5. Are there any safety concerns for emergency or life threatening situations the the committee should explore?
6. How did you learn about this meeting?

The committee commented on the February session focusing on Deafness and Hard of Hearing issues. The consensus was that the constituents present at the meeting represented only a limited segment of the population. Additional means to access the Deaf Community would be explored in the future.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

Dee Hays reported that she had voiced the committee's concerns about the availability of accessible affordable housing, in West Hollywood, to the West Hollywood Community Housing Corporation. The W.H.C.H.C. informed Ms. Hays that they would attempt to make contact with Gregg to provide information on what has been, and will be, done to provide housing.

Bill Stirrup informed the committee of an Access Expo that will be held the first weekend of May. Mr. Stirrup plans to attend and will share any information at the next meeting.

VI. BREAK:

3:50 to 4:00 pm.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT:

The Following issues were raised by the constituents present during the public comments session:

- The CityLine does not have a structured route schedule and as a result it is difficult to plan trips. The result of this causes riders to wait for long periods of time at designated stops. Also, riders needing return trips late in the day may be left without accessible transportation because the van has stopped operation for the day.
- Comments about accessible service on R.T.D. were voiced. Specific issues were the lack of disabled seating and drivers' lack of assistance with lowering steps. However, the issues were beyond the committee's control.
- The constituents present requested that consideration to reduce recreation fees for City sponsored classes and activities be given to persons with disabilities. Currently, Seniors are given a 50% reduction, and this should be considered for the disabled populations also on fixed incomes.
- Safety issues were of concern for the constituents present. The primary issue centered on pedestrian safety. Several crosswalks on Santa Monica Boulevard present hazards, i.e. Plummer Park. Consideration should be given to installation of a signal or caution light. Although there was not a consensus, audible crossing signals would be appropriate at key intersections. The City of Santa Monica was cited as an example of audible signals. Some crosswalks along Santa Monica Blvd. do not have appropriate curb cuts, i.e. Santa Monica/Crescent Hights, Santa Monica median at Westbourne. Additional curb cuts throughout the City were damaged during the recent rainy season; asphalt was eroded by water.
- A request was made to increase the size of lettering on signage at City Hall. This will allow greater accessibility/independence for persons with mobility/visual impairments.
- A suggestion was made for an update to the "Access Guide" publishing locations of accessible businesses, entertainment centers, restaurants and public accommodations.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT:

Without further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm, until the next scheduled meeting on May 13, 1993.

Submitted by: G. Brushaber

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MEETING ATTENDANCE

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COMMITTEE:

COMMUNITY MEMBERS:

Deirdre Hays

Jane LaRue

Bill Stirrup

Z Zimmerman

Deirdre Hays
Jane LaRue
Bill Stirrup

AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES:

Louise Mebane

Will Scoles

BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVE:

CHAIRPERSONS:

Michaeljohn Horne

Keith Jefferies

Michaeljohn Horne

SUPPORT STAFF:

Jodi Curlee

Perri Sloane

Gregg Bruschaber

Vivian Sauer

Perri Sloane
Gregg Bruschaber

OTHER PERSONS IN ATTENDANCE:

Denise L. Dean
Donald Fisher, Braille Institute
Carman Apelgren, Braille Institute
Sylvia Feldman

Irene Oppenheim
