

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD

Minutes of the Disabilities Advisory Board

May 27, 2015

Rooms 5 & 6, Plummer Park

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Suzanne Dietrich led the pledge of allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Michael Arrigo, Jim Chud, Suzanne Dietrich, Yola Dore, Michael Wojtkielewicz, and Louise Smith

ABSENT: Marco Colantonio, Anny Semonco, and Rick Watts

STAFF PRESENT: Corri Planck, Derek Murray, and Kim Patterson

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda for the May 27, 2015 meeting was approved.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the April 22, 2015 meeting were approved with one abstention.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Jesse Slansky of the West Hollywood Community Housing Corporation (WHCHC) extended an invitation to their Open House on June 16 at 1217 N. Laurel Ave.

Stephanie Harker, West Hollywood resident, announced the news that one of the residents of the Detroit Bungalows, Tom Yamashita, passed away, and asked that the DAB consider adjourning in his memory.

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. PRESENTATION ON TRAVEL TRAINING

Nicole Cavalino of Mobility Management Partners gave a presentation about upcoming "travel training" classes that will expose older adults to the basics of public transportation, and instruct them on the how-to's of such travel.

B. HIV PREVENTION MONTH UPDATE

Derek Murray gave a presentation about June's HIV Prevention Month activities to increase access to services and promote adherence to treatment. There will be an annual testing blitz June 8-14, and an HIV zero transmission social media campaign, including the promotion of PrEP (pre-exposureprophylaxis) which sharply reduces the transmission of HIV.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. SPECIAL OLYMPICS SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

The Board decided to participate as Fans in the Stands on Sat., August 1st in the afternoon at UCLA. They will have polo shirts made to increase visibility of the DAB.

B. DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Vice-Chair Smith reported that the subcommittee will:

- Keep the same categories for awards
- Get the word out to encourage nominations
- Invite a saxophone player who plays at the Farmers Market to perform at the October meeting
- Provide giveaways with the ADA 25 insignia
- At the televised meeting have the Board members address what the ADA means to them
- Not invite additional speakers this year

Board members made several suggestions, including wheelchair sports next year, invite pro basketball or hockey player to participate, request City buildings be checked for ADA non-compliance, and agendize disability signage before the October meeting.

C. AGING IN PLACE SPECIAL MEETING REPORT

The Board's delegate, Marco Colantonio, was not able to attend the DAB meeting to report, but the alternate, Jim Chud, reported that there was a lengthy presentation on the ADA, followed by small group discussions. The meeting was well-attended by the DAB.

9. ITEMS FROM STAFF

The ADA PSA with Chair Watts and Vice-Chair Smith will be running again this year on cable TV.

Staff distributed HIV Prevention Month calendars.

The Dyke March will be held on June 12th, as part of Pride Month.

Dial-a-Ride will provide free transportation to the polls on June 2.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT

Cathy Blavis, West Hollywood resident, spoke regarding housing issues.

11. BOARDMEMBER COMMENTS

Michael Wojtkielewicz announced a free spay/neuter event on June 20th at the El Tovar Lot. He also said that the Hart Park off-leash area is difficult to access and is the only one of its kind in West Hollywood.

Jim Chud suggested that the City get involved with a provision for shut-ins to assist with the paperwork for support animals. He said that trainers will provide trainings of service animals at a discount.

Suzanne Dietrich would like clarification on ADA regulations regarding service animals. She attended the SAB meeting which distributed the latest edition of "Senior Moments", and wrapped up Senior Month, including a successful Senior Health Fair.

Yola Dore announced Sizzle, the drug and alcohol-free event at Pride; information can be obtained by contacting Jimmy Palmieri (Human Services Commissioner) and Robert Gamboa (LGAB). She spoke about her appreciation for affordable housing, as she has had to deal with decrepit housing from an unresponsive landlord.

Vice-Chair Smith reported that there was good attendance at the screening of "I'll Be Me", and that there are inadequate mental health facilities to respond to the 200,000 L.A. residents with Alzheimers (and 600,000 in California).

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm in memory of Marco Colantonio's mother, Margaret Cabot, and Tom Yamashita. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 24, 2015 at 6:00 p.m., in Rooms 5 & 6 at Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood.


DAB Vice-Chair Louise Smith

A copy of the audio recording of this meeting can be obtained from the City Clerk's office upon request.

(Disclaimer: Staff records the meetings for the sole purpose of composing the official meeting minutes; therefore the recordings are not of commercial quality.)