

NOTES - CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD

Committee on Disability

Thursday, September 22, 1994 - 7:00 p.m.

Werle Building, 626 N. Robertson Blvd.

Because there was not a quorum present, the Committee was unable to take formal action on any items from the agenda. Instead, those members present used the opportunity to formulate a plan for the October meeting.

Subcommittee members present were Michaeljohn Horne, John Von Douris, Z Zimmerman, and Tom Hamlett. Guests present were Martin Sweeney, Mike Radcliffe, Jeanne Dobrin, Susan Boisvert, Steve Kreizel, Michael Sidler, Jane Small, Hugh Hallenberg, and Claire _____. Staff present were Lloyd Long, Jodi Curlee, Perri Sloane, and Jeff Book. Also present was John Rodriguez, a certified mediator with Dispute Resolution Services, who was asked to facilitate the meeting.

With John Rodriguez in the chair, extensive discussion of the role, composition, and agenda of the subcommittee occurred. Among the issues discussed were:

- current membership criteria, such as having a certain number of professionals and agency representatives on the committee;
- difficulty of achieving a quorum and whether persons who do not attend do, or should, automatically lose their membership;
- the nature of reasonable accommodations in areas such as communications;
- perceptions of a member-driven vs. staff-driven committee;
- how a person becomes a member of the committee, and who makes this decision, whether it is the committee, the Human Services Commission, or other entity;
- best number of members to establish;
- role as a subcommittee of the Human Services Commission, and benefits of this, including the ability to funnel issues to the Commission and the city departments, and maintain flexibility in participation;
- inappropriateness of the Werle Building and the absence of working amplifiers and microphones, as well as absence of a clear path of travel, an inappropriate ramp, incorrectly equipped restrooms, and other factors;
- whether a Commissioner must chair the subcommittee; whether voting membership can be limited to persons with disabilities; whether meeting sites that are entirely accessible are available among City properties;
- establishing a list of potential new members;
- the amount of time it will take to make a difference on these issues.

A number of issues were carried over for discussion at the October Committee meeting, including election of chair(s) or sub-chairs; rules of participation; procedure for member selection; accessibility of meeting sites; outreach for new members; role of the Human Services Commission; compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act; and the possibility of a study session later in the year. Also carried forward for discussion were Steve Kreizel's proposal regarding installation of public TDD-equipped phones; Section 8 housing; and the Disability Voting Project.