

**WEST HOLLYWOOD
DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES
DECEMBER 8, 2010**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Anna Swett called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Debra Chodash led the pledge.

3. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Debra Chodash, Suzanne Dietrich, Anna Swett, Rick Watts

ABSENT: Lisa Andreson

STAFF PRESENT: Craig Rhea, Kim Patterson

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda for December 8, 2010 was approved.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes for October 27, 2010 were approved.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Elise Schorr, West Hollywood resident, asked about her rights regarding the Sheriff's Station. *(She later spoke with Daphne Dennis outside of the meeting.)*

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. EVALUATION STUDY OF CITY-SUBSIDIZED TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS

Daphne Dennis, Social Services Manager, discussed the proposed transportation evaluation study of the City's subsidized transportation programs. The study will include a survey of and focus groups for Seniors and people living with disabilities. A report will be issued in the spring of 2011.

Areas of concern noted by DAB members:

- Debra Chodash would like the City to reconsider installing a seat or bench for the CityLine stop at the corner of Gardner & Willoughby. Daphne Dennis reported that staff will look into that possibility again.
- Rick Watts expressed his concern about crosswalk safety. Daphne reported that she had attended a joint meeting of the Transportation and Public Safety Commissions in which this issue was discussed, including appropriate signage and lighting.
- Anna Swett asked about cuts in service to the DASH line along La Cienega Blvd. Daphne explained that DASH is funded by the City of Los Angeles and that she would like to engage them in conversations about collaborating on these services.

B. 2011 MEETING SCHEDULE

The DAB discussed and approved the proposed 2011 meeting schedule:

- The February 23rd and April 27th meetings were cancelled so that Board members could attend other City Board & Commission meetings held during those months;
- The September 28th meeting will be rescheduled because of the conflict with Rosh Hashanah;
- The November 23rd meeting was rescheduled for November 30th;
- The December 28th meeting was cancelled.

Boardmembers signed-up to attend other City Board and Commission meetings in February & April 2011. The preliminary schedule will be provided at the January 26th meeting.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. EVALUATION OF OCTOBER 2010 TELEVISED MEETING

The DAB discussed ways for Boardmembers to better coordinate their remarks with Councilmembers at the award presentations. One suggestion was to split the remarks into two parts, one part for a Councilmember and one for a Boardmember.

Debra Chodash will be acknowledged in the program as leading the pledge of allegiance.

There was discussion about possibly shortening the meeting, perhaps by having one, rather than two main speakers, to encourage better attendance at the reception following the meeting.

The Board discussed creating an entertainment task force with the possibility of conducting auditions for the entertainment portion of the 2011 televised meeting.

9. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Craig Rhea made the following announcements:

A. Next DAB meeting, January 26, 2011:

- The Board will review Disability Service Award Rules & Guidelines.
- There may be 1 or 2 new DAB members; DAB appointments are scheduled for the City Council meeting of January 18, 2011.
- Craig will check in with Linda Demmers to see if she would prefer to come back to the Board in January or the spring to follow up on recommendations for the \$20,000 NOD award.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT

Phyllis Coto, West Hollywood resident and former DAB member, suggested that "talking crosswalk lights" would be a big help to seniors and people with visual disabilities.

11. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS/LIAISON REPORTS

Chairperson Swett went to a women's shelter for a pre-Thanksgiving event and hopes the West Hollywood Community Housing Corporation will be able to help some of the residents find housing.

Boardmember Rick Watts reported that City X1 held a wonderful drug- and alcohol-free pre-Thanksgiving event on November 21st for 200-250 LGBT youth. The event was funded through private donations.

12. BOARD REPRESENTATIVE TO REPORT TO COUNCIL

Debra Chodash will report to Council offices about the Board's December 8th meeting.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The Disabilities Advisory Board adjourned at 7:45 p.m. to the next DAB meeting on Wednesday, January 26, 2010 at 6:00pm in the Community Conference Room on the first floor of City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood, CA 90069.



Chairperson – Anna Swett