

WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES - JUNE 10, 1997
COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. CALL TO ORDER

The West Hollywood Human Services Commission was called to order by Chairperson Steven Davis at 6:10 p.m., Tuesday, June 10, 1997, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Steven Davis, Teresa DeCrescenzo, Bob Graney, John Nieto,
Renée Rosenfeld
Excused: Shirley Roberts
Absent: none

Note: There is one vacancy on the Commission at this time.

A quorum was present at all times. Staff present included Lloyd Long, Director of Human Services; Daphne Dennis, Social Services Administrator; Curtis Brown, Jr., Recreation Services Administrator; Tom West, Tamar Springer, and Jeff Book. Also present were Councilmember Jeffrey Prang and Council Deputy Daniel Dusterberg.

C. POSTING OF AGENDA

The Recording Secretary reported that notices were posted as required.

D. PROCEDURE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Persons desiring to address the meeting were asked to indicate this on a speaker request form.

II. INSTALLATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

Councilmember Prang administered the oath of office individually to each of the recently-appointed Commissioners (Bob Graney, Teresa DeCrescenzo, and Renée Rosenfeld), who signed the oaths and were presented with Certificates of Appointment which had been prepared by the City Clerk. Commissioner Davis welcomed the new Commissioners.

Commissioner Davis led the group in thanking three former Commissioners who were present, and who received plaques in honor of their service: Sandra Jacoby Klein (1987-1997), Michaeljohn Horne (1988-1997), and Leslie Hull (1992-1997). A plaque will also be presented to former Commissioner Peter Mackler (1994-1997), who was unable to attend.

The Commission also thanked and presented a plaque to former Social Services Administrator Jodi H. Curlee (1985-1997), who retired from City service earlier this year.

III. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of May 20, 1997, were approved on a motion by Commissioner Rosenfeld, seconded by Commissioner Nieto.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Without objection, the Chair added a report from GLCSC West Hollywood Cares to the schedule, and renumbered the remaining items of Unfinished Business.

A. GLCSC WEST HOLLYWOOD CARES

Thomas Dyer provided the monthly update from this organization, which recently participated in a consortium on HIV prevention, organized by the California AIDS Clearinghouse and the City's Social Services Division, and including such participants as LA Shanti, Bienestar, the Asian Pacific AIDS Intervention Team, and others. A resource card will be developed and included in West Hollywood Cares' condom distribution program; and agencies agreed to cooperate in holding an information fair in West Hollywood Park and other outreach. The group plans to meet again on July 1.

B. RESOLUTION 97-01 {COMMISSION BY-LAWS}

Staff recommended adoption of Resolution 97-01, which renews the Commission's current by-laws (Resolution 95-01), with the exception of updating the regular meeting location from the Werle Building to the Community Conference Room at City Hall. After discussion, Resolution 97-01 was moved by Commissioner Graney, seconded by Commissioner Rosenfeld, and unanimously carried.

Pursuant to the Resolution, the *election of a Vice Chair will be placed on the Commission's July agenda.*

C. SOCIAL SERVICES MID-YEAR REPORT

Comments regarding the Social Services Mid-Year Report were received from five agency representatives: Laura Kanter, Talkline Supervisor for Women Helping Women Services; Dorothy Lank, Dispute Resolution Services; Joan Lindell, West Hollywood Senior Center; Andrea Wagner, West Hollywood Employment Services & Training; and Sandra King, Jewish Family Services.

Daphne Dennis presented the Mid-Year Report, including information from all social services agencies currently under City contract, and drew the Commission's attention to the answers to Question 4 of the agency self-assessments, dealing with a client scenario for each agency.

Ms. Dennis recommended that JFS Disability Services be continued as a provisional program due to anticipated re-design of its scope of services, and that GLCSC West Hollywood Cares be removed from provisional status. She also recommended that GLCSC Youth and the Sova Food Pantry be continued for an additional six months on probationary status, and that the LA Free Clinic general services program be removed from probation.

Commissioner Rosenfeld and Tom West discussed ways of distributing a Russian translation of Magic Johnson's recent book.

Commissioner Davis said he regards GLCSC Youth as a continuing problem because they repeatedly have been placed on probation without seeing a consistent or sustained improvement in performance. He asked that they be *requested to appear at the next meeting*. Commissioners Davis and Rosenfeld discussed GLCSC funding and problems with the agency's attention to the particular needs of West Hollywood.

Ms. Dennis reviewed the use of a two-year funding cycle for social services agencies, and why the contract year differs from the fiscal year. The Council previously funded social services contracts on a fiscal-year basis, but changed in order to separate the budgeting and contracting timeframes. Contracts are now issued on a October-through-September basis, consistent with the Federal fiscal year. The two-year cycle consists of one year of obligated funding, followed by a second year if supported by community needs and agency performance.

Recommendations for funding for the second year of the current cycle will be presented to the Commission in July, and to the City Council in August. The new contract year begins in October. In early 1998, a request-for-proposals (RFP) will be initiated, leading to adoption of new contracts. Ms. Dennis said the 1998 RFP will include particular attention to changes in Federal and State welfare laws, and to changes in HIV/AIDS policy.

The Commission received and filed the Social Services Mid-Year Report.

D. RFP FOR HIV DAY PROGRAM

Public comment was received from clients and volunteers for the HIV Day Program, including Kevin McDaniel, Richard Parker, James Dowling, and William Mannion.

Tom West reported that the current provider for the HIV Day Program is terminating their participation, and that staff has developed an alternative plan due to the importance of the program, and the continuing effectiveness of day programs in enhancing the health and well-being of persons living with HIV/AIDS. The recommendation is to hire a consultant to supervise the day program from July through September, while releasing an RFP to find a new provider who will pick up the program as of October 1. The recommended schedule is to take the recommendation to the City Council on June 16, issue the RFP on June 17, establish a response deadline of July 15, and bring results to the Commission on August 12.

On a motion by Commissioner DeCrescenzo, seconded by Commissioner Nieto, the vote was 5 to 0 in favor.

Commissioner Davis and others recommended that staff explore documentation for the health benefits of day programs.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. AUTHORIZATION FOR MODIFICATION IN SCOPE OF JFS DISABILITY SERVICES CONTRACT

Tamar Springer reported that Monica Stone of the JFS Disability Services Program is leaving her position soon, and that staff feels this is an opportune moment to address the re-design of this program.

On a motion by Commissioner DeCrescenzo, seconded by Commissioner Nieto, the Commission authorized staff to proceed with developing a revised scope of services for this contract with Jewish Family Services, by a vote of 5 to 0.

B. SELECTION OF SUBCOMMITTEE AND LIAISONS

The Commission carried over the selection of subcommittee members and liaisons to the next regular meeting. As Chair, Commissioner Davis will continue to participate in the periodic Chairs Meeting, which is a gathering of the chairs of all the City commissions. Commissioner Davis also emphasized the importance of continued participation in the Los Angeles County Human Relations Mutual Assistance Consortium (HRMAC).

V. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Davis asked that *business cards be made available to the new members*, and asked Commissioners to consider the possibility of a retreat or planning session.

Commissioner Rosenfeld asked for *a copy of the Commission's enabling legislation*.

Commissioner Graney inquired about the possible relocation of the West Hollywood Homeless Organization, due to the planned redevelopment of the location. Lloyd Long reported that WHHO is working on locating a new site, and has received a grant to make this move as long as it is completed within a certain timeframe.

VI. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Lloyd Long noted that the Public Facilities Commission is holding its organizational meeting on Thursday, June 12, and that the two Commissions will need to develop an understanding of which subject matters are reserved to one of the Commissions and which, if any, are mutual.

VII. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

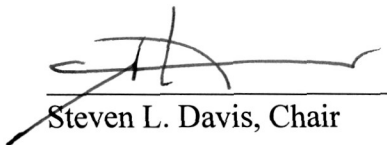
There were no additional items from the public.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

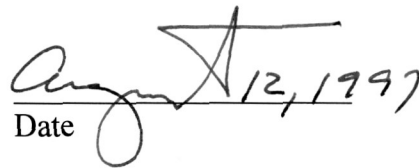
The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m., and at the request of Commissioner Davis, the adjournment was in memory of Ann Polsky, a long-time community leader and member of the Senior Advisory Council.

The next meeting will be held at 6 p.m., Tuesday, July 8, 1997, in Plummer Park's Fiesta Hall, 1200 N. Vista St., West Hollywood.

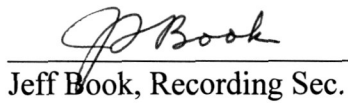
MINUTES APPROVED JULY 8, 1997



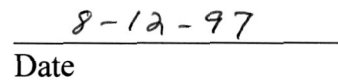
Steven L. Davis, Chair



Date



Jeff Book, Recording Sec.



Date