

WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES - MAY 20, 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 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 20, 1997, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard. This is the regular monthly meeting of the Commission, rescheduled from May 13.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Steven Davis, Michaeljohn Horne, Leslie Hull, Sandra Jacoby Klein,
Peter Mackler, John Nieto, Shirley Roberts
Excused: none
Absent: none

A quorum was present at all times. Staff present included Lloyd Long, Director of Human Services, Tamar Springer, and Jeff Book.

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. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of April 15, 1997, were approved on a motion by Commissioner Horne, seconded by Commissioner Mackler.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. UPDATE ON SENIOR PROGRAMS

Tamar Springer, Social Services Program Specialist, provided a general update on City programs with particular relevance to seniors, including Bet Tzedek Legal Services, JFS Board and Care, JFS Citizenship Program (ending in June), JFS Nutrition (including five meal sites as well as home-delivered meals), Partners Adult Day Healthcare Center, West Hollywood Senior Center, the senior component of GLCSC Legal Services, the dental

program of the Los Angeles Free Clinic, the immigrant and senior components of the Russian Community Center, and the Sova Food Pantry.

Commissioner Horne asked whether Mayor Guarriello's concerns about access to senior programs had been addressed, and Ms. Springer said that she had met with the Mayor and with Councilmember Martin about expanding the Telecheck program, which would provide a reliable way for seniors to remain connected. A committee is being formed to plan this program, and will meet at 3 p.m. on Monday, June 2. Commissioner Horne expressed interest in participating.

Commissioner Klein and Ms. Springer discussed methods of outreach to the senior gay and lesbian population.

B. GLCSC WEST HOLLYWOOD CARES

Thomas Dyer reported that posters and postcards had been distributed this month as part of the publicity campaign to affect sexual behavior in the context of recreational drug use, especially crystal methamphetamine, Ecstasy, GHB, and K. He said this week he will be meeting with Tom West and decision-makers at Rage to encourage placement of materials there.

C. WOMEN HELPING WOMEN -- WELFARE REFORM IMPACTS

Laura Kanter, M.S.W., Talkline Supervisor for Women Helping Women Services, provided an update on their programs to assist people in need due to welfare reform, and to participate in discussions regarding welfare reform. A report on this topic from NCJW was distributed.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. AIDS/HIV HEALTH ALTERNATIVES

Terry Grand, Ph.D., executive director of AIDS/HIV Health Alternatives, and Lawrence Brungero, S.J., board chairman, were present to inform the Commission about their program, which provides complementary or alternative therapies such as acupuncture, acupressure, massage, and chiropractic.

Dr. Grand reported that similar services, once provided at the Ron Stone Center by Being Alive, had been discontinued, even though 70 percent of persons living with HIV are reported to be using some form of complementary or alternative therapy. He said a majority of their clients are West Hollywood community members, with a mean age of 41. His program is seeking space to use -- an estimated four rooms at approximately 100 square feet each, plus teaching and office space. Also speaking on behalf of the program were Timur Otus, West Hollywood; Pasquale Studiale, West Hollywood; Bobbi Junod, Los Angeles; Dorothea Tebbenhoff, Venice; Tom Thate, Los Angeles; Lily Diamond, Culver City; and Jim Baughman, Los Angeles.

Staff will *meet with AHHA representatives* and explore options for City cooperation.

V. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

A. SOCIAL SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE

Commissioners discussed the proposed AIDS Forum, which had been tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, June 10, and decided to postpone this event until the fall. The June meeting, therefore, will be a regular Commission meeting.

Commissioner Mackler reported on a program to be held Friday, May 23, and said that legislation on HIV/AIDS and other Human Services-related items were moving along well in the current session of the Legislature.

Commissioners directed that *a letter be sent over the Chair's signature* thanking Dr. Terry Grand for his presentation regarding AIDS/HIV Health Alternatives.

Commissioner Klein thanked Sam Baxter for the fence improvements at William S. Hart Park, and announced that her new book, "Heavenly Hurts: Surviving AIDS-Related Deaths," has gone to the printer and will be available soon.

Due to new appointments, Commissioners Horne, Hull, Klein, and Mackler will be leaving the Commission on June 1. Commissioners Davis, Nieto, and Roberts are continuing.

Commissioner Klein noted that this is the last meeting in her current term as a member of the Commission, and that being a Commissioner had been a major part of her life since her first appointment in 1987. She expressed the hope that the new Commissioners will understand the diversity in the West Hollywood community, and reflect this in their deliberations on public policy.

Commissioner Horne said the change of membership on the Human Services Commission represents something of an "end of an era." He is moving to the Public Safety Commission, and said that he expects to be available to serve on task forces and special committees of the Human Services Commission when this is appropriate.

Commissioner Hull noted that she had been appointed to the Commission after working on the HIV Task Force, and that she had found the Commission to be a nurturing environment. She also expressed interest in serving on committees as appropriate.

Commissioner Mackler said that his three years on the Commission had been informative and interesting, and that he is proud of West Hollywood's ongoing commitment to the entire community, including persons in particular need and those who lack other resources to care for themselves.

The Commissioners expressed appreciation to staff.

Commissioner Davis thanked the departing Commissioners for their service, and said he was glad to have had the opportunity to learn from working with them.

VI. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Lloyd Long reported on the condition of Kira Archibald McBride, daughter of Council Deputy Leah Archibald, who had surgery to remove a tumor. Donations in support of the family are being forwarded by city staff.

Mr. Long expressed appreciation to the departing Commissioners for their interest, ideas, and involvement over many years. He said that he has been working with city boards and commissions, in one form or another, since 1975, and that he had developed a great deal of respect for those who share their talents this way.

VII. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

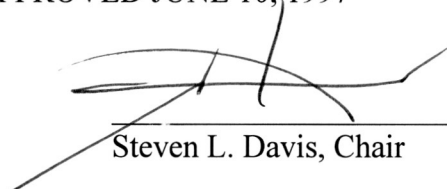
There were no additional items from the public.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

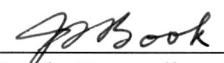
The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

The next meeting will be held at 6 p.m., Tuesday, June 10, 1997, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall.

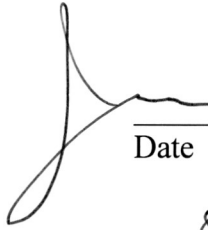
MINUTES APPROVED JUNE 10, 1997



Steven L. Davis, Chair



Jeff Book, Recording Sec.

 10, 1997

Date

8-11-97

Date