

**WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES - APRIL 15, 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, April 15, 1997, in Hall A at Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Boulevard. This is the rescheduled monthly meeting of the Commission, for which the date was changed due to the Los Angeles city and regional election held on April 8.

B. ROLL CALL

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

A quorum was present at all times. Staff present included Lloyd Long, Director of Human Services, Daphne Dennis, Curtis Brown, Beth Sazama, Bonnie Smith, Chris Worland, and Jeff Book.

C. POSTING OF AGENDA

The Recording Secretary reported that notices were posted as required. Commissioner Davis asked that the meeting notices be mailed to the social services contract agencies each month, and *notices to them will be mailed beginning in May.*

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 March 11, 1997, were approved on a motion by Commissioner Horne, seconded by Commissioner Mackler.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. LEGAL SERVICES -- REBECCA SHLESMAN

Rebecca Shlesman of the Los Angeles Free Clinic's legal services program provided an

update on their experience. She said their department at the Free Clinic has had a rise in volunteerism, and consequently is conducting new outreach to West Hollywood, the San Fernando Valley, and other areas. They are seeking information on what legal services are needed in the community. Currently, LAFC assists people with Chapter 7 bankruptcies, uncontested divorces, immigration matters, and responses to summons for consumer debt.

Commissioner Mackler asked if LAFC is involved with welfare reform issues, and Ms. Shlesman said that this is generally the area of Bet Tzedek Legal Services, and LAFC aims to avoid duplication of services. Commissioner Davis asked about advertising methods, and Ms. Shlesman said that the agency is employing a mix of public service announcements, direct mail, and public speaking to increase awareness of their program.

Ms. Shlesman distributed informational forms about the agency.

#### B. GLCSC WEST HOLLYWOOD CARES

Thomas Dyer reported on GLCSC's forthcoming media campaign on maintaining safer-sex behavior in the context of recreational drug use, especially crystal methamphetamine, Ecstasy, GHB, and K. He said their approach, which will include advertisements in key local publications, uses a harm-reduction model of advising people of ways to stay safer in these contexts, rather than a message of avoiding such contexts.

The Commission asked for Mr. Dyer to be *on the agenda in July* to provide an update on how the media campaign was received by its target audience.

Commissioner Horne asked for *consultation among Mr. Dyer, Tom West, and himself* regarding ways of communicating the program to people who organize events at which the targeted behavior occurs.

Mr. Dyer introduced Jeff Bailey, who has succeeded Antonio LeMans on the GLCSC staff.

### IV. NEW BUSINESS

#### RECREATION DIVISION UPDATES

Curtis Brown thanked the Commissioners for their support during his successful candidacy for the three-year position of Vice President/President-Elect/President of the California Parks & Recreation Society (CPRS), and reported that the Division is doing well in achieving their goal of identifying what the unique recreational needs of this community are, and how to reach the people of a relatively untraditional community. He also noted that the Division has commenced planning in the 3-to-5-year range, in an effort to avoid year-to-year "planning by reaction."

#### A. FARMERS MARKET

Bonnie Smith reported on the success of Julie Burson, who has succeeded Aron Sumii as Farmers Market manager, and whose expertise in the Health Code has already been a major

benefit to the Market. There is a growing number and variety of vendors, and several new approaches to enhancing the shopping experience, including reserving parking spaces for shoppers only on Farmers Market days. Ms. Burson is also becoming a certified Farmers Market specialist.

#### B. RECREATION BROCHURE

Chris Worland reported on the draft Recreation Brochure for the next season, which should be distributed to residents on June 2, with registration for classes and events beginning on June 9, and the first meeting of classes on July 7. *A formatted draft of the brochure will be distributed* to the Commissioners for review, when it is available. Lloyd Long discussed staff's efforts to keep these programs at an affordable cost.

Commissioner Davis asked the Commission members to go on one or more of the Division excursions, to see first-hand how the process operates. Curtis Brown also noted the possibility of increased cooperation with the Fairfax Community Adult School.

#### C. SUMMER SOUNDS

Beth Sazama reported that Robert Jones has succeeded Marilyn Baker as consultant for the Summer Sounds program, that the advertising budget has been redesigned and streamlined, and that there is discussion of expanding the number of concerts from 6 to 8 in future years. The mix of programs planned for Summer 1997 should provide community members with a variety of options. This year's programs will begin at 6:00 p.m., not 5:30 p.m. as before, and the Gallery restrooms will be open for the convenience of concertgoers.

Commissioner Horne asked staff to explore if it is *possible to televise* the concerts.

#### D. COMMUNITY GARDENS

Bonnie Smith reported on the new Community Garden to be located on the southwest corner of Fountain and Detroit, and distributed a plat of the new gardens which has been prepared by Julie Burson.

#### E. POOL RENOVATION

Chris Worland discussed the proposed renovation of the West Hollywood Park Pool, for which the amount of \$100,000 has been requested from the City Council (\$50,000 from the general fund, and \$50,000 from park bond proceeds). He reviewed the physical plant and pool equipment, much of which is in dire need of improvement.

### V. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Mackler reported on the Social Services Subcommittee's planning for the summit on the public policy implications of the changing conditions of persons living with HIV/AIDS. This summit will be held Tuesday, June 10, from 4 to 9 p.m. Panelists are being selected.

Commissioner Davis reported that the last meeting of chairs of the city boards and commissions had focused largely on discussing and analyzing the election results.

Commissioner Mackler reported on lobbying in Sacramento for the ADAP budget and other Human Services-related items. Tom West was also in Sacramento that day to lobby and gather information for the City.

Commissioners discussed moving their June meeting so that a regular business meeting can be conducted separately from the HIV/AIDS summit. *Staff wil research available meeting space and give the Commission several options at their May meeting.*

Regarding the Human Relations Mutual Assistance Consortium, Commissioner Davis appealed for more participation by the Commission, and wondered whether a staff member could be assigned to attend and participate as well.

Commissioner Horne reported on Mayor Guarriello's concerns about seniors not being able to easily access information and personnel at the Fire and Sheriffs departments, and noted that the Public Safety and Human Services Commissions will be looking into this.

Commissioners asked that Tamar Springer present a brief update on senior programming at the next meeting. Also, at the next meeting, Commissioners would like to see the mission statement for the Public Facilities Commission (PFC).

VI. ITEMS FROM STAFF

A party in honor of retiring Social Services Administrator Jodi Curlee will be held April 30.

VII. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no additional items from the public.

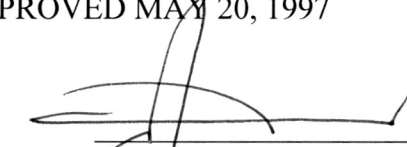
VIII. ADJOURNMENT

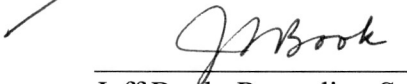
The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

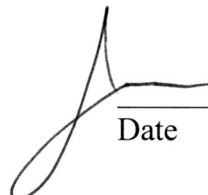
The next meeting will be held at 6 p.m., Tuesday, May 13, 1997, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall.

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MINUTES APPROVED MAY 20, 1997

  
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Steven L. Davis, Chair

  
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Jeff Book, Recording Sec.

  
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Date 10, 1997

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Date 8-11-97