

WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES - MARCH 12, 1996
COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The West Hollywood Human Services Commission was called to order by Chairperson Michaeljohn Horne at 6 p.m., Tuesday, March 12, 1996, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Those choosing to do so recited the Pledge.

B. ROLL CALL:

The Recording Secretary called roll.

Present: Steven Davis, Michaeljohn Horne, Leslie Hull,
Sandra Jacoby Klein, Peter Mackler, Shirley Roberts

Excused: John Nieto

Absent: none

A quorum was present at all times. Staff present included Lloyd Long, Director of Human Services; Daphne Dennis; and Jeff Book.. City Manager Paul Brotzman joined the meeting in progress.

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. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the February 13, 1996, meeting were approved on a motion by Commissioner Klein, seconded by Commissioner Mackler.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Helyne Meshar, the city's Sacramento lobbyist, reported on developments in the State Legislature, where a change of party majority in the Assembly has led to a change of legislative priorities. Among the items discussed were:

1. AB 1982 (Knight), which would, if enforceable, prohibit the state from recognizing same-gender marriages which may occur in other states. The bill has passed the Assembly and is pending in the Senate Judiciary Committee.
2. Assemblyman Knight's concealed weapons bill, which would relax procedures for granting licenses.
3. Funding for AIDS services.
4. Continuing efforts for the City's own legislation to provide domestic partner benefits for public employees.

5. Legislation and rulemaking affecting seniors, including revision of the Older Californians Act.
6. Welfare reform and prison construction.

Commissioner Mackler noted that Assemblyman Knight has introduced a follow-up bill, AB 3227, which has the same purpose as AB 1982 but may be worded in a way that is more likely to withstand a legal challenge.

B. SOCIAL SERVICES: QUESTIONS FOR MID-YEAR REPORT

Daphne Dennis presented draft questions to be submitted to contract agencies for inclusion in their mid-year reports. Commissioner Davis suggested that agencies also be asked whether they follow up on referrals issued by their offices.

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

A. REPORT ON HIV LEGAL SERVICES DELIVERY

A memorandum from Tom West, which reviews the recent report on the provision of legal services to persons living with HIV, was distributed. Commissioners Klein and Davis discussed the need for reforming legal services delivery.

On a motion by Commissioner Klein, seconded by Commissioner Davis, the Commission endorsed the report and directed that the report be presented to the City Council with the Commission's recommendation that they also endorse it.

B. UPDATE ON MUNICIPAL WATER SYSTEM

Kendrick Okuda and Pankaj Parekh of the Los Angeles Department of Water & Power were present to address questions of the safety of municipal water. The eastern side of the City is supplied by DWP with water from the Owens Valley, and the western side of the City is supplied by the Metropolitan Water District (via the City of Beverly Hills) with water from the Colorado River. Water is treated and filtered before delivery.

Mr. Parekh discussed the outbreak of cryptosporidium in Milwaukee, where 400,000 people fell ill, and 98 died. All of those who died were persons with immuno-suppression conditions.

Mr. Parekh said that persons with T-cell counts below 250 should avoid drinking municipal water, because it has not been filtered to the degree that would remove all substances that are potentially harmful to persons with immune disorders. This is the recommendation of the Centers for Disease Control. He also noted that bottled water also does not meet this standard, unless it has been filtered to a tolerance of one micron. Persons in this category should either drink microfiltered water, or water which has been brought to a rolling boil for at least a minute.

C. MUTUAL ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT

The Commission reviewed the draft Human Relations Mutual Assistance Agreement with the County. On a motion by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Mackler, the Commission recommended approval of the Agreement to the Council.

D. JOINT MEETING WITH CITY COUNCIL

Topics raised for possible inclusion in the April 15 joint meeting with the Council included the social services funding process, healthy city issues, public image and media presentation of the city, legal services reform, disaster preparedness, youth services, the Disabilities Advisory Council, and the library plan.

Prior to the April Commission meeting, Commissioner Horne will meet with Mr. Long and Mayor Heilman to establish an agenda for the joint meeting.
agenda

V. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION:

A. SUBCOMMITTEES

1. Legislative Action Re: HIV/AIDS

Commissioner Mackler distributed a report on current bills that are relevant to HIV and AIDS issues.

B. LIAISONS

1. Chairs Meeting

Commissioner Horne reported on the most recent Chairs Meeting.

2. Senior Advisory Council

Commissioner Davis attended funeral services at Forest Lawn for Lester Hirsch, former chair of SAC. The State Senate has been adjourned in Lester's memory.

3. Community Relations Working Group

This group will meet on March 25 from 2 to 4 p.m. at City Hall.

C. OTHER ITEMS

Women Helping Women

Commissioner Klein visited the Talkline program of Women Helping Women recently, and reported that the operators were well-trained and well-supervised.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE STAFF:

There were no additional items from the staff.

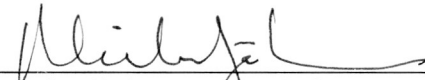
VII. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC:

There were no additional items from the public.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT:

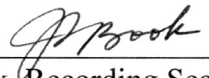
At 8:15 p.m., the Commission was adjourned in memory of Lester Hirsch, Paul Self, Tom Larkin, and Rex Reece, Ph.D. The next meeting will be held in the same location on Tuesday, April 9, 1996, unless otherwise announced.

MINUTES APPROVED APRIL 9, 1996



Michaeljohn Horne, Chair

Date



Jeff Book, Recording Secretary

Date