

**WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES - NOVEMBER 14, 1995**  
**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, November 14, 1995, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

In the absence of a U.S. flag, those present postponed reciting the Pledge.

B. ROLL CALL:

The Recording Secretary called roll.

Present: Steven Davis, Michaeljohn Horne, Leslie Hull,  
Peter Mackler, John Nieto, Shirley Roberts

Excused: Sandra Jacoby Klein

Absent: none

A quorum was present at all times. Staff present included Lloyd Long, Director of Human Services; Jodi Curlee, Social Services Administrator; Curtis Brown, Recreation Services Administrator; Tom West; and Jeff Book.

C. POSTING OF AGENDA:

The Recording Secretary reported that notices were posted properly.

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 October 10, 1995, meeting were approved on a motion by Commissioner Mackler, seconded by Commissioner Davis.

III. REORGANIZATION:

Commissioner Horne invited members to discuss current and future directions for the Commission. Commissioner Mackler said the Commission may face hard choices in the next agency funding cycle, and the Commission therefore should put more emphasis on its skills in negotiation and empowerment. He noted that how the Commission responds to budgetary pressures and priorities will have a significant impact on the community.

Commissioner Davis said the Commission needs to be tougher in insisting on two-way relationships with funded agencies, and realistic in evaluating how much work an agency is accomplishing in its exchange for its funding. He said that some agencies have tended to take the City and the Commission for granted, and that this needs to be corrected.

Commissioner Nieto said he believes the Human Services Commission developed its reputation as a relatively easy-going Commission because of the personalities of the appointed members, and that he has confidence in the Commission's current direction.

Commissioner Roberts said that Commissioner Horne has done a very good job of bringing the members of the Commission together in a congenial working relationship.

Commissioner Hull said that all the members of the Commission have leadership skills and are passionate about Commission business. She said it was important within the context of warm relationships among members for each person always to feel comfortable enough to disagree when the occasion calls for it.

A. Election of Chairperson

Lloyd Long declared the floor open for nominations for the office of Chairperson.

Commissioner Nieto nominated Michaeljohn Horne. Lloyd Long called for any further nominations. Hearing none, he declared nominations closed, and called for a vote on the nomination of Michaeljohn Horne. The vote was 6 to 0, and Michaeljohn Horne was elected. Commissioner Horne expressed appreciation to the Commission for their support in choosing him to continue, and expressed confidence in the staff and the direction of Commission business.

B. Election of Vice Chairperson

Commissioner Horne declared the floor open for nominations for the office of Vice Chairperson. Leslie Hull nominated Steven Davis. Commissioner Horne called for any further nominations. Hearing none, he declared nominations closed, and called for a vote on the nomination of Steven Davis. The vote was 6 to 0, and Steven Davis was elected.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. SITE VISITS TO SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCIES

Jodi Curlee reviewed the proposed list of visits and presentations, and the Commission received and filed the information.

Commissioner Mackler asked about changes at GLCSC West Hollywood Cares. Jodi Curlee said that former program director Mike Reynolds is no longer at the program, which is being run by Antonio LeMons in preparation for hiring a new program director.

V. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION:

A. L.A. Human Relations Commission Mutual Assistance Consortium:

Commissioner Davis reported on the most recent HRMAC meeting at City Hall in the City of Carson, which has a demographic mixture of 25 percent Latino, 25 percent black, 25 percent Asian/Pacific Islander, and 25 percent white. The Commission agreed for the City to host the January meeting of HRMAC, on Thursday, January 11, probably from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

B. Other Reports:

HIV Subcommittee: Tom West reported that the video concerning persons who are HIV negative is being shown on cable, and will be shown on additional systems in the future. A seminar on working opportunities for persons who are HIV+ is being held Nov. 15 at the Bel Age Hotel, followed by a program on Jan. 15 for HIV+ persons who are already working. Leslie Hull noted that there will be a quilt panel display at City Hall for World AIDS Day.

SAC Meeting: Commissioner Davis reported that the Senior Advisory Council met for the first time since its two-month summer hiatus. A special award was presented to Frances Eisenberg.

Chairs Meeting: Commissioner Horne reported that Public Safety discussed big-stakes gambling in the city's parks -- an issue which will be brought to the Community Relations Working Group. The Hart House is under renovation and will become a spot for City-sponsored retreats as well as the home of the Actors Studio.

DAC Meeting: Jodi Curlee reported on the Disabilities Advisory Council meeting.

Regarding the Library, Lloyd Long reported that Council has established the goal of building a new library by 2000, and Mayor Heilman and Councilmember Martin are going to lead a committee to plan, design, site select, and construct.

#### VI. ITEMS FROM THE STAFF:

Lloyd Long reported that Beth Sazama, the new special events coordinator, begins work on Nov. 16. Lloyd thanked Curtis Brown and his staff for the outstanding production of Halloween, and Sam Baxter and his staff for the outstanding clean-up that had Santa Monica Boulevard restored by early the next morning.

The Commission's joint meeting with the City Council will probably be scheduled for January.

Regarding the GLCSC Drop-In Center, Jodi Curlee said the Center is underway with its lease on the new site.

Daphne Dennis has returned from her trip to Japan, where she presented the City's Healthy Cities policies at a conference. A more extensive report on the trip is planned for December.

#### VII. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no items from the public at this time.

#### VIII. JOINT SESSION WITH PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION

*At this point, the Commission momentarily suspended to allow the Public Safety Commission to convene for joint session. Public Safety Commissioners present included John Altschul, Chair; Ruth Williams, Norma Kemper, Bronwen McGarva, Donna Saur, Bradley Sullivan, and Adam Devejian. Staff present were Susan Dueñas, Eugene Alper, and intern Leslie Krane. Captain Richard Odenthal and Sgt. Mike Parker of the Sheriff's Department were also present. The meeting recommenced with Chairpersons Horne and Altschul presiding. Daphne Dennis of the Human Services staff also joined the meeting at this point.*

#### A. PROSTITUTION TASK FORCE FOLLOW-UP

Jodi Curlee reported on the recommendations of the Prostitution Task Force, and introduced Danny Jenkins of the GLCSC Youth Program, which is the City's leading contractor on the issues of street youth. Among other recommendations,

the Task Force has called for greater cooperation from the judges of the Beverly Hills Municipal Court.

Mr. Altschul said that the Public Safety Commission invites the judges to attend about once every two years, and that it is about time for another meeting to occur. The Commissions agreed to form a subcommittee composed of two members of each Commission, plus Capt. Richard Odenthal and Buddy Goldman of the Sheriff's Department, to meet with the judges, invite them to a future meeting, and explain what the Commissions' agendas would be.

The subcommittee will consist of Human Services Commissioners Leslie Hull and Michaeljohn Horne, and Public Safety Commissioners Ruth Williams and Bradley Sullivan, as well as Mr. Odenthal and Mr. Goldman.

Timeline for initial subcommittee meeting is sometime in the next two weeks, and aiming for a public meeting with the judges in late January.

B. TEENAGE GANGS

Captain Odenthal introduced Sgt. Mike Parker, who reported that there is some good news and some bad news regarding gang activity in West Hollywood. He said the department keeps close watch on youths banding together, but that in many cases this is due to a need for youth activity, rather than any preparation for criminal activity. Youth from other places in the county do move here, and some of them have pre-existing gang ties, but this usually comes to the attention of the Sheriff's office very quickly. While some problems come into West Hollywood from other places, we are fortunate in not having cohesive internal youth gangs in the city.

C. NON-STREET YOUTH

Jodi Curlee, Curtis Brown, and Daphne Dennis reported on programs for non-street youth, including a teen drop-in center, classes, special events, sports, a swimming team, and a youth talent show. Mr. Altschul commented on the good priorities in the draft report distributed in the packets. Norma Kemper asked if businesses might want to donate their used computers for use by youth in city programs, and staff will research this possibility.

Michaeljohn Horne asked whether there is a transgender prostitution problem in the area of the Yukon Mining Company on Santa Monica Boulevard. Danny Jenkins of GLCSC Youth said that while that area has becoming a gathering spot for transgender persons, it has not generally developed into a problem.

D. CRWG/CMWG

The Human Services Commission had requested the Public Safety Commission to designate liaisons to the Community Relations Working Group and the Crystal Methamphetamine Working Group, and Commissioners and staff briefly reviewed the purposes of both groups.

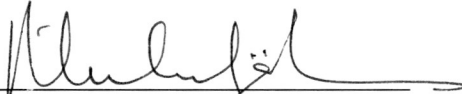
Public Safety Commissioners Ruth Williams and John Altschul were designated

as liaisons to the Community Relations Working Group, and Commissioners Adam Devejian and Bradley Sullivan were designated as liaisons to the Crystal Meth Working Group.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:50 p.m., the Commission adjourned in memory of Bruce Decker. The next meeting will be held in the same location on Tuesday, December 12, 1995, unless otherwise announced.

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MINUTES APPROVED DECEMBER 12, 1996

  
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Michaeljohn Horne, Chair

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Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeff Book, Recording Secretary

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Date