

**WEST HOLLYWOOD
DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES
OCTOBER 27, 2010**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Anna Swett called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Rick Watts led the pledge.

3. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Lisa Andreson, Suzanne Dietrich, Tom Pavich, Anna Swett, Rick Watts

ABSENT: Debra Chodash

STAFF PRESENT: Craig Rhea, Kim Patterson, Leslie Isenberg

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda for October 27, 2010 was approved.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes for September 22, 2010 were approved.

6. PERFORMANCE BY NEW DIRECTIONS CHOIR

7. WELCOME BY MAYOR PRO TEMPORE JOHN DURAN

Councilmember Duran thanked the DAB for their important work, and called them the unsung heroes who are as beautiful as the New Directions' song.

8. 2010 DISABILITY SERVICE AWARD PRESENTATIONS

Councilmember Duran presented Yola Dore with the Lovedy Brydon Differently Abled Individual Award, introducing her as an active Eastside member and a fierce advocate for the City and people living with disabilities.

Boardmember Lisa Andreson presented the Business Award to WeHo Copy Center. Owner Luis Rocha thanked the DAB for the award and said his motto is to "just be nice to everyone."

9. REMARKS BY BOARD CHAIR

Board Chair Anna Swett spoke about her 17 years of service as a County peer advocate, and thanked the City for giving her strength and a sense of permanence for the first time in her life.

10. REMARKS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Suzanne Dietrich promoted early detection for breast cancer and encouraged both men and women to get a mammogram.

Rick Watts reported the various services that the City offers to people living with disabilities and urged the audience to get involved.

Tom Pavich, with his arm in a cast, said that after his recent car accident he knew that the City was the best place to be for a person living with a disability. He announced that there is an opening for a Board member on the DAB and suggested that those interested apply.

Lisa Andreson encouraged people to hold on when they face challenges.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

Councilmember Lindsey Horvath spoke briefly in a hoarse voice, thanking the DAB for their great work.

Jeanne Dobrin spoke about the fact that 25% or more of people over 50 have hearing impairments and thanked the City for providing assistance for people with hearing disabilities. She also acknowledged Dial-a-Ride and real-time captioning.

Dr. Dennis O'Brien shared his life story of having 12 mental and physical disabilities and overcoming them to earn several PhD's. He said that discrimination against people living with disabilities and the stigma surrounding them must go.

David Eichman, Chairperson of the Transportation Commission, reported that a recent joint meeting with Transportation and Public Safety addressed the pedestrian safety issue. He also announced that additional safety arrows have been added on Sunset Boulevard to enhance safety.

Councilmember Abbe Land spoke about implementing the General Plan and thanked the DAB for their invaluable work.

Sam Borelli, Chairperson of the Public Safety Commission, encouraged the DAB to keep up the good work.

James Chud, a new resident of West Hollywood living in the Sierra Bonita Apartments, said that the services offered here are "a cut above" and that he intends on applying for the open DAB position.

12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. \$20,000 NOD AWARD

Linda Demmers, the City's Library Consultant, gave an update on acquisition possibilities for the new West Hollywood Library from the 2006 National Organization on Disability award of \$20,000 to enhance services for people living with disabilities.

13. 2010 DISABILITY SERVICE AWARD PRESENTATION

Mayor John Heilman presented the West Hollywood Community Housing Corporation with the Non-Profit Service Award, thanking them for creating safe and

secure permanent housing for the past 25 years. Thomas Mann, Board Chair for WHCHC thanked the DAB for the award and invited them to the Nov. 6th groundbreaking of their new 1234 N. Hayworth project.

Councilmember Jeff Prang spoke to the global view of disability and thanked the 2010 awardees and the Board for their outstanding work.

14. NEW BUSINESS

A. PATH (PEOPLE ASSISTING THE HOMELESS)

Rudy Salinas, PATH Street Outreach Director, gave a presentation on the demographics of the homeless population in West Hollywood and PATH's outreach to the chronically homeless to provide emergency shelter and permanent housing.

15. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Craig Rhea made the following announcements:

A. Annual Congress of Commissions & Advisory Boards

- Monday, November 29th, 6:30pm in Fiesta Hall at Plummer Park

B. Upcoming DAB Meeting:

- Next meeting on Wednesday, December 8th – will be held in the Rent Stabilization Hearing Room at City Hall. This is a combined November & December meeting as the 11/24 & 12/22 meetings were cancelled due to holiday schedules.

C. Additional Information:

- This meeting of the DAB will air tomorrow (Thursday, October 28th) at 12 noon on City Channel 10.

16. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

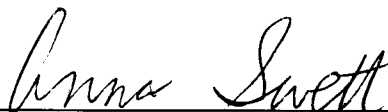
17. BOARD REPRESENTATIVE TO REPORT TO COUNCIL

Tom Pavich volunteered to report to Council offices about the Board's October 27th meeting.

18. PERFORMANCE BY NEW DIRECTIONS CHOIR

19. ADJOURNMENT

The Disabilities Advisory Board adjourned at 8:02 p.m. to the reception in the back of the Auditorium and to the next DAB meeting on Wednesday, December 8, 2010 at 6:00pm in the Rent Stabilization Hearing Room on the first floor of City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood, CA 90069.



Chairperson – Anna Swett