

**WEST HOLLYWOOD  
DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD  
MINUTES  
APRIL 27, 2011**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Anna Swett called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Debra Chodash led the pledge.

**3. ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Lisa Andreson, Debra Chodash, Suzanne Dietrich, Anna Swett, Rick Watts

STAFF PRESENT: Craig Rhea, Andi Lovano

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda for April 27, 2011 was approved.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes for December 8, 2010 were approved.

**6. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Vikee Waltrip of West Hollywood spoke about the benefits for the deaf community of the video relay phone system over the TTY line that City Hall uses. She asked that the new West Hollywood Library include services for the deaf community.

Mark Helmuth of West Hollywood spoke about ensuring that the new West Hollywood Library include services for the deaf community, including new sign language books and a video relay phone. He also noted that there aren't many resources for the deaf community at City Hall.

Timothy Silver of West Hollywood spoke about the need for earthquake preparedness for the deaf community.

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. EVALUATION OF CITY-SUBSIDIZED TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS – Phase One Recommendations**

The Board reviewed the proposed phase one recommendations and were supportive of them.

Areas of concern noted by DAB members:

- Debra Chodash would like the City to reconsider installing a seat or bench with a back for the CityLine stop at the corner of Gardner & Willoughby.
- Rick Watts would like users of the proposed taxi swipe card system to know the balance on their card prior to taking a taxi.

**B. WEST HOLLYWOOD COMMUNITY HOUSING CORPORATION – PROJECT UPDATE**

The Board received a project update from Jesse Slansky of the West Hollywood Community Housing Corporation about Hayworth House (1234 Hayworth Avenue) and a presentation about a new project at 1145-1151 N. La Brea Avenue with 32 units. The proposed project on La Brea will include 15 units for people living with special needs, including three units for transition-age youth between the ages of 18 and 25 who have aged-out of the foster care system.

**8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. 2011 WEST HOLLYWOOD BOOK FAIR**

*Tabled for a future meeting.*

**B. BOARDMEMBER REPORTS ON OTHER CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD ADVISORY BOARD AND COMMISSION MEETINGS**

Members of the Disabilities Advisory Board reported on other City Advisory Board and Commission meetings they attended in February 2011:

<u>DAB Member</u>	<u>Board/Commission Meeting Attended &amp; Highlights</u>	<u>Meeting Date</u>
Lisa Andreson	<u>Lesbian &amp; Gay Advisory Board</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mayor Pro Tem Duran was in attendance;</li> <li>• The discussion focused around the gay culture in West Hollywood and whether it was disappearing.</li> </ul>	2/10/11
Debra Chodash	<u>Public Safety Commission</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reports from the Sunset Strip Business Association, the Sheriff’s Department, and the Fire Department</li> <li>• “Stop Means Stop” – a public safety education campaign has been initiated to encourage motorists to come to a complete stop at stop signs.</li> </ul>	2/14/11
Suzanne Dietrich	<u>Public Facilities Commission</u> – Discussions focused on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The new bus bench in front of City Hall;</li> <li>• The new fountain at the Sal Guarriello Veteran’s Memorial Park.</li> </ul>	2/9/11
Anna Swett	<u>Rent Stabilization Commission</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Held a hearing on a Westmount rental unit in which the tenants hadn’t paid rent increases for several years.</li> </ul>	2/10/11

Rick Watts	<u>Human Services Commission</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gay &amp; Lesbian Center grants for Seniors aging in place and for LGBTQ foster youth.</li> <li>• Report from Outreach &amp; Publicity Task Force;</li> <li>• There's a possibility of using the former Partners Adult Day Healthcare space for other non-profit organizations.</li> </ul>	2/8/11
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**C. RULES AND PROCEDURES GOVERNING THE DISABILITY SERVICE AWARDS**

The Disabilities Advisory Board conducted its annual review of the Rules and Procedures Governing the Disability Service Awards and decided to make no changes at this time.

**9. ITEMS FROM STAFF**

Craig Rhea made the following announcements:

**A. The Senior Health Fair will be held on Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 2pm at Plummer Park.**

- The following DAB members have signed up to staff the DAB table for the event: Suzanne (9:30am-12n); Lisa (12n-2pm); Rick – all day (9:30am-2pm).

**B. Future DAB Meetings:**

- **May 25<sup>th</sup> DAB meeting cancelled;** will meet on May 18<sup>th</sup> with HIV/Substance Abuse Prevention Providers from 10:30am to 12noon at Kings Road Park, 1000 N. Kings Road.
- **June 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Linda Demmers plans to be here to continue discussions about the \$20,000 NOD award. The DAB will review the 2011 DAB Awards nomination form for release on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

**C. Notice of Interest for Reappointment–** Forms are due this Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup>. All DAB members indicated that they had already turned in their forms.

**D. Other:**

- **Mayoral Installation** – took place on Monday evening, April 25<sup>th</sup> at West Hollywood Park Auditorium. The new Mayor is John Duran and the Mayor Pro Tempore is Jeffrey Prang.
- **Barney's Beanery Firehouse Chili Cook Off** – This Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, from noon to 4pm at Barney's Beanery, 8447 Santa Monica Blvd. The event is free; chili tasting tickets are \$10.
- **"Teen Bullying"** – Free community event on Wed, May 11<sup>th</sup>, from 11:30am to 1:30pm at the NCJW/LA Council House, 543 N. Fairfax Ave.
- **Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>** – Free Document Shredding & Electronic Waste Collection Event – 9am to 3pm, City Hall Parking Lot
- **Citywide Yard Sale** – Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>

**10. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**11. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS/LIAISON REPORTS**

Chairperson Swett reported that she had attended the Abilities Expo and was very impressed. She reported that she attends the LMS adult day healthcare program where there was a problem with some younger men taking food from the trays of Seniors and people living with mental disabilities; the problem has been rectified.

Boardmember Rick Watts reported that he was inspired by wheelchair participants in the L.A. Marathon. He noted that June 5<sup>th</sup> marks the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1<sup>st</sup> reported case of AIDS and that the AIDS Lifecycle kicks off that weekend; Rick will be on the Volunteer Advance Team. He asked that the meeting be adjourned in honor of his father, James Nollie Watts, Sr., who turned 92 on March 23<sup>rd</sup> and who organized funds to establish Cibola General Hospital in Grants, New Mexico, 50 years ago.

Boardmember Lisa Andreson spoke about charging \$1 per person at the City's annual Halloween Carnival to help community members in need.

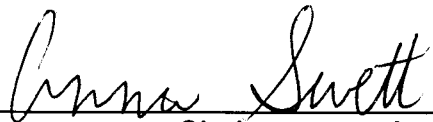
Debra Chodash noted that there are carcinogens in lipstick that can cause cancer.

**12. BOARD REPRESENTATIVE TO REPORT TO COUNCIL**

Lisa Andreson will report to Council offices about the Board's April 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

The Disabilities Advisory Board adjourned at 8:05 p.m. in honor of James Nollie Watts, Sr., who helped establish Cibola General Hospital, the first hospital in Grants, New Mexico, 50 years ago and who recently celebrated his 92nd birthday. James Watts, Sr. is the father of Boardmember Rick Watts. The Board adjourned to its meeting with the City's HIV Prevention & Substance Abuse Treatment Providers on Wednesday, May 18, 2011 at 10:30am at Kings Road Park, 1000 N. Kings Road, West Hollywood, California 90069.



Chairperson – Anna Swett