

**WEST HOLLYWOOD
DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES
March 24, 2004**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Vice-Chair Anne Semonco called the meeting to order at 6:37 pm.

2. ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Norman Cherner, Jordan Chinich, Debra Chodash, Phyllis Coto, Bryan Dahlgren, Yola Dore, and Ann Semonco

ABSENT: Suzanne Dietrich and Joel Ring

ALSO PRESENT: Staff Liaisons Leslie Isenberg and Kim Patterson

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The agenda of March 24, 2004 was approved with the amendment that Item 7A would be tabled because Steve Bailey was unable to attend.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the March 1, 2004 meeting were approved with corrections.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Michael Arrigo, former DAB member, congratulated the DAB on the closed captioning resolution that passed at the last City Council meeting. He made an announcement about Media Access which is for people with disabilities who have worked in the entertainment industry. He also demonstrated the talking pill bottle, and made a complaint about the Checker Cab Company.

6. STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Inna Epshteyn, Disability Specialist, handed out two charts reporting on client services at the West Hollywood Comprehensive Services Center. She reported that the social club is growing.

Ms. Isenberg congratulated the DAB on their participation on the captioning item at the City Council meeting. The City Council passed the item, which essentially asked them to discuss captioning their

meetings as part of the budget process. The Council discussed the item with the intention of captioning their meetings beginning July 1, 2004. Until the budget passes however, nothing is certain. Leslie will inform the DAB of when the budget will be placed on the Council agenda. She will also provide the DAB with an update once the budget is passed. Leslie reported that the Senior Health Fair will be held on Wed., May 19, from 10 am – 2 pm. Ms. Coto suggested that the DAB have a booth there, and this will be discussed at the next DAB meeting. Ms. Isenberg distributed a City rental form which now has contact information regarding disabled access. Chairperson Cherner said that the landlord form is where he'd like to add the accessibility information. Ms. Isenberg reported that the scrolling announcement for the bus to the Hollywood Bowl received responses from only two households so this matter won't be pursued further.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Outdoor Dining

This item was tabled because the City staff from the Community Development Department was unable to attend. Ms. Isenberg requested that the DAB give her questions or concerns within the week so that she can submit them to CDD staff for response.

B. Pedestrian Safety

Traffic Deputy Sean Ruiz discussed laws and enforcement issues regarding bicyclists and pedestrians. Department of Transportation staff member Walter Davis discussed pedestrian safety issues.

C. Liaisons

Due to time constraints this item was tabled, with Ms. Dore abstaining from the vote.

D. Workplan Priorities

This item was also tabled, with Ms. Dore abstaining from the vote. However, those DAB members who had completed the priorities list gave them to Ms. Isenberg so that she could make a report on the results at the April meeting.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Joint Meeting

DAB members gave their initial input to Chairperson Cherner for the upcoming Joint Meeting with the Human Services Commission and Advisory Board Chairs. Chair Cherner requested that any additional input be given to him prior to the April 13th meeting.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no additional public comment.

10. DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Ms. Semonco reported that very few members of the public have attended the MTA public meetings. A vote is scheduled for April 1.

Ms. Dore reported that the website for Senator Kuehl's healthcare bill is sb921.org. She also announced the Senior Health Fair in May, the Russian Fair on May 1st, an excursion to Disney Hall on April 18th, and an upcoming seminar on identity theft (date to be announced).

Ms. Coto announced that there will be an ADA update training on May 21st. The cost is \$75, but there are scholarships available. She requested that this item be placed on next month's agenda.

Mr. Dahlgren said that two of the groups that he works with are interested in having booths at the Senior Health Fair. Ms. Isenberg informed him that the booths are limited to non-profits.

Ms. Chodash expressed interest in accompanying Ms. Semonco to the MTA meeting to speak about bus shelters.

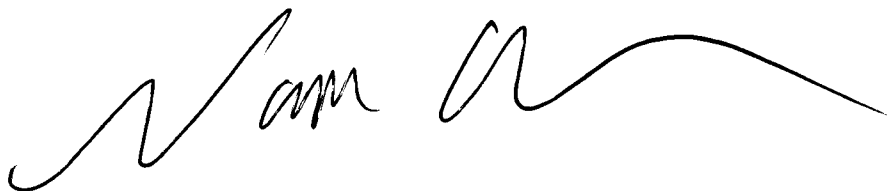
Chairperson Cherner requested that the upcoming televised DAB meeting in October be agendized.

11. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Cherner adjourned the Disabilities Advisory Board meeting at 8:52 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 28 at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Conference Room of City Hall.

DAB Chair Norman Cherner

G: human/soc-svcs/misc/Disabilities Advisory Board/minutes-032404

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Norman Cherner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Norman Cherner,
CHAIRPERSON