

**WEST HOLLYWOOD  
DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD  
MINUTES  
AUGUST 25, 2004**

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

Chair Cherner called the meeting to order at 6:48 pm, after a group photo was taken for the Annual Congress.

**2. SWEARING IN:**

New Board member, Harrison Kline-Aguado, was sworn in by Daphne Dennis. He introduced himself and added that he is eager to work on the Board to "lighten the burden of all of our fellow citizens".

**3. ROLL CALL:**

**PRESENT:** Norman Cherner, Debra Chodash, Bryan Dahlgren, Suzanne Dietrich, and Ann Semonco

**ABSENT:** Jordan Chinich, Phyllis Coto, Joel Ring

**ALSO PRESENT:** Staff Liaisons Daphne Dennis and Kim Patterson

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** The agenda of August 25, 2004 was approved.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The minutes of the July 28, 2004 meeting were approved with the addition that there was unanimous approval of the resolution of Member Dahlgren to enforce Public Right-of-Way.

**6. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Roz Helfand, co-coordinator of the West Hollywood Book Fair, announced the upcoming 2004 Book Fair to be held on Sun., Oct. 3. There will be 150 authors, 8 stages, workshops, kids' activities, and more. She asked for volunteers from the DAB to help out.

**7. STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Inna Epshteyn, Disability Specialist, was unable to attend.

Ms. Dennis distributed brochures for National Disability Mentoring Day on Wed., Oct. 20. She also announced that a raised bed garden plot specifically designed for gardeners with disabilities is available at one of the City's gardens. Thirdly, she gave an update on the status of board actions taken this year.

Chair Cherner suggested that the City be nominated for a disability award, especially in recognition of the closed captioning at City Council meetings. He also raised the issue that Mr. Ring has addressed for the City's apartment registration form to include disabled accessibility features.

Mr. Dahlgren noted that on some City forms there are only four disabilities listed: HIV, wheelchair, hearing and walker. He would like to add vision impairment.

Ms. Semonco said that she has been unable to get a direct phone number for Inna Epshteyn.

Ms. Dennis responded that she will look into all of the above items.

## **8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

### **a. Dispute Resolution Services**

David Helie, Program Coordinator for Dispute Resolution Services, gave an update on the services his agency provides. They have a new office at 6720 Melrose Ave., and offer confidential mediation and phone conciliation. Their service opens up communication between parties and have a 96% resolution record. The disabled, seniors and low-income persons receive a waiver of the \$50 fee.

### **b. Disabilities Awareness Month**

The DAB reviewed the draft October DAB agenda. Chair Cherner suggested that previous winners of the Disabilities Awareness Month awards be invited to this year's meeting, and that Pavillon's be recognized since they were unable to attend last year's meeting to receive their award due to the strike. He also made two corrections to the agenda, to change the date to 2004 (from 2003), and to make a change to the Sixth Annual Awards Presentations.

**9. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Israel Gamburd of Gamburd Medical Equipment and Services announced that his company installs grab bars, ramps, door openers, and medical equipment, and makes home modifications.

**10. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:**

Mr. Dahlgren welcomed Mr. Aguado to the Board.

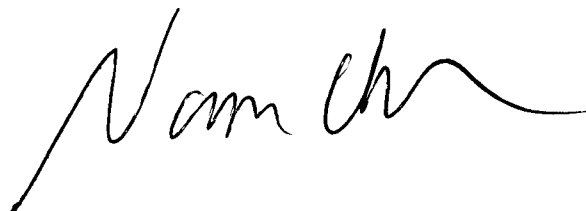
Ms. Semonco announced some proposed bus changes, including for a Rapid 217 line. The next public meeting of the MTA Governance Council will be held on Thurs., Sept. 2 at 3 p.m. at the La Cienega Tennis Courts. She said that Ms. Coto spoke at the August public meeting and her comments were valuable for the Governance Council.

Ms. Dietrich announced that Janine McDonough, founder and director of the City of Hope's Positive Image Program, is confirmed to speak at the October DAB meeting.

Chair Cherner said that he is looking forward to hearing Ms. McDonough and thanked Ms. Dietrich for inviting her. He announced that the Coalition for Economic Survival will hold a workshop to train people to become lead poisoning prevention advocates, sometime in September or October. Lead is a prime cause of disabilities and injury, in particular to children. Anyone who is interested can contact Kristin Cook of the City's Public Safety Division at [kcook@weho.org](mailto:kcook@weho.org).

**11. ADJOURNMENT:**

Chair Cherner adjourned the Disabilities Advisory Board meeting at 8:07 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 22 at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Conference Room of City Hall.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nam Cherner", is written at the bottom of the page.

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Norman Cherner,  
CHAIRPERSON