

**WEST HOLLYWOOD  
DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD  
MINUTES  
February 25, 2009**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Tom Pavich called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Debra Chodash led the pledge.

**3. ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Debra Chodash, Tom Pavich, Steven Sawyer, Link Schrader, Anna Swett and Rick Watts

**ABSENT:** Suzanne Dietrich

**STAFF PRESENT:** Craig Rhea and Kim Patterson

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda for February 25, 2009 was approved.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes for January 28, 2009 were approved.

**6. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There was no public comment.

**7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business.

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. PROJECT ANGEL FOOD**

Robert Boller, Director of Programs, gave a presentation about the 20-year history of Project Angel Food which has served over 5 million meals to those living with life-threatening illnesses. Project Angel Food has approximately 50 staff members as well as thousands of volunteers. The current budget is \$5 million, 5% of which is from government funding. Of the 2,340 people served, 60 live in West Hollywood.

Board member Steven Sawyer mentioned that he would like Project Angel Food to be considered for placement on the program of the DAB's annual televised meeting in October.

**B. TAXI PROGRAM CHANGES**

Jackie Rocco, Parking Manager, outlined proposed changes to the taxi coupon program. The Board voted unanimously to recommend that the \$112,000 generated

annually from proposed additional taxi license fees be applied to the taxi coupon program, raising the taxi book value from \$24 to \$32, with the understanding that taxi coupon sales would be capped at 12,500 books annually.

### **C. AUTOMATED PUBLIC TOILETS**

The DAB received information from Craig Rhea about the automated public toilet (APT) program in the City of Los Angeles and asked to receive additional information about whether any APT's could be installed in West Hollywood.

## **9. ITEMS FROM STAFF**

Craig Rhea made the following announcements:

### **A. Follow-up from the DAB meeting of January 28, 2009:**

- In checking with the City Clerk's office, if both the Chair & Vice Chair are absent from a Board meeting, those members present can designate someone from among them to run that meeting.
- National Council of Jewish Women/LA's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – The City Council will be doing something (like a proclamation) to recognize this occasion on behalf of the City.
- Steve Grissom Relief Fund Act – Alex Ghaffari and 2 others spoke during public comments at the City Council meeting of February 17<sup>th</sup> and noted that they had received support from the DAB. Councilmember Duran mentioned that he will be going to Washington, DC in March and will speak to Congressman Waxman about this legislation. Mayor Pro Tem Land also mentioned that their voices had been heard on this issue.
- The City Clerk's office will agendize the DAB's recommendation to reduce the size of the Board from 9 to 7 members and take it to Council after the election of March 3<sup>rd</sup>; either on March 16<sup>th</sup> or in April.

### **B. Upcoming DAB Meetings:**

- March 25, 2009 – Kathryn Turk, Program Coordinator for Dispute Resolution Services, will talk about the services they provide to West Hollywood community members.
- April 22, 2009 – Sgt. Jimmy Farrell of the COPPS team will return to talk about safety & crime prevention for people living with disabilities.

### **C. The City's Municipal Election will be held next Tuesday, March 3, 2009. Please vote.**

## **10. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Joseph DePadua, West Hollywood resident, expressed disagreement with the Board's recommendation to reduce the DAB from 9 members to 7.

## **11. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS/LIAISON UPDATES**

Link Schrader announced that this is his last meeting due to his new job in San Diego. He expressed great appreciation for the work of the Board. The Board members and staff thanked Link for his service.

Rick Watts suggested that the City develop a fluorescent bulb disposal site. He also wants to discuss crosswalk safety. Since the DAB has discussed this issue at several meetings in the past and the City Council has recently adopted a Crosswalk

Policy, it was suggested that Rick speak directly to Transportation Manager Terri Slimmer about his concerns.

Steven Sawyer asked for verification that the DAB stipends do not need to be reported to the IRS. Staff confirmed that income under \$600 does not need to be reported; so as long as the Board meets 11 times/year or less, the annual stipend total will not exceed the \$600 threshold.

## **12. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Pavich adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 25, 2009 at 6:00pm in the first floor Community Conference Room at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood, CA 90069.

Tom Pavich

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Chairperson – Tom Pavich