

**WEST HOLLYWOOD  
DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD  
MINUTES  
February 27, 2008**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Tom Pavich called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Debra Chodash led the pledge.

**3. ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Debra Chodash, Suzanne Dietrich, Tom Pavich, Steven Sawyer  
and Rick Watts

ABSENT: Alan Bernstein, Joel Ring and Anna Swett

STAFF PRESENT: Craig Rhea and Kim Patterson

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda for February 27, 2008 was approved.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes for January 23, 2008 were approved.

**6. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Barbara Krupa, Senior Advisory Board member, invited DAB members to join her at the next City Council meeting on March 3, 2008, to address the limited disabled parking at the City's El Tovar parking lot. The issue of free parking for those who use disabled parking placards in City parking lots will be agendized for a future DAB meeting.

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

Sam Baxter, Facilities & Landscape Manager, gave a presentation about the City's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Capital Campaign:

- 1) Phase 1 of the West Hollywood Park Master Plan which will include the construction of a three-story civic building with the new library, meeting rooms, and underground parking. He described the sustainable design elements and increased green space.
- 2) One-stop Community Service Center at City Hall and a 200-space parking structure.
- 3) Phase 1 of the Plummer Park Master Plan which includes the renovation of Fiesta Hall, subterranean parking, and expansion of green space.

Suzanne Dietrich was unanimously selected as the DAB's representative to the Plummer Park (Phase 1) Design Review Committee.

## **B. PAWS/LA & CHIRP/LA**

Steve Wayland of PAWS/LA made a presentation about the services PAWS/LA provides to West Hollywood community members. Winter Speyer, also of PAWS/LA, described the CHIRP/LA program (Comprehensive Housing Information & Referrals for People Living with HIV/AIDS) that includes a hotline, free referrals, and a website for emergency, transitional and permanent housing, as well as other support services. More information can be obtained by checking their website at [www.CHIRPLA.org](http://www.CHIRPLA.org) or by contacting them at [info@chirpla.org](mailto:info@chirpla.org) or 877-724-4775.

## **C. JFS PARTNERS ADULT DAY HEALTH CARE CENTER**

Kimberly Daughton, Director of Partners, described the services they offer to their clients, including nursing care, rehabilitation, social services, and an extensive activity program. They can be reached at 323-883-0330 or [www.jfsla.org](http://www.jfsla.org).

## **8. STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Craig Rhea made the following announcements:

### **A. Future DAB Agenda Items**

- **3/26/08** - West Hollywood Marketing & Visitors Bureau – Presentation about their work and the possibility of undertaking a project promoting West Hollywood to visitors living with disabilities.
- **4/23/08** - Jeff Huffer – Library update (including \$20,000 NOD grant)
- **Capt. Penn** – future date still to be determined.

### **B. Comprehensive Services Center**

The report for December 2007 from Inna Khariton was included in the agenda packets.

### **C. Bicycles on Sidewalks**

The Transportation Commission will review the draft Ordinance at its March or April meeting before it goes to the City Council for action. DAB members will be kept apprised in case anyone would like to attend the Transportation Commission meeting.

### **D. Other/Events**

- Public Safety Awards - Wed, 3/12/08 @ 7pm, West Hollywood Park
- Disaster Survival & Rescue Skills – Free training offered on 3 consecutive Saturdays (4/26, 5/3 & 5/10) from 9am to 4:30pm at Plummer Park.
- The Associated Blind, Inc.'s eSight Careers Network offers an 8-week eLearning Program called "Online networking as a Job Search Tool". It runs from 3/12/08 to 5/6/08. The application deadline is Friday, 2/29. application details and the course's syllabus are available at [www.esight.org](http://www.esight.org).

### **E. Audible Traffic Signals**

It's not too late to weigh in on which intersections in the City would benefit most from the installation of audible traffic signals. Santa Monica at

LaCienega has been the #1 priority mentioned so far. (Also SMB/La Brea, SMB/Fairfax, Sunset/LaCienega, and others.)

#### **9. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Yola Dore, Public Facilities Commissioner, encouraged the DAB members' participation in City events, such as the proclamation and tree planting for National Arbor Day and the General Plan Visioneer training on Sat., March 8. She also encouraged people to attend the Kids' Fair on Sat., April 12<sup>th</sup> in West Hollywood Park.

Michael Arrigo, former DAB member, announced a workshop at Access Headquarters on Wed., March 12 from 9 AM – noon for volunteers interested in assisting seniors who no longer drive. More information is available at [www.asila.org](http://www.asila.org) or 213-270-6055.

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

Steven Sawyer attended the February 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Lesbian & Gay Advisory Board. They are planning a celebration in 2009 marking the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Stonewall. A museum or memorial was mentioned as a way to draw more LGBT people to the City. The Executive Director of Being Alive made a presentation at the LGAB meeting and Steven suggested having Being Alive speak at a future DAB meeting as well. On March 18<sup>th</sup> there will be an Elder/Youth meeting and on April 28<sup>th</sup> there will be an LGBT Town Hall meeting in the Plummer Park auditorium.

Rick Watts announced that the next Rent Stabilization Commission meeting will be on February 28<sup>th</sup>. On February 6<sup>th</sup> there was a follow-up meeting hosted by the City and the MTA about proposed routes for the extension of the Red Line. Another follow-up meeting will be held sometime in April. He also mentioned that a new crosswalk by Cedars Sinai has four bright flashing LED's which flash when the button is pushed. He encouraged others to take a look at it.

Suzanne Dietrich reported on the PAC meeting where pedestrian right-of-way issues were discussed. Sheriffs are now starting to ticket bike riders who ride on the sidewalk. She suggested that the Board educate people about using the proper terminology for people living with disabilities, as opposed to "handicapped" people. She announced that on March 10, Yola Dore will be going into the hospital and suggested that the DAB send her a card since she can't have flowers. She suggested that the Board continue to show its support for the Housing Corporation's Sierra Bonita project, and clarified that the Movietown Plaza project will be five stories along Santa Monica Blvd., gradually getting taller as it goes back.

Chair Pavich suggested that the issues of educational materials and an update on the Sierra Bonita project be agendaized for future meetings. He reported on the Human Services Commission meeting where he presented the DAB's idea for funding. Most of the ideas are out of the purview of the Commission. The biggest problem seems to be that residents don't know what services are available to them.

#### **11. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Pavich adjourned the meeting at 8 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 26, 2008 at 6:00pm in the first floor Community Conference Room at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood, CA 90069.

*Tom Pavich*

---

Chairperson – Tom Pavich