

**WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES – JANUARY 11, 2011**  
**PLUMMER PARK COMMUNITY CENTER**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The West Hollywood Human Services Commission was called to order by Chair Hywel Sims at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 11, 2011, in Art Room 2 at the Plummer Park Community Center, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Commissioner Zangrando.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Ruth Cislowski, Debra Farmer, Chuck Henry, Hywel Sims,  
Mark Zangrando

Not Present: Steven L. Davis.

A quorum was present at all times. City staff members present included Sam Baxter, Director of Human Services; Daphne Dennis, Social Services Administrator; David Giugni, Leslie Isenberg, Craig Rhea, Perri Sloane Goodman, and Jeff Book.

C. POSTING OF AGENDA

The secretary reported notices for the meeting had been posted as required.

D. PROCEDURE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Persons desiring to address the meeting were asked to complete a form.

II MINUTES

The minutes of the November 9, 2010, meeting were approved on a motion by Commissioner Zangrando, seconded by Commissioner Cislowski. The minutes of the November 17, 2010, meeting were approved on a motion by Commissioner Henry, seconded by Commissioner Cislowski

III. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no items from the public.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. YEAR-END REPORT ON SOCIAL SERVICES PROGRAMS

Daphne Dennis reported that reporting on outcome objectives was greatly

improved over the previous year. She said there is approximately \$45,000 in unspent funds, which is recommended for reprogramming at mid-year after examining the impact of anticipated state budget reductions. She discussed expenditures from the urgent fund accounts, and gave examples. Some funds will be returned, either because they were not used, or the expenditure was not approved. Commissioner Henry asked for members to be given copies of that summary.

Leah Ziskin, clinical program coordinator for Women Helping Women, spoke on behalf of Hilary Selvin and WHW staff, to thank the City for its support.

Joel Roberts of PATH spoke about their program numbers, which were lower than desired. He said they had a staff transition and some data was reported incorrectly; they are working with staff to correct this.

Commissioners discussed details of several programs, including legal counseling; benefits and medical updates; mental health for lesbians; Russian Community Center; and Saban Free Clinic.

Jeff Bailey of APLA discussed changes to ADAP enrollment.

Cathy Reback of Friends Research spoke about how West Hollywood community members are allocated in their reports.

Milton Maristela, new director for McIntyre House, also spoke

**B. RE-PROGRAMMING OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE RECOVERY FUNDS**

David Giugni reported that the contract with Rainbow Bridge Community Services was cancelled at the end of 2010. West Hollywood participants were offered alternatives. There is \$51,450 left from the contract, which could be reprogrammed now or included in the next funding cycle.

The Commission discussed alternatives for replacing services, including programs by McIntyre House and Friends Research. Commissioner Henry said there were agencies that had unfunded requests in the last funding cycle, and that if the funds are reprogrammed in this area, an application process should be opened to those doing this kind of work.

Cathy Reback described a program addressing data showing that the longer and more serious a person's use of crystal methamphetamine is, the higher is the chance that the person will become HIV positive – a rising slope from recreational users to chronic users to outpatient treatment to residential treatment. There was a colloquy between Commissioner Henry and Cathy Reback about the agency and program.

Commissioner Cislowski felt the funds should be reallocated in the substance abuse and treatment area, due to priorities established in the prior RFP process. Commissioner Zangrando said he was inclined to keep the funding with Friends Research Institute and McIntyre House.

Commissioner Farmer said she was inclined for the funds to stay in the abuse/prevention area also.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. HOMELESS CENSUS

Leslie Isenberg reported that the 2011 homeless census will be conducted Thursday, January 27, beginning at 8 p.m. Two years ago there were 88 people in the nighttime area.

B. MARCH MEETING DATE

Because the regular meeting room is being used for the municipal election on March 8, the Commission decided to move its March meeting to Tuesday, March 15, in a room to be determined based on availability.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Zangrando spoke about the care and love that Commissioner Henry showed for Commissioner Roberts especially during the last days of her life. Commissioner Henry said that Commissioner Roberts had been on the Commission throughout his own service as a member, and that it was a difficult meeting due to her absence.

Commissioner Sims said he attended the final meeting of the Plummer Park planning group last Saturday, and that the public process on improving the park had been very good. Commissioner Zangrando asked about a dog area, and Sam Baxter said the planned dog area is along Vista, just north of the current project area, and will be implemented once this project is complete.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Craig Rhea said the next planning and coordination meeting for nutrition is at 2.30 p.m., on Thursday, Feb 10, at SOVA on La Brea.

Daphne Dennis welcomed Perri Sloane Goodman, the city's new Transportation Program Administrator.

Daphne Dennis said the February meeting of the Commission will probably be relocated from City Hall due to CTE Academy meetings there.

VIII. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no additional items.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m. in memory and honor of those killed and injured in the Jan 8 attack on Rep. Gabrielle Giffords in Tucson; and in memory of Commissioner Shirley Roberts

Signed:

  
Ruth Cislowski