

WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES – DECEMBER 10, 2002
COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. CALL TO ORDER

The West Hollywood Human Services Commission was called to order by Chair Peter Mackler at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 10, 2002, in the Community Conference Room at 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood.

B. ROLL CALL

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Griffin.

Present: John D'Amico, Steven Davis, Teresa DeCrescenzo,
Ponsella Gratton, Dr. Bill Griffin, Peter Mackler.

Excused: Ruth Cislowski.

A quorum was present at all times. Staff present included Lloyd R. Long, Director of Human Services; Nancy Beard, Recreation Services Administrator; John Keho, senior planner; and Jeff Book.

C. POSTING OF AGENDA

The Secretary reported that 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 request form.

II. MINUTES

The minutes for November 12, 2002, were approved on a motion by Commissioner Griffin, seconded by Commissioner Davis, with Commissioners DeCrescenzo and Gratton abstaining due to absence from that meeting. Commissioner Davis asked that Commissioner D'Amico's item regarding food costs not be lost; it will be scheduled.

III. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Lauren Meister addressed the Commission about recent federal action on homelessness and related issues, and how this could be of use to the city in responding to these issues.

Tripp Mills of the Gay & Lesbian Center spoke about the upcoming Club Freedom party on New Year's Eve.

Commissioner Mackler spoke about the state budget crisis, which is confronting the governor and legislators for current and upcoming years. Commissioner Davis recommended, and the Commission by consensus directed, that staff prepare a letter to the governor regarding the budget crisis, for the chair's signature.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. HALLOWEEN CARNAVAL REPORT

Nancy Beard gave an overview of the 2002 Halloween Carnival, which included an estimated 400,000 participants, and with five entertainment stages (one including the pop star Pink). Although this was a great success, this level of public attendance could pose security and other problems in the future. This will be discussed by City Council on December 16.

Commissioners discussed expanding the size of the festival to make the streets less crowded; adding sale of simple costumes by vendors; discouraging attendance by dogs; and options for child care. It was also noted that the trash spillover goes beyond the immediate boulevard area, and would benefit from a broader cleanup. Lloyd Long said planners will recommend increased sheriff's personnel for the next event, and are discussing other possibilities.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

John Keho, senior planner, invited commissioners to participate in the revision of the city's general plan. This process will take many months, and is being initiated with a January 25 workshop describing the process; a February 8 interactive workshop on general plan issues; and a February 11 night meeting on the east side, for additional workshopping of these issues.

The human services element of the general plan is one aspect which may be updated, in addition to the land-use, zoning, and development issues which are also part of the planning process.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

A. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Commissioner Davis said that although the city's recommended commission by-

laws set July as the time for the election of officers, this commission should continue to elect its officers in November because July follows closely on the appointment of new commissioners; because in social services funding years, July is in the middle of the funding process; and because the draft by-laws are guidelines rather than obligatory.

Commissioner Davis moved, seconded by Commissioner DeCrescenzo, to keep the commission's elections in November each year. This was approved 6 to 0.

The floor was opened for nominations for chair. Commissioner Davis nominated Commissioner Mackler. There were no further nominations. On a motion by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Gratton, nominations were closed and Commissioner Mackler was elected unanimously.

The floor was opened for nominations for vice chair. Commissioner Davis nominated Commissioner D'Amico. There were no further nominations. On a motion by Commissioner Griffin, seconded by Commissioner Gratton, nominations were closed and Commissioner D'Amico was elected unanimously.

Commissioner Mackler asked for the Disabilities Advisory Board to be included in the homeless task force that is being composed.

Commissioner DeCrescenzo said a large group from GLASS will participate in the Club Freedom event again this year.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

There were no further items from staff.

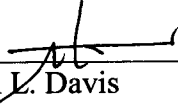
VIII. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no further items from the public.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 14, 2003, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall.

Signed: 
Steven L. Davis

Attest: