

WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES – NOVEMBER 11, 2003
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 6:05 p.m., Tuesday, November 11, 2003, in the Community Conference Room at 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood.

B. ROLL CALL

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Cislowksi.

Present: Ruth Cislowksi, Steven Davis, Teresa DeCrescenzo, Ponsella Gratton, Peter Mackler, Shirley Roberts.

Excused: Dr. Bill Griffin.

A quorum was present at all times. Staff present included Lloyd R. Long, Director of Human Services; Daphne Dennis, Social Services Administrator; 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 October 14, 2003, were approved, on a motion by Commissioner Cislowksi, seconded by Commissioner Gratton.

III. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Tripp Mills of the Gay & Lesbian Center provided condom distribution reports for the end of the last contract year, and discussed their current program.

Robert Halsey spoke about a lunch for social services providers for LGBTQ youth, and discussed outreach to persons under 24.

Rosalynne Blumenstein discussed the addition of emotional support services to her work with Shanti.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. AIDS HEALTHCARE PRESENTATION ON MOBILE TESTING

Daphne Dennis introduced AHF's mobile testing program, which has been developing from month to month.

Karen Moll and Paul Herring spoke about the program, and presented slides to illustrate their program design and results to date. They identified weather and location of the mobile unit as challenges to the services they provide, and said that successes included the opportunity to begin integrating HIV and STD testing, the ability to contact high-risk individuals in a safe and easy location, and support from agencies and the city.

Commissioner DeCrescenzo asked why testing for hepatitis C was not a higher priority, and Karen Moll said they hoped to do so in time, but there were steps to the integration of STD and HIV testing and they were not there yet.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCY ORIENTATION

Daphne Dennis reported on the annual social services agency orientation, which was held last week. All agencies attended, and as usual this provided a good opportunity for program staff to see each other and exchange questions and answers with city staff as well. Commissioner Davis attended.

B. WORLD AIDS DAY

Three different events will receive City assistance on World AIDS Day, December 1.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioner DeCrescenzo said this would be her last meeting as a member. She said there was no specific cause of her decision, but that it was time for someone else to fill this particular role. She said she had spoken with Mayor Prang about replacements, and she is confident the position will be filled by a person of ability and merit.

Commissioners and staff expressed surprise and disappointment at Commissioner DeCrescenzo's decision.

Commissioner Davis noted this was his 10th anniversary on the commission, having joined it in November 1993.

He encouraged members to attend the Vision 2020 meeting on Nov. 19, regarding the city budget.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

A report on Halloween and an update on Recreation activities is anticipated for next month. Lloyd Long reported that an estimated 250,000 people attended the Oct. 31 *Carnaval*, and that it was a cold and wet evening.

VIII. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

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

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

IX. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no additional items from the public.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:23 p.m., in memory of West Hollywood veterans who gave their lives in the nation's service [today marked the dedication of the city's Veterans Memorial], in memory of the 40th anniversary of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy on Nov. 22, 1963, and in memory of actor Art Carney. The next regular meeting is scheduled for 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 9, 2003, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall.

Signed: 
Steven L. Davis

Attest:


