

WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES – OCTOBER 14, 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 6:06 p.m., Tuesday, October 14, 2003, in the Community Conference Room at 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood.

B. ROLL CALL

The Pledge of Allegiance was repeated.

Present: Ruth Cislowski, Steven Davis, Teresa DeCrescenzo, Ponsella Gratton, Dr. Bill Griffin, Peter Mackler, Shirley Roberts.

Excused: None.

A quorum was present at all times. Staff present included Lloyd R. Long, Director of Human Services; Daphne Dennis, Social Services Administrator; David Giugni; 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 September 9, 2003, were approved, on a motion by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Gratton.

III. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no comments from the public at this time.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. DISPUTE RESOLUTION SERVICES

David Helie spoke about the kinds of cases that DRS handles in West Hollywood, and distributed a memorandum about recent case highlights. According to the materials, mediation by DRS is often useful in identifying and resolving personal issues of communication between the parties, which in many cases underlie the specific issue brought to DRS.

B. PATH

Joel Roberts spoke about the program design for the Hollywood shelter, which does not require 30 days clean and sober before entering the program. He said as long as safety and security concerns are met, they accept people without that limitation. The maximum stay is 90 days, but he said realistically it would be much less, because people who were serious about working the program would be moved to PATH's other facility before then.

Commissioner DeCrescenzo asked how people are determined to be serious about the program, and Joel Roberts said it was based on staying clean and sober, using the services available through PATH, and meeting with counselors.

Commissioner Cislowski spoke about the necessity of clear communications to potential clients, so that the program's expectations are understood.

C. SHANTI

Rosalynne Blumenstein spoke about the current projects and reports from Wendy's Hope. She said they are working on getting more people involved with the program, and on collaborating with other agencies. Commissioner DeCrescenzo spoke about identifying the demographics of lesbians in West Hollywood, and Commissioner Davis spoke about the timeframe for this program to show results.

Robert Halsey of City Project spoke about their internet outreach, which has expanded with the addition of three computers. He spoke recently to LGAB, and is working on collaborating with the Center on other outreach. A Models of Pride conference will be held soon in Eagle Rock.

D. APLA

Lee Klosinski distributed information about West Hollywood client usage of APLA over the last three years, as well as a CD with a database of all West Hollywood contacts. He noted several factors behind the differences in contacts for 2001, 2002, and 2003, including the possible impact of tighter eligibility requirements, and fewer funded slots.

Andi Williams, a consultant for APLA, distributed information about The Head Project, dealing with mental health. Additional information will be available soon on their website, www.headproject.org.

V. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Davis noted that election of officers is scheduled for the November meeting.

Commissioner Gratton said the West Hollywood Book Fair was very successful.

Commissioner Cislowksi asked about the two-hour parking limit at West Hollywood Park, and about whether it was possible to give better notice to parents who may feel the two hours is not enough during specific programs or activities.

Commissioner DeCrescenzo asked staff to check on the Audrey Lorde Center, as to whether it is really closed or in some other status.

Commissioner Roberts said the Thursday Farmers Market at West Hollywood Park was off to a good start.

Commissioner Mackler reported on the chairs meeting, and said a new guideline book for boards and commissions will be issued soon. New classes on the Brown Act will also be held.

Commissioner Roberts asked about permit parking for commissioners, and Lloyd Long said staff will check into the current policy.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Lloyd Long noted that the Halloween *Carnaval* is scheduled for Friday, Oct. 31, and that staff is still preparing a final list of entertainment and activities. A report will be brought next month.

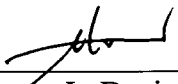
VIII. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no additional items from the public.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 11, 2003, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall.

Signed:



Steven L. Davis

Attest:

