

WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES—OCTOBER 12, 2010

CALL TO ORDER

The West Hollywood Human Services commission was called to order by Vice-Chair Hywel Sims at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 12, 2010, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Blvd.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Commission recited the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Ruth Cislowski, Steven L. Davis, Charles Henry, Shirley Roberts, Hywel Sims, Mark Zangrando

Not present: Debra Farmer

POSTING OF THE AGENDA

Daphne Dennis reported the agenda was posted as required.

PROCEDURE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

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

MINUTES

The minutes of the September 14, 2010 meeting were approved as corrected to reflect the following change in the corrected minutes of July 13, 2010: "In the fifth paragraph on page three, the change was to the social services contract."

ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no items from the public.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

URGENT NEEDS FUND ITEM

David Giugni reported on criteria developed with Commissioners Cislowski and Farmer for distribution of urgent needs funds and rental assistance. It was determined that the Commission could not take action on the proposed criteria because the recommendation was not appropriately worded.

Public speakers on the item included Ava Rose from NCJW, Sam Phillips from Friends Research, and Marina Berkman from JFS Comprehensive Services.

Commissioners discussed the following issues and suggested that criteria for the urgent funds be separated out from criteria for rental assistance, reviewed with staff and Commissioners Cislowski and Farmer, and returned to the next Commission meeting for action. Key discussion points were as follows:

- Developing a simple informed consent to share information so that agencies who administer the funds can communicate with each other and the City to insure that clients do not receive funds from multiple agencies.
- Capping rental assistance at \$1,000 per person, with amount increasing annually based on City Council-approved rental increase percentage.
- Providing an option for review with City staff to exceed cap.
- Not permitting mortgage payments.
- Whether rental assistance available to people disabled by AIDS should have different criteria and limits than are being discussed for this rental assistance program.

PLUMMER PARK MASTER PLAN SCHEMATIC DESIGN

Sam Baxter presented a PowerPoint featuring the schematic design for improvements at Plummer Park. Included in the plans are an underground parking structure, a new pre-school, interior improvements to Fiesta Hall and an orientation of the building entrance to the north. A large sloping lawn area outside of Fiesta Hall would be designed to serve as an outdoor amphitheater-type space for special events and performances. Structures will be removed at the center of the park so that views will extend from Santa Monica Boulevard through the Park to Fountain.

HOMELESS CENSUS COUNT FOR 2011

Leslie Isenberg reported that the City will again “opt in” for the LA County Homeless Services Authority’s census of people who are homeless. The City will coordinate volunteers and law enforcement personnel to conduct the census, which is a “point in time” head count only of people who are homeless. The City will be divided into sections and teams will go out on the evening of January 27, systematically examining every location which might contain people who are homeless. She encouraged Commissioners to join in the census effort.

LESBIAN HEALTH BILL OF RIGHTS AND HEALTH AGENDA

Daphne Dennis reported that the City’s Lesbian Visibility Committee has been working with Councilmember Land’s office and the County Office of Women’s Health to disseminate the Lesbian Health Bill of Rights and develop cultural competency trainings

for health professionals. UCLA will be the convening organization for the continued development of materials and programming.

Commissioner Henry suggested that competency training should be required as part of securing a license to practice medicine in the State.

ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Cislowski reported that the Book Fair was wonderful.

Commissioner Davis indicated that he will be out of town for the next Commission meeting, but that elections for Chair and Vice-Chair should not be postponed.

Commissioner Henry asked staff if the City Council members and their deputies had been invited to the reception for agency directors, and after some discussion, staff was asked to please extend the invitation.

ITEMS FROM STAFF

Daphne Dennis announced the following events and encouraged the Commission to attend:

- Breast Cancer educational event, October 19 from noon to 2 at NCJW.
- Agency orientation meeting, October 26 from 10-11:30 in Rooms 5 and 6 of the Plummer Park Community Center.
- Disability Advisory Board Awards meeting and reception, October 27 from 6 to 8 p.m. at West Hollywood Park Auditorium with Yola Dore, the West Hollywood Copy Center and the West Hollywood Community Housing Corporation as honorees.

ADJOURNEMENT

The meeting was adjourned to the next meeting to be held on Tuesday, November 9, 2010 in the Community Conference Room of City Hall.

Signed: _____

Steven L. Davis

Attest:

J. Book