

WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES – OCTOBER 12, 2004
COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL

I. CALL TO ORDER

The West Hollywood Human Services Commission was called to order by Chair Ruth Cislowski at 6:04 p.m., Tuesday, October 12, 2004, in the Community Conference Room at 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Commissioner Augeri.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Gary Augeri, Ruth Cislowski, Steven Davis, Ponsella Gratton, Charles Henry, Peter Mackler, Shirley Roberts.

A quorum was present at all times. Staff present included Daphne Dennis, Social Services Manager, and David Giugni, Program Administrator.

C. POSTING OF AGENDA

Ms. Dennis 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 the meeting of September 14, 2004, were approved, on a motion by Commissioner Mackler, seconded by Commissioner Davis, with Commissioner Gratton abstaining due to absence.

III. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

1. Tripp Mills, WeHo LIFE Program Manager, submitted the final condom distribution report to the Commission. The program distributed 400,000 condoms to business venues in West Hollywood in the 2003-04 contract year.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. LA SHANTI REPORT

Cleve Jones, executive director of LA Shanti, provided an update on the agency's activities. He reviewed the West Hollywood participation in emotional support programs, Love Works, Express Dating, and the PLUS seminar. CITY Project is growing and a new program coordinator has been hired. Shanti is a co-sponsor with Alternatives and the City of a forum on the link between HIV infection and crystal meth abuse to be held October 20 at West Hollywood Park. Mr. Jones indicated that the Board of Directors is continuing to expand and is committed to diversifying the agency's funding.

B. PROPOSED SOCIAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH LA SHANTI

Daphne Dennis presented the staff recommendation for a three month contract with Shanti at an annualized figure of \$75,000 for emotional support services, CITY Project and the PLUS seminars on probationary status for one year with monthly required reports to the Human Services Commission and quarterly required reports to the City Council. Commissioners expressed concern about the agency's viability, program quality, staff supervision and training, questioned what CITY Project's focus is, and indicated a preference for a funding level of \$56,000, which was the amount identified by the City Council in September.

Commissioner Mackler moved to deny the recommendation; Commissioner Roberts seconded. Commissioner Henry suggested an alternative and Commissioner Mackler withdrew his motion. Commissioner Henry's motion was seconded by Commissioner Gratton, passed unanimously, and included the following provisions:

- Recommend a three month grant at an annualized figure of \$56,000 on probationary status with monthly required reports to the Commission and quarterly required reports to the City Council.
- Prepare a written outreach plan for CITY Project efforts.
- Indicate who is responsible for training and supervising the new CITY Project coordinator.
- Prepare a schedule for the PLUS seminars.
- Progress toward goal to be considered satisfactory if programs achieve 85% of goal for 2/12ths of the grant period.

C. REVISITING ITEMS

Staff indicated that the items identified would be added to future Commission agendas.

V. NEW BUSINESS

There were no new business items.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Henry asked if it would be possible to have a representative from the Disability Advisory Board attend a future Commission meeting to discuss the public right of way item which was taken to the City Council. The Commissioner also asked if a schedule of the Advisory Board meetings could be brought to the Commission so that members could indicate which meetings they plan to attend.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF


There were no additional items from staff.

VIII. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no additional items from the public.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned in memory of Christopher Reeve.

Signed: 
Ruth Cislowski

Attest:

