

**WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES – AUGUST 11, 1998**  
**COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL**

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. CALL TO ORDER

The West Hollywood Human Services Commission was called to order by Chairperson Steven Davis at 6:00 p.m., Thursday, August 11, 1998, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Steven Davis, Teresa DeCrescenzo, Bob Graney, Pamela Komac,  
John Nieto, Shirley Roberts  
Excused: Renée Rosenfeld  
Absent: none

A quorum was present at all times. Staff present included Lloyd R. Long, Director of Human Services; Curtis Brown, Jr., Recreation Services Administrator; Beth Sazama, Bonnie Smith, Chris Worland, and Jeff Book. Mayor Pro Tempore John Heilman joined the meeting in progress.

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. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Komac noted a correction and addition to the minutes of the July 16 meeting: at page 3, paragraph 4, she stated that the City should consider directly administering some of the social services programs, and should also consider directly administering the taxi coupon program, which is confusing to the public as it is currently organized.

The minutes of the May 12, July 14, and July 16 meetings of the Commission were approved on a motion by Commissioner DeCrescenzo, seconded by Commissioner Roberts.

### III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Without objection, the agenda was amended to include Item III-B, GLC West Hollywood Cares; III-C, Social Services Funding Recommendations; and III-D, Being Alive.

#### A. RECREATION UPDATE

Curtis Brown, Jr., reported that summer programs are well underway, and introduced staff members to provide updates on several subjects.

Beth Sazama reported that Summer Sounds is going well, with one concert (Les Brown and His Band of Renown, 6 p.m., Sunday, August 23 at the Pacific Design Center) remaining in the season. She said more than 500 persons attended the Japanese drumming program, and that the Klezmer presentation was also very successful. She congratulated Trudy Barnes on coordinating the artists this year.

Plans for the 1998 Halloween *Carnaval* will be presented to City Council on August 17, and contracts for specific services are scheduled for September. This year, the *Carnaval* falls on a Saturday evening. Staff is tentatively recommending a time of 7 p.m. to 1 a.m., with amplified sound ending at midnight. A crowd similar in size to last year's 250,000 people is expected. Staff is coordinating with other departments and agencies on safety and related aspects. Commissioners are invited to provide recommendations regarding the Honorary Mayor, and notify any interested photographers that staff will be accepting bids for photographic coverage of the festivities.

Mark Edwards, a Recreation Division intern who is a recent graduate of CSU Northridge, reported that Recreation's summer youth employment program is going well. There were 40 applicants, and 29 of them were interviewed. Fourteen were hired, and are working in the parks and recreation programs this summer.

Bonnie Smith reported that Brenda Bunnell has been chosen as a new Senior Recreation Leader, succeeding Mike Atkin. Coming from San Diego, the new staff member has 12 years of experience in Recreation, and begins work on August 17. She also reported that there were 6,000 admissions to the West Hollywood Pool in a recent monthly period; the Birthday Blast program is going well; and that pool locker rooms are scheduled for renovation, including new fixtures. This renovation will probably occur in November and December, when pool attendance is lower.

Chris Worland reported on the Lynn Front Tennis Camp, which is taking place this week with a full 15 participants. Last year the camp received a \$10,000 endowment from the Front family, which will enable it to continue in perpetuity. With regard to Community Gardens, Worland reported that soil testing had revealed some problems with lead and other contaminants. Hart Laboratories in Pasadena has recommended corrective steps.

#### B. GLC WEST HOLLYWOOD CARES

Thomas Dyer of GLC WeHo Cares reported on July's "crystal meth awareness month" activities.

### C. SOCIAL SERVICES FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

Lloyd Long reported on Council's actions on Social Services funding recommendations. Some 48 people spoke to Council; Commissioners DeCrescenzo, Roberts, and Rosenfeld were in attendance; and Council discussed the recommendations for 30-45 minutes. They reached consensus on the majority of funding recommendations, and targeted five agencies (Foundation House, Shanti, Alternative Living, GLC Youth, and APLA) for additional funding. Council delayed until Sept. 8 to receive an additional report from staff on financial options. Commissioner Roberts noted there had been a lot of discussion about WeHo Lounge.

Commissioner DeCrescenzo noted a sense of arrhythmia in the process, in that she felt she was presented with "done deals," rather than an opportunity to influence the basic policy priorities that underlie the funding recommendations. She asked the Commission to schedule a discussion of the process, and the history of the process, and ways that it can be improved.

Commissioner Graney also expressed strong dissatisfaction, particularly with regard to staff's funding recommendations being known to the agencies before the Commission had an opportunity to review them. He felt the process should be amended to include Commission review and input before agencies are notified of staff's recommendations regarding contracts.

Commissioner Roberts noted that the social services subcommittee did have a four-hour meeting on the recommendations, and that the Commission had missed its June meeting.

Commissioner Komac said she felt that Commissioners were not really involved in the process at all.

The topic was placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

### D. BEING ALIVE

Napoleon Lustre gave the monthly report for Being Alive. He said they were sorry to lose Greg Cardona from the staff, but will be filling the position very soon.

## III. NEW BUSINESS

### A. PARK DESIGN AND PROGRAMMING FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Howard Jacobs, member of the Disabilities Advisory Board (DAB), presented recommendations from the Board's recreation subcommittee. The memorandum was included in the meeting packet.

Lloyd Long and Curtis Brown indicated that staff concurs with the recommendations, and Howard Jacobs noted that the Public Facilities Commission had also endorsed the items.

With regard to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Lloyd Long noted that the Assistant City Manager had been the ADA compliance officer, and this position has been eliminated, with many of its duties, presumably including ADA compliance, being transferred to the Director of Administrative Services, Vivian Love.

Lloyd said staff would schedule a walk-through of park facilities with Sam Baxter and members of DAB, to discover any hazards DAB may want to highlight, and Curtis said he and a recreation supervisor will meet with DAB members to learn more about how to conduct recreational outreach to persons with disabilities.

Commissioner Komac moved to support the four recommendations from DAB. Commissioner DeCrescenzo seconded, and this was approved 6 to 0.

#### IV. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

*Social Services Subcommittee:* The subcommittee did not meet this month.

*Chairs Meeting:* Commissioner Davis did not attend the most recent meeting, due to a trip out of the country.

*HIV/AIDS & Civil Rights Legislation:* Commissioner Graney reported that regional meetings were held on how to proceed with a statewide lobbying effort on these issues, and that this may be coordinated through the offices of Antonio Villaraigosa, the Assembly Speaker.

*Disabilities Advisory Board:* Commissioner Komac has been busy with Public Facilities meetings focusing on Plummer Park, and said she would check with the DAB chair to see what is new with them.

*Lesbian & Gay Advisory Board:* LGAB meets on Thursday this week.

*Senior Advisory Board:* There was no meeting in August.

Commissioner Roberts distributed Lesbian Visibility Week hand-outs, noting that August is LVW Month. A tea dance at the House of Blues is scheduled for Saturday, August 29.

#### V. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Staff noted that the September meeting is scheduled one week later than usual (Sept. 15, not Sept. 8) because the City Council has moved its meeting of Monday, Sept. 7, to Tuesday, Sept. 8.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no additional comments.

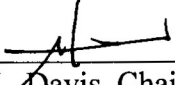
VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

The next meeting is at 6 p.m., Tuesday, September 15, 1998, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall.

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MINUTES APPROVED OCTOBER 13, 1998

  
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Steven L. Davis, Chair

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Date

  
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Jeff Book, Recording Secretary

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Date