

WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES – AUGUST 9, 2005
COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

The West Hollywood Human Services Commission was called to order by Vice Chair Steven L. Davis at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 9, 2005, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood.

A. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The pledge of allegiance was led by Commissioner Roberts.

B. **ROLL CALL**

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

Not Present: Ruth Cislowski.

A quorum was present at all times. Staff present included Daphne Dennis, Social Services Administrator; David Giugni, Leslie Isenberg, 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 of the July 12, 2005, meeting were approved on a motion by Commissioner Henry, seconded by Commissioner Gratton.

III. **ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Tripp Mills of WeHo Life discussed a recent training that was held at Big Bear.

IV. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A. **PALM VIEW APARTMENT RENT SUBSIDY**

David Giugni updated the Commission with regard to the changes that have happened to a project-based HOPWA subsidy for residents of Palm View Apartments.

Ann Ehrental of West Hollywood Housing Corp. provided handouts and discussed the background of the changes and the purpose of the original project.

Comments were also received from Palm View residents Jerome Boyce, David Nash, and David Joseph, Priscilla Levine of the Actors Fund, and Assembly-member Paul Koretz.

Commissioners discussed the situation at Palm View with regard to when and whether notices were provided, whether alternative funding from the City or other agencies was possible, and if so under what arrangement, and how a project developed for this residence would affect other residences and projects. They requested more information about tenant incomes and percentage of income paid in rent, and about possible sources of funding.

Commissioner Henry moved to express concern about the elimination of the rent subsidy, and to craft a resolution or recommendation at the next meeting to address the resulting need. This motion was later withdrawn.

Commissioner Mackler moved, seconded by Commissioner Roberts, to move the item to the next meeting. This was approved 4 to 0, with 2 abstaining.

B. LIGHT UP A LIBRARY

Leslie deBeauvais of Women Helping Children (NCJW) provided the year-end report for the Light Up a Library program. She noted that they need book donations.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. HOMELESS SERVICE COLLABORATION

Leslie Isenberg reported on the homeless service collaborative that has begun among social service agencies, Social Services staff, and the Sheriff's office. The group meets every other month to assess trends. PATH has opened a new Hollywood site on Fernwood, near the 101 freeway.

B. NON-PRESCRIPTION NEEDLE SALES/DISTRIBUTION

The Commission heard a report regarding SB 1159, concerning non-prescription needle sales. The City has reaffirmed its participation in the program.

C. COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Jerome Boyce addressed the Commission on the need to analyze unrepresented and underrepresented persons in any needs assessment, including minorities and people living with AIDS.

Commissioners Davis and Augeri were designated to work with staff on various aspects of the community needs assessment process.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Mackler noted that the West Hollywood Book Fair is Sunday, October 2.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

The Congress of Commissions and Boards will meet on October 22.

With regard to concerns regarding right of way violations by outdoor displays and sandwich-board announcements, the Council has approved an enforcement protocol and letters notifying businesses are being sent. If residents see violations, they are asked to notify staff.

The City Attorney has determined that the City Code should be amended, agreeing with the Disability Advisory Board that outdoor dining should not be permitted unless it is accessible.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 13, 2005, in Room 6 at Plummer Park Community Center, 7377 Santa Monica Boulevard.

Signed: 
Steven L. Davis

Attest:


