

**WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES – JULY 12, 2005**  
**COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The West Hollywood Human Services Commission was called to order by Chair Ruth Cislowski at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, July 12, 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 Augeri.

B. ROLL CALL

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

A quorum was present at all times. Staff present included Lloyd R. Long, Director of Human Services; David Giugni; and Jeff Book. Councilmember Sal Guarriello and Council Deputy Donna Saur were also present. Commissioner Mackler 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. MINUTES

The minutes of the June 14, 2005, meeting were approved on a motion by Commissioner Roberts, seconded by Commissioner Gratton, with Commissioners Cislowski and Henry abstaining.

III. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Jeff Bailey of L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center provided an update on their program because much of the contract is new. They did more than 80 tests during CSW; the Club Freedom effort at that event was very successful; and community mobilization for a new project begins this week.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. LA FREE CLINIC LEGAL PROGRAM

David Giugni reported that the board of directors of the Los Angeles Free Clinic has decided to close their legal services component, and is requesting the City to redirect funds allocated to that program to their case management program.

Jeff Bujer, Co-CEO of Los Angeles Free Clinic, said the program ended as of July 1, and they are in consultation with other legal services programs. A number of their volunteers are transferring there. The Free Clinic's legal services number will refer inquiries to other locations.

Commissioner Davis moved to accept the staff report and reallocate the funds as requested. This was seconded by Commissioner Gratton and approved.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. PALM VIEW APARTMENT RENT SUBSIDY

David Giugni reported that residents of Palm View Apartments have benefited from a project-based HOPWA subsidy, and discussed changes to that program that have occurred.

David Nash of the Palm View's resident advisory board, said the changes were very unaffordable given the low income of residents, and asked that they be corrected and continued. David Joseph, also of the Palm View's resident advisory board, said residents were very concerned about the changes, and are requesting a social worker for 20 hours per week. He distributed a resolution to that effect.

Kelly Kent, HOPWA coordinator of the City of Los Angeles housing department, said he has recommended possible short-term options. Jeff Skorneck, the City's housing division manager, said these changes and other economic impacts on residents are creating a monumental challenge.

Lloyd Long said that Council is aware of these developments, and recommended placing this item on next month's agenda for an update.

Commissioner Henry said the resident advisory board should contact HALSA, the HIV & AIDS Legal Services Alliance, for assistance with legal issues, and that City funding may be an option if there is demonstrated need to continue the subsidy and other options are unavailable.

B. ANNUAL CONGRESS OF COMMISSIONS AND BOARDS

Commissioners marked their calendars for the October 22 congress of boards and commissions.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Cislowski said the Well West Hollywood program is forming a Well West Hollywood Task Force, and needs members to attend and participate. Commissioners Augeri and Mackler expressed interest.

Commissioner Mackler said Councilmember Prang had a meeting with commissioners and board members this week, and noted the new city policy of one-year term limits for chairs of commissions. This Commission elects officers in November.

Commissioner Davis congratulated staff on the quality of informative inserts in the packets.

Commissioner Roberts commented on the memorial service for Jean O'Leary.

Commissioner Gratton noted that Los Angeles City Council had endorsed same-sex marriage by a vote of 11 to 0, with two absent. She also asked for commissioners to receive copies of the McKinney Act, dealing with homelessness.

Commissioner Augeri said it would be helpful to see a list of commonly-used acronyms.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Staff distributed the current bylaws to commissioners, noted that recruiting is underway for a successor to Diane Kahn-Epstein, and commented on the third crystal meth forum, which was held recently.

Commissioner Cislowski congratulated David Giugni on his promotion.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m. in memory of Jean O'Leary.

The next regular meeting will be at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 9, 2005, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall.

Signed:   
Steven L. Davis

Attest:

  
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