

WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES - JULY 8, 1997
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 6:10 p.m., Tuesday, July 8, 1997, in Fiesta Hall, 1200 N. Vista Street, West Hollywood.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Steven Davis, Teresa DeCrescenzo, Bob Graney, John Nieto,
Shirley Roberts, Renée Rosenfeld

Excused: none

Absent: none

Note: There is one vacancy on the Commission at this time.

A quorum was present at all times. Staff present included Lloyd Long, Director of Human Services; Daphne Dennis, Social Services Administrator; Tom West, Tamar Springer, and Jeff Book.

C. POSTING OF AGENDA

The Recording 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 indicate this on a speaker request form.

II. INSTALLATION AND ORGANIZATION

A. INSTALLATION OF NEW COMMISSIONER

The installation of recently-appointed Commissioner Zina Shusterman was cancelled due to her resignation, which had been submitted to the City earlier in the day. Councilmember Steve Martin will fill the unexpired term by a future appointment.

B. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

The floor was opened for nominations for the office of Vice Chair. Commissioner Graney nominated Commissioner DeCrescenzo, and Commissioner Davis nominated Commissioner Roberts. There being no further nominations, a motion to close nomi-

nations was approved. When the roll was called, there were four votes for Commissioner Roberts (Davis, Nieto, Roberts, Rosenfeld) and two votes for Commissioner DeCrescenzo (DeCrescenzo, Graney). Commissioner Roberts was declared elected.

III. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of June 10, 1997, were approved on a motion by Commissioner Roberts, seconded by Commissioner Nieto.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. GLCSC WEST HOLLYWOOD CARES

A representative from GLCSC was not present, so this report was rescheduled.

V. PUBLIC HEARING: SOCIAL SERVICES CONTRACT EXTENSIONS FOR 1997-1998

1. Staff Report

Daphne Dennis, Social Services Administrator, presented the staff recommendation for funding of social services agencies during the second year of the current two-year cycle. The recommended funding was as follows: Aid for AIDS, \$71,831; AIDS Project Los Angeles, \$226,682; Alternative Living for the Aging, \$22,500; Alzheimer's Association, \$13,000; Being Alive, \$37,432; Bet Tzedek Legal Services, \$112,517; Child and Family Services, \$91,200; Dispute Resolution Services, \$57,160; Foundation House, \$420,664 (including rent and utilities which are paid from the City's CDBG grant allocation, in the estimated amount of \$114,358); and GLCSC Community Outreach & Education, \$69,825.

Also: GLCSC Health Services, \$80,727; GLCSC Legal Services, \$17,775; GLCSC Mental Health Services, \$69,587; GLCSC West Hollywood Cares, \$61,332; GLCSC Youth Services, \$52,000; JFS Board & Care Program, \$65,388; JFS Disability Services, \$49,500; JFS Nutrition, \$249,520; JFS Partners Adult Day Health Care, \$66,000 (including \$16,000 in Proposition A Funds for transportation); JFS West Hollywood Senior Center, \$300,072; JVS West Hollywood Employment Service & Training, \$134,431; Los Angeles Free Clinic, General Services, \$136,329; PAWS, \$5,000; and Project Angel Food, \$24,206.

Also: Russian Community Center, \$68,080; Los Angeles Shanti Foundation, \$85,696; SOVA Food Pantry, \$34,404; Van Ness Recovery House (outpatient/residential treatment), \$45,947; Van Ness Recovery House (outreach education), \$44,328; and Women Helping Women, \$22,500.

With regard to an additional \$30,000 which had been made available for social services by the City Council, staff recommended allocating \$5,000 to PAWS, and \$25,000 for an outpatient drug and alcohol treatment program by Van Ness Recovery House.

2. Opening of Public Hearing

Commissioner Davis declared the public hearing open.

3. Public Comment

Sixteen persons addressed the Commission with regard to the funding recommendations: (1) Vivian Sauer, Jewish Family Services; (2) Nadia Sutton, PAWS L.A.; (3) Andrea Wagner, WHEST; (4) Dorothy Lank, Dispute Resolution Services; (5) Casey Hale, housing counselor, Alternative Living for the Aging; (6) Bob Burke, president of the board, Alternative Living for the Aging; (7) Hugo Farias, GLCSC; (8) Ronald Hoyle, Foundation House; (9) Dylan C. Gailey, GLCSC; (10) Kathy Watt, Van Ness Recovery House; (11) Dan Fisher, Foundation House Transitional Group; (12) Robert Buchler, Foundation House; (13) Laura Kanter, Women Helping Women; (14) Julie Jaskol, LA Free Clinic; (15) Helen Levin, Russian Community Center; and (16) Lauren Buongiovanni, Child & Family Services.

Commissioner Davis thanked all the agency representatives present for the work their agencies do on behalf of the people of West Hollywood.

4. Closing of Public Hearing

There being no further members of the public who wished to speak at this time, Commissioner Davis declared the public hearing closed.

5. Commission Discussion

Commissioners discussed the relative funding levels for PAWS and the Van Ness Recovery House outpatient drug and alcohol treatment program, in relation to other social services and community needs.

Commissioner Nieto moved to *approve the recommended funding levels* with the exceptions of GLCSC Youth, GLCSC COEP, PAWS, and the new Van Ness program, which would be discussed further. This was seconded by Commissioner DeCrescenzo and unanimously approved.

Commissioner Rosenfeld said there should be more attention to relations between the gay and Russian communities in the city, and in particular to methods of supporting and encouraging gay and lesbian Russians who find it difficult to come out for cultural and traditional reasons. She would like GLCSC COEP and other agencies to explore constructive involvement in this area.

In addition, Commissioner Rosenfeld noted that GLCSC COEP has been the co-sponsor, with the Lesbian and Gay Advisory Council, for Lesbian Visibility Week. She would like COEP to consider expanding this into a month-long sequence of events, perhaps in connection with Women's History Month, and with greater cooperation from other community groups.

Commissioner Rosenfeld moved to postpone a recommendation on funding for GLCSC COEP pending further study of these possibilities. This was seconded by Commissioner DeCrescenzo, and unanimously carried. This item will be *brought back for further discussion at the August meeting.*

With regard to GLCSC Youth Services, Commissioner Davis noted the ongoing administrative problems the program has suffered, and recommended that the program, now under the interim leadership of Mary Nalick, be given a time certain to reach an acceptable level of administrative performance, or conclude its contract.

Commissioner Graney moved to approve the recommended funding for GLCSC Youth Services, subject to the provision that the agency will provide monthly reports to the Commission for so long as it remains on administrative probation, and that 30-day termination of its contract be considered if staff does not remove the program from probation in the next six months. This was seconded by Commissioner Roberts, and unanimously approved.

With regard to the relative funding of PAWS and Van Ness Recovery House, Commissioner DeCrescenzo moved to approve the recommended expenditures for these agencies from the \$30,000 in additional funds provided by the Council, with the provision that the first \$10,000 of any savings in social services contracts be additionally provided to PAWS, and that any savings in excess of the first \$10,000 be additionally provided to Van Ness Recovery House for the outpatient alcohol and drug treatment program. This was seconded by Commissioner Roberts, and unanimously approved.

6. Recommendations to City Council

In summary, the Commission (1) approved the recommended funding levels for all agencies, except as detailed in the rest of this paragraph; (2) postponed a recommendation on funding for GLCSC COEP pending further study; (3) conditioned funding for GLCSC Youth Services upon monthly reports and a permanent conclusion to the agency's administrative problems; and (4) directed that the first \$10,000 in any savings which accrue in social services contracts should be allocated to PAWS L.A., and any savings in excess of \$10,000 be provided to Van Ness Recovery House for its outpatient alcohol and drug treatment program.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES PROGRAMMING, 1997-1998

Daphne Dennis presented a report on Families and Communities Programming for 1997-1998. Commissioner Roberts moved, and Commissioner Nieto seconded, to approve the report and endorse its recommendations. This was unanimously approved by the Commission.

VII. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

A. SELECTION OF SUBCOMMITTEE AND LIAISONS

The following selections were made.

- Social Services Subcommittee -- *Davis, Roberts, Rosenfeld*
- Chairs Meeting -- *Davis*
- AIDS and Civil Rights (Life Lobby) -- *Graney*
- Partners ADHC -- *Roberts, DeCrescenzo*
- Recreation -- *Graney*
- Senior Advisory Council -- *Nieto, Roberts*
- Human Relations Mutual Assistance Consortium -- *Davis, Rosenfeld*
- Disabilities Advisory Council -- *open*
- Lesbian & Gay Advisory Council -- *open*

Commissioner Davis placed a Community Relations Program proposed by the Lesbian & Gay Advisory Council on the Commission agenda for August, and provided staff with a copy of the report to distribute in the next packet.

VIII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Daphne Dennis noted that Council has directed that they be notified monthly of actions of this and other Commissions, by inclusion of an information item in the consent calendar of a regularly scheduled Council meeting. This will begin immediately.

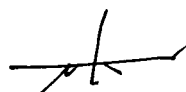
IX. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no additional items from the public.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m. The next meeting will be held at 6 p.m., Tuesday, August 12, 1997, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood.

MINUTES APPROVED AUGUST 12, 1997



Steven L. Davis, Chair

Date



Jeff Book, Recording Sec.

Date