

WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES – JUNE 12, 2007
COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

The West Hollywood Human Services Commission was called to order by Chair Steven L. Davis at 6:10 p.m., Tuesday, June 12, 2007, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood.

A. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The pledge of allegiance was led by Brad Leathers.

B. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Ruth Cislowski, Steven L. Davis, Debra Farmer, Charles Henry.
Not Present: Shirley Roberts, Hywel Sims.

A quorum was present at all times. Staff members present included Daphne Dennis, Social Services Administrator; David Giugni, Leslie Isenberg, Craig Rhea, 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**

Minutes of the May 8, 2007, meeting were approved on a motion by Commissioner Henry, seconded by Commissioner Farmer.

III. **ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no items.

IV. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A. **MID-YEAR REPORT**

Daphne Dennis presented the mid-year report on social services contracts, noting changes in the form used, and the inclusion of additional self-assessment tools, including a requested analysis of how a client accesses and benefits from the agencies.

Commissioner Henry said he welcomed the "client's-eye view" of the agencies,

and hoped that agencies would express whether this had helped them.

Commissioner Cislowski asked agencies to comment on whether they had fully expended their City of West Hollywood funding, and if so, what plans they have to provide services, and what other sources of funding they have.

Commissioners heard from the following agency representatives:

1. Brad Leathers, Rainbow Bridge
2. Karen Bhangoo and Kathryn Turk, Dispute Resolution Services
3. Marina Berkman, Comprehensive Services Center
4. Summer Nudel, JFS Partners
5. Sabina Freukel, Russian Community Center
6. Jeff Bailey, APLA Client Services
7. Kevin Kurtz, Being Alive
8. Ann English, PATH
9. Sylvia Gutierrez, PATH
10. Christopher Sheluga, a PATH client
11. Donzella Lee, LA Free Clinic
12. Tripp Mills, WeHo Life
13. Eileen McAuliffe, JFS Nutrition

Commissioner Henry said he appreciated the effort in prompting agencies to see how things work from the client's point of view, but said agencies did not express the results of this very well, although this is a new approach for some agencies, and they may be more comfortable with it in the future.

Commissioners and staff discussed agencies that were below desired reporting levels, and what additional steps will be taken in their regard. Commissioner Davis asked for agencies with low reporting numbers to report on their progress at upcoming meetings.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. PRIDE MONTH ACTIVITIES

Daphne Dennis reported on work with the Lesbian Visibility Committee, Dyke March, after-party, and lesbian health project; on the distribution of an educational piece on crystal methamphetamine; placement of signs in toilets; LGAB's Rainbow Key Awards luncheon; and the involvement of the LGAB youth subcommittee in the youth services planning and coordination meeting this month.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioners Cislowski and Davis asked whether the Commission would meet in August. The July meeting will consider whether to meet then.

Commissioner Cislowski would like to talk with other commissions about finding suitable office space for social services agencies inside the city.

Commissioner Henry asked for further communication to the agencies regarding the

higher expectations that the Commission has with regard to reporting, and ask agencies to come back in September for further questions.

Commissioner Davis recommended a November or December meeting for the Commission to discuss priorities prior to the next social services funding process.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Daphne Dennis reported on positive budget numbers for social services, including a 2% COLA for the second year of the contracts.

VIII. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no additional items.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

The next regular meeting is at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 10, 2007, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall.

Signed: 
Steven L. Davis

Attest:


