

WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES – JUNE 10, 2003
COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. CALL TO ORDER

The West Hollywood Human Services Commission was called to order by Chair Peter Mackler at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 10, 2003, in the Community Conference Room at 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood.

B. ROLL CALL

The Pledge of Allegiance was repeated.

Present: Ruth Cislowski, John D’Amico, Steven Davis, Teresa DeCrescenzo, Ponsella Gratton, Dr. Bill Griffin, Peter Mackler.

Excused: none.

A quorum was present at all times. Staff present included Daphne Dennis, Social Services Administrator; Diane Kahn-Epstein; David Giugni; 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 for May 13, 2003, were approved, on a motion by Commissioner Griffin, seconded by Commissioner Gratton. Commissioner DeCrescenzo abstained due to her absence from that meeting.

III. INSTALLATION

Councilmember Abbe Land administered the oath of office to Commissioners Ruth Cislowski and Steven Davis, and declared them installed to new terms.

IV. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no comments from the public at this time.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. NATURALLY OCCURRING RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES

Commissioners designated Commissioners Gratton and Davis as representatives to a planning group working on Jewish Family Services' NORC program. Commissioner Mackler will also be copied on notices of meetings, etc.

Michael Sidler spoke to the Commission about using public funds to help people of all kinds receive access to appropriate public and private programs.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. MID-YEAR REPORT ON SOCIAL SERVICES

Daphne Dennis presented the mid-year report on social services, which covered five months because previous contracts were extended by one month before the commencement of new contracts. She said many agencies were doing well, and a few required special help.

Commissioners discussed procedures for probationary status, existence of multiple funding streams for various agencies, timeliness of payments to agencies by the City, and timeliness of monthly reports to the City.

David Giugni reported on HIV prevention and AIDS services agencies, including the designation of June as HIV Prevention Month and the new HIV Stops With Me campaign. An expanded campaign is planned for World AIDS Day this year.

Commissioner Mackler thanked David Giugni, Tripp Mills, Corey Roskin, and staff for the excellent kick-off event at which he and Councilmember Duran spoke.

Representatives from various agencies spoke to the Commission, providing comments on the mid-year report and updates on their programs. This included Chuck Ellis of LA Free Clinic, Dayna Kagel of GLC Legal, Angie Cooper of JVS, Rosalyne Blumenstein of Wendy's Hope, a representative from PAWS, Neil Blacker of DRS, Marabel Ulloa of AFA, the director of housing for PATH, Rachel Bercovic, Susan Alexman, Janet Witkin, Julie Lura of Women Helping Women, and Lee Klozinski of APLA.

Michael Sidler spoke to the Commission about duplication of services and the existence of disincentives that prevent agencies from doing their best work.

Daphne Dennis said reports from school-related agencies will be received after the end of the school year (September-June).

Commissioner Cislowski asked that the Commission be more structured in keeping track of performance data from the agencies, so that in the event of limitations on social services expenditures, it might be possible to have a basis for shifting funding to the best-performing agencies that are in most need of support.

Commissioners thanked the agency representatives for their presentations.

VII. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Mackler spoke about the CSW kickoff event, and noted that one of the models from the HIV Stops With Me campaign was present for this Commission meeting.

Commissioners asked that a wrap-up of CSW be placed on the next agenda.

VIII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Daphne Dennis discussed plans for commission participation in the CSW parade. Jeff Book said Lloyd Long, Director of Human Services, was absent due to the impending departure of his son for work as a camp counselor.

IX. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Tripp Mills of the Gay & Lesbian Center thanked the commission for supporting their condom distribution program, and invited commissioners to the substance-abuse-free Club Freedom event that will be part of CSW this year, similar to New Year's Eve.

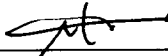
Dmitri of Being Alive spoke about new outreach being conducted, mostly in West Hollywood, and about changes in their agency space.

Michael Sidler discussed the use of 3 x 5 cards to permit the public in Tuolumne County to comment on public needs, and on the County of Los Angeles's provision of a Blue Book containing information on public and private social services.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, July 8, 2003, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall.

Signed: _____



Steven L. Davis

Attest:

