

WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES - APRIL 14, 1998
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 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 14, 1998, in Hall A at Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Steven Davis, Teresa DeCrescenzo, Bob Graney, Pamela Komac, John Nieto, Shirley Roberts, Renée Rosenfeld
Excused: Bob Graney
Absent: none

A quorum was present at all times. Staff present included Daphne Dennis, Social Services Administrator; Diane Kahn-Epstein, Tamar Springer, and Tom West, Social Services Program Specialists; 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

Commissioner Rosenfeld noted a correction to the draft minutes of the March meeting, which were then approved on a motion by Commissioner Rosenfeld, seconded by Commissioner Nieto.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. UPDATE FROM WEST HOLLYWOOD CARES

Thomas Dyer was not able to attend, so this report was postponed.

IV. PUBLIC HEARING

A. COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Sara Kocher of Crawford Multari & Clark Associates, and Abby Haight Arnold, presented the Community Needs Assessment report. The top three services cited in the report were HIV prevention programs, in-home services to seniors, and library services.

Kocher and Arnold made a series of specific recommendations based on the data in the report, including: creation of a city program to coordinate volunteers for nonprofit agencies; regular individualized services for older seniors; continuing HIV/AIDS education and awareness programs; revising programs to reflect the changes in medical treatment of HIV/AIDS; employment services; and services to families with children.

Numerous guests commented on the report, including Bill Mannion for Los Angeles Free Clinic; Sheri Lynne, LA Shanti; Arturo Valencia, LA Shanti; Max Stollman, LA Free Clinic; Billie J. Green, Inside Outside Communications, regarding senior telephone rights; Rick Cardona, Being Alive; Julia Hennis, LA Free Clinic; Greg Berry, Shanti and Being Alive; Tim Innes, Shanti; Roger Daughy, Valerie Wagner, Karen Blakeney, George Gotti, and Dylan Bailey of the Gay & Lesbian Center; Joan Lindell, Senior Center; Dale Schiff, disabilities specialist; Roger Hoffheimer, Shanti; Carrie Hornby and Deborah Small, JFS; Matthew Selza, Dispute Resolution Services; Henry Cassell, LA Free Clinic; Janet Witkin, Alternative Living for the Aging; Helen Levin, Russian Community Center; John D'Amico, LA Free Clinic; Leah Tran, Alzheimer's Assoc.

The Commission received and filed the report. It will be presented to the City Council on April 20.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. LESBIAN VISIBILITY ACTIVITIES

Diane Kahn-Epstein and Daphne Dennis presented the staff recommendation regarding lesbian visibility activities.

Commissioner Rosenfeld moved to approve the recommendation with these changes: that the reference to "three" events be deleted, that the number of events be left up to the judgment of the visibility committee and staff, that jurisdiction for the events be placed with the Recreation Division in the purview of Beth Sazama, and that the City begin coordination of economic development for lesbians in cooperation with the Chamber of Commerce. This was seconded by Commissioner Nieto.

After discussion, the topic of economic development was deleted from the motion with the approval of the maker and seconder of the motion, and held for future discussion. The amended motion was unanimously approved.

B. GLC COEP

Tom West introduced Valerie Wagner, the new GLC director of social and educational services, who will be the City's direct contact for the COEP program. Commissioners reviewed the background of their concerns over this contract, and Ms. Wagner stated her commitment to seeing that the contract is satisfactorily completed.

C. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE TO PLUMMER PARK BUILDING SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMPUTER ROOM

On a recommendation from Commissioner Davis, the Commission declined to appoint a representative to this subcommittee, and asked for Sam Baxter and/or the chair of the Public Facilities Commission to attend an upcoming commission meeting and clarify the overall process, including the number of committees and subcommittees that will be used, and the roles of the Human Services and Public Facilities Commissions in these matters.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

A. SOCIAL SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE

There were no meetings this month. Staff noted that frequent meetings of this subcommittee will be likely for the next few months, as consideration of new social services contracts takes place. The members are Commissioners Davis, Roberts, and Rosenfeld.

B. LIAISONS

1. CHAIRS MEETING

Commissioner Davis reported the Chairs Meeting was not held this month.

2. HIV/AIDS & CIVIL RIGHTS LEGISLATION (LIFE LOBBY)

This report was postponed.

3. LA COUNTY HRMAC

There was no additional report on HRMAC.

4. PARTNERS ADHC

There was no additional report on Partners.

5. RECREATION

There was no additional report on Recreation.

6. DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD

Commissioner Komac reported that DAB would like to be placed on the agenda of the next meeting, to discuss the design and usefulness of parks to persons with disabilities. She also reported that the Council appears to be taking up a key matter of park design prior to the next Commission meeting, and asked Commissioners for their awareness and support of DAB's concerns if any action is taken prior to the next meeting.

7. LESBIAN & GAY ADVISORY BOARD

Commissioner Davis noted that he still needs to be added to the mailing list for this board. This request has been communicated to LGAB staff on previous occasions, and will be again.

8. SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD

Commissioner Nieto reported on the March 11 meeting.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Staff reported that there is interest from Public Information in televising the June meeting of the Commission. After discussion, commissioners asked staff to see if this can be changed to July.

VIII. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

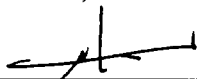
There were no additional items from the public.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m., in memory of Steven Smith of the Gay Men's Chorus, and of Mayor Pro Tempore John Heilman's mother.

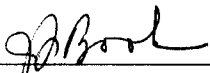
The next meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m., Tuesday, May 12, 1998, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood.

MINUTES APPROVED MAY 12, 1998



Steven L. Davis, Chair

Date



Jeff Book, Recording Secretary

Date