

WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES – MARCH 10, 2009
COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL

I. CALL TO ORDER

The West Hollywood Human Services Commission was called to order by Chair Chuck Henry at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 10, 2009, in the Community Conference Room at West Hollywood City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood, CA 90069.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was repeated.

B. ROLL CALL

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

A quorum was present at all times. City staff members included Daphne Dennis, Social Services Administrator; Corey Roskin, David Giugni, and Jeff Book.

C. POSTING OF AGENDA

The secretary reported 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 January 13, 2009, and February 10, 2009, meetings were approved on a motion by Commissioner Henry, seconded by Commissioner Zangrando.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no speakers.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. “IN THE MOMENT” PREVENTION CAMPAIGN

The Commission received a report on the “In the Moment” prevention campaign, reviewed the most recently added ‘webisode,’ and discussed several aspects of the educational effort, including its theme and ways to encourage people to visit the site and view the series.

Commissioner Henry suggested offering a coffee coupon to people who complete the episode.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. McINTYRE HOUSE

The Commission received a report from staff of McIntyre House, 544 N. Kenmore Ave., regarding their recovery program and their approach to their task. A fundraiser for the program will be held at 7 p.m. on March 17 at St. Victor’s in West Hollywood.

B. REVISED SCHEDULE FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS MEETINGS

Daphne Dennis presented an item on revising the schedule for planned meetings with social services agency executive directors. The schedule was confirmed in discussion. The meetings of November 10, 2009, and January 12, 2010, are planned for televising.

Also, staff is gathering information from agencies with regard to how the economic downturn is affecting people locally.

V. NEW BUSINESS

B. GAY MEN’S HEALTH FORUM

David Giugni reported a second annual Gay Men’s Health Forum is Planned for Saturday, May 2, at Plummer Park. The event follows the one held last spring, which was organized by the office of Councilmember John Duran. Workshops at the May 2 event are expected to include aging, Youth, sober living, HIV status, spirituality, Proposition 8, and families.

VI. ITEMS FROM COMMISSION

Commissioner Farmer asked about the City’s employment assistance program, and Daphne Dennis said the program was receiving a greatly increased number of inquiries. Commissioner Farmer spoke about the upcoming Women’s Leadership

Conference, and asked if it were possible to explore a loan fund to help non-profit agencies that are in financial trouble.

Commissioner Cislowski said she had heard a program about picking fruit from trees in residential areas and giving them to food pantries. She asked how the bus pass transition was going, and Daphne Dennis said it appeared to be going well.

Hywel Sims spoke about the Crystal, a Russian restaurant in West Hollywood where Councilmember Guarriello's 90th birthday was recently celebrated.

Commissioner Davis spoke about Janet Witkin, who was the executive director of Alternative Living for the Aging.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

There were no additional items from staff.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m. in memory of Janet Witkin, in celebration of Councilmember Guarriello's birthday, and in honor of the reelection of John Duran and Jeffrey Prang to the West Hollywood City Council.

Signed: _____

Steven L. Davis

Attest:

[Signature]