

WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES – JANUARY 13, 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 6:10 p.m. on Tuesday, January 13, 2009, in the Community Conference Room at West Hollywood City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Commissioner Zangrando.

B. ROLL CALL

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

A quorum was present at all times. Staff members present included Daphne Dennis, Social Services Administrator, 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 December 2008 meeting were approved on a motion by Commissioner Farmer, seconded by Commissioner Cislowski.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Rae Mitchell, member of the Women's Advisory Board, spoke about a meeting to be held Jan. 22 at NCJW regarding Roe v. Wade. She also spoke about the Women's Conference to be held in March.

Brad Leathers said Twin Town Treatment Center will be able to provide free adolescent out-patient treatment to qualifying individuals who do not have insurance.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. DISCUSSIONS WITH AGENCY EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS.

The Commission made plans to meet with executive directors of social services agencies, to discuss impacts of the recession and other aspects of current programs. The Commission also discussed televising a meeting or meetings, and what agenda would be most interesting for that.

B. STATUS REPORT ON CHANGES TO TRANSIT PROGRAMS

Daphne Dennis said two major changes were underway in transit programs: (1) Metro Bus system changing from paper tickets to a credit/debit card, to which value can be loaded electronically; and (2) a probable change to the taxi coupon program, with West Hollywood raising its drop rate (minimum due upon initiation of a taxi ride) to the Los Angeles rate, and moving from 90% to 100% reimbursement of cost.

C. COMMON GROUND VULNERABILITY INDEX

Daphne Dennis reported that Common Ground will be in West Hollywood for a week in February, doing an index of homeless persons, including a photograph and basic information. This helps with assessment and priorities.

V. NEW BUSINESS – 6:45 p.m.

A. RE-PROGRAMMING 2007-08 SOCIAL SERVICES CONTRACT SAVINGS

Daphne Dennis reported there is about \$60,000 in savings for the year, and asked for the discussion to be delayed for one month, when more information will be available.

B. SAFER SEX KITS FOR WOMEN

Daphne Dennis reported on the Lesbian & Gay Advisory Board's interest in developing safer sex kits for women. A committee is examining options for items and educational materials, along with costs, and is aiming to have kits for distribution by the time of the Dyke March and the Pride festival.

VI. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Responding to a question from Commissioner Davis at the last meeting, Daphne Dennis said there were 57 vacant lots or buildings in the city. The City holds a twice monthly meeting on distressed properties.

VII. ITEMS FROM COMMISSION

Commissioner Zangrando said the Halloween Task Force met with the consultant. Commissioner Farmer said she would be away in February. Commissioner Cislowski said she received a message from Corri Planck regarding a new initiative on a children's and family issue, and she will provide more information. Commissioner Davis attended the meeting of mental health providers.

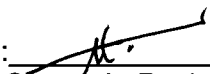
VIII. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Ruth Tittle, liaison from the Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board, said she was interested in knowing more about the children and family initiative, and also discussed the LGAB's proposal for safer sex kits for women.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

The next regular meeting is at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 10, 2009.

Signed: 
Steven L. Davis

Attest:

