

WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES – JANUARY 9, 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 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 9, 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 David Giugni.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Gary Augeri, Steven L. Davis, Charles Henry, Shirley Roberts.

Not Present: Ruth Cislowski, Debra Farmer.

A quorum was present at all times. Staff members present included Daphne Dennis, Social Services Administrator; David Giugni, Leslie Isenberg, 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 12, 2006, meeting were approved on a motion by Commissioner Henry, seconded by Commissioner Roberts.

III. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Sunnie Rose Berger and Ric Parish of The Life Group L.A. addressed the Commission on their agency, which they said continues some of the programs and approaches that were previously part of L.A. Shanti. Among these is a Life Weekend Seminar, which will be held Jan. 19-21, 2007, addressing a variety of topics of interest. The Life Group L.A. can be reached at 621 N. San Vicente Blvd., West Hollywood 90069, phone (888) 208-8081, and website www.TheLifeGroupLA.com.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. PROJECT YIMBY AND WEST HOLLYWOOD'S HOMELESS CENSUS

Leslie Isenberg reported on the second annual Project YIMBY, an effort to link homeless people to available services and shelter. A census of homeless persons found 99 persons in West Hollywood that day. The County will be conducting a homeless census later in January, and the City will participate in gathering data.

Commissioner Augeri asked what agency to contact with regard to homeless persons who appear to be in immediate need of assistance. Leslie Isenberg recommended the Sheriff's Office if there is any possibility of danger, and the PATH outreach team in other situations.

B. CLUB FREEDOM, NEW YEAR'S EVE

David Giugni reported on the 9th year of Club Freedom, held on New Year's Eve. This year the event was held at The Village, received much greater visibility due to the contribution of 30 bus shelter signs and other publicity, had great volunteer assistance, and about 1,200 people in attendance.

C. PROCEDURE FOR RE-PROGRAMMING OF SAVINGS FROM SOCIAL SERVICES CONTRACTS

Daphne Dennis provided these recommendations on re-programming savings from social services contracts: (1) Recommend to City Council that they allocate \$20,000 in contract savings from 2006-07 to support the urgent needs funds at Aid for AIDS and the Comprehensive Services Center program of Jewish Family Services, and roll any remaining savings, beyond the \$20,000, into the 2008-10 RFP process; (2) Recommend that savings from 2007-08 contracts be re-programmed by conducting a simple application process open to every agency which is a provider at that time.

Commissioner Henry noted continuing interest in naming the urgent needs program after an appropriate person.

Commissioner Henry moved approval of the staff recommendation as presented. This was seconded by Commissioner Roberts, and approved unanimously.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. PLANNING AND COORDINATION MEETING SCHEDULE AND GROUPINGS

Daphne Dennis presented a list of upcoming planning and coordination meetings, and invited commissioners to attend. Commissioner Henry indicated he would attend the Food & Nutrition and Outreach Programs meetings; Commissioner Davis indicated he would attend the HIV Prevention, Homeless Services, and

Legal meetings; Commissioner Roberts will attend the Children & Family Services meeting; and Commissioners Augeri and Roberts will attend the Senior Services meeting. Commissioners Cislowski and Farmer will be invited to attend of the meetings they wish, as well.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Augeri said he and Mayor Pro Tem Guarriello had discussed what could be done with regard to persons with disabilities who were being removed from their residences under Ellis Act conversions. The Council will discuss this soon.

Commissioner Davis attended the Russian Community Center's holiday party, which he said was an excellent community and cultural event. He also reported on the recent chairs meeting, where housing and Halloween were major topics.

VIII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Daphne Dennis thanked David Giugni and Corey Roskin for giving up their New Year's Eve and providing such strong support for the Club Freedom event.

IX. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no additional items.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

The next regular meeting is at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 13, 2007, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall.

Signed: 
Steven L. Davis

Attest:


