

**MINUTES
HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2016**

**FIRST-FLOOR COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM
8300 SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD
WEST HOLLYWOOD 90069**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Jimmy Palmieri at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 13, 2016, in the First-Floor Community Conference Room at West Hollywood City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood 90069.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Yola Dore.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Elizabeth Anderson, Sam Borelli, Ruth Cislowski,
Steven L. Davis, Barbara Meltzer, Jimmy Palmieri,
Patrick Shandrick.

Not Present: None.

A quorum was present at all times. Also present were David Giugni, Social Services Manager, with Corri Planck, Leslie Isenberg, Derek Murray, Corey Roskin, and Joan Mithers.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioners reversed the order of Items 3A (HIV Zero Strategic Plan Draft) and 3B (Year-End Report on Social Services), and tabled Item 4A (Transit Analysis). Then the agenda was unanimously approved on a motion by Commissioner Borelli, seconded by Commissioner Davis.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 14, 2016

The minutes of the November 14, 2016, meeting were unanimously approved on a motion by Vice Chair Meltzer, seconded by Commissioner Borelli.

E. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ketlyn Henry, MFT, new program manager at the Jewish Vocational Services' West Hollywood Employment Services and Training (WHEST), introduced herself and spoke about their current activities, including a job recruitment event with Shake Shack.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. AGENCY DEVELOPMENT REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

This item was approved as part of the agenda motion by Commissioner Borelli, seconded by Commissioner Davis.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

B. YEAR-END REPORT ON SOCIAL SERVICES

Staff introduced the year-end report on social services, thanking the agencies which were the City's contractors for providing social services to community members. The end of the 2015-2016 contract year marked the end of the third year of a 3-year funding cycle. He spoke about elements of the year's work, including anticipation of unusually wet weather; working with PATH; Shelter Plus Care; and reviewing the work of agencies.

The amount of returned funds is \$50,227.07. Staff plans to return with a recommendation on these funds at the meeting of February 14, 2017.

Staff reviewed elements of the year-end report, including the transition from Shelter Plus Care to Continuum of Care; the HIV Law and Policy Project; and McIntyre House.

Commissioners posed questions and discussed aspects of the report, including the overall increase in use of social services; how agency staffing problems are handled; Project Chicken Soup; the LA LGBT Center's mental health services; social/recreational opportunities for seniors; identifying trends and cycles in agency performance; and ways to improve performance.

Joan Mithers, who has joined staff as a Social Services Program Administrator, was introduced to the Commission.

A. HIV ZERO STRATEGIC PLAN DRAFT

Staff provided the draft HIV Zero Strategic Plan to the Commission, and spoke about PEP/PrEP brochures, "Text PrEP" cards; and working to decrease the transmission of HIV.

Aaron Celious, Ph.D., of the Maroon Society, presented a PowerPoint on the project's goals, including expanding access to health care; reducing HIV infections; reducing HIV-related disparities in health care; and reducing the number of cases that advance to AIDS.

Commissioners discussed possibly including economic and demographic information about the population, to the extent possible under confidentiality rules; and how to reach younger people who did not live through the period of high fatalities from HIV/AIDS.

Staff is presenting the draft report to other boards and commissions, to inform and gather feedback.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. TRANSIT ANALYSIS

This item was postponed to an upcoming meeting.

5. EXCLUDED CONSENT

There were no excluded Consent items.

6. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The floor was opened for nominations for Chair for the term ending in November 2017. Commissioner Davis nominated Commissioner Meltzer, who accepted the nomination. An opportunity for other nominations was provided. In the absence of other nominations, it was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved to close nominations and declare Commissioner Meltzer elected.

The floor was opened for nominations for Vice Chair for the term ending in November 2017. Commissioner Davis nominated Commissioner Shandrick, who accepted the nomination. An opportunity for other nominations was provided. In the absence of other nominations, it was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved to close nominations and declare Commissioner Shandrick elected.

7. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Staff thanked Commissioner Palmieri for an outstanding year of service as Chair. Staff spoke about partnering with the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) to do a more in-depth needs assessment regarding homelessness. Staff spoke about the quarter-cent tax approved at the November 2016 election, and about the JFS Telecheck program, which provides calls Monday through Friday, as well as the carrier alert program, which looks at whether mail is not being picked up. Staff said an internal group has been formed to monitor the actions of the new Administration.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

9. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioners thanked Commissioner Palmieri for an outstanding year as Chair; welcomed the new Chair and Vice Chair to their roles; and wished everyone happy holidays for the end of 2016.

Commissioner Borelli said the Communications subcommittee met with staff. He spoke about the need to plan a response for anticipated cuts in social services from the incoming Federal Administration.

Commissioner Davis thanked staff for their work during the year.

Commissioner Shandrick spoke about World AIDS Day, held on December 1st, and said the award-winners were very meaningful. He expressed concerns about the upcoming Federal Administration. With regard to the approximately \$50,000 returned during the contract year, he supported waiting to see whether it was better to spend it or save it.

Commissioner Cislowski spoke about the joint meeting with the Public Safety Commission last month. She asked about the October 2016 minutes, which will be on the January 2017 agenda. She wished everyone happy holidays.

Commissioner Meltzer said she was appointed by Supervisor Sheila Kuehl to the Purposeful Aging Workshop. She said that in attending the last three Senior Advisory Board meetings, she was aware that the topics of loneliness and isolation had come up, which are nearly invisible problems. She asked for clarification on an Aging in Place focus group.

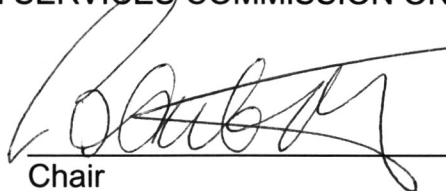
Commissioner Palmieri invited everyone to the #BOOM! Substance-free New Year's Eve event, to be held Dec. 31 in West Hollywood Park Auditorium. He thanked Commissioner Meltzer for her work as Vice Chair and said he was looking forward to her term as Chair. He thanked staff for work on homelessness.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The Human Services Commission was adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

The next regular meeting is at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 10, 2017, in the First-Floor Conference Room at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood, CA 90069.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION ON THE 10TH DAY OF JANUARY 2017.


Chair

Attest:


Secretary