

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD

Minutes of the Disabilities Advisory Board October 26, 2016 City Council Chambers, West Hollywood Park

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dore called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

3. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Jim Chud, Tom Demille, Suzanne Dietrich, Yola Dore, Joy Freiberg, Anny Semonco, Louise Smith, Rick Watts and Michael Wojtkielewicz

STAFF PRESENT: Corri Planck, Derek Murray and Kim Patterson

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda for the October 26, 2016 meeting was approved with consensus of the Board.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the September 28, 2016 meeting were approved with consensus of the Board.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Nina Parkinson discussed the Geri-Fit classes she is teaching at the West Hollywood Park Auditorium.

Marina Berkman and Yelena Ginko of the Comprehensive Services Center congratulated the Board on their successful Disabilities Awareness Month, and announced the services that they provide.

Josh Kurpies of the Office of Assemblyman Richard Bloom thanked the Board for their work during the past year and congratulated the awardees.

7. WELCOME BY DISABILITY ADVISORY BOARD CHAIR AND SPECIAL PERFORMANCE FROM THE BRAILLE INSTITUTE'S JOHNNY MERCER CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Chair Dore welcomed the audience to the annual televised meeting and reviewed some of the Board's accomplishments over the past year, including the Third Annual Health and Wellness Fair which served 100 participants. Then she introduced the Braille Institute's Johnny Mercer Children's Choir and they performed several songs.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. 2016 DISABILITY SERVICE AWARD PRESENTATIONS

Louise Smith announced a special recognition to Logan Williams of Cedars Sinai Hospital for his many years of close work with the Board.

City Councilmembers, along with Disabilities Advisory Board members, presented the 2016 Disability Service Awards:

Business Award to Team One USA

Non-Profit Award to ACEing Autism

Media Award to KCBS-Channel 2

Lovedy Brydon Differently Abled Individual Award to Cathy Blaivas and Stephanie Harker

B. PRESENTATION ON AVAILABLE SERVICES THROUGH THE WESTSIDE CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

Anthony Bright, Program Manager of the Westside Center for Independent Living, gave a presentation about their services, including the new West Hollywood Independent Living Program (WH-IL).

C. UPDATE ON TRANSIT SERVICES EVALUATION

Perri Sloane Goodman, Social Services & Transit Program Administrator, gave a Power Point update regarding the evaluation process for transit services that has a \$3 million budget and last year logged 182,000 trips. 800 people participated in the transit survey which will help develop the long-range plan for the City's transit needs.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

Jeanne Dobrin acknowledged the extraordinary work of Transit staff and the Board.

Steve Martin appreciated the great awards ceremony and all of the awardees.

10. BOARDMEMBER COMMENTS

Louise Smith spoke about her focus on healthcare, especially mental health services, and her interest in continuing and broadening the Health & Wellness Fair.

Anny Semonco said she is glad to be able to give back to the community, and encouraged people to vote.

Jim Chud is in the process of starting a company that promotes assistive devices, and will be on a national tour with trainings at each stop.

Joy Freiberg congratulated the awardees and thanked the Council for the opportunity to serve. She spoke about how this year marks the 26th anniversary of

the Americans with Disabilities Act and yet adults with disabilities are 50% more likely to live in poverty.

Rick Watts highlighted that the Disabilities Awareness Month banners recognizes the abilities of the person featured. He proposed that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Tom Hayden, a protester turned politician.

Tom Demille said that local businesses should be encouraged to provide jobs for people living with disabilities. He requested that people living with disabilities and seniors have low cost access to the City's bike share program. He also suggested that a card be designed to educate drivers who illegally park in spaces that are reserved for people who are disabled. Lastly, he suggested a pop-up food bank be created.

Michael Wojtkielewicz reiterated several aphorisms that the awardees exemplify. He announced that during the holiday months he will donate his November and December Board service checks to the Braille Institute's Johnny Mercer Children's Choir.

Vice-Chair Dietrich reported that not all of the accessible pedestrian signals are working. She announced that October is also Breast Cancer Awareness Month and encouraged early detection.

Chair Dore said that she wants to be a better volunteer, and encouraged better communication, including listening. She thanked the Board, staff and City leaders for their important work.

11. ITEMS FROM STAFF

There were no announcements.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8 pm in memory of Tom Hayden and Mike the Tiger to the next meeting on Wednesday, December 14, 2016 at 5:00 pm in Room 5 at Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood, CA 90046.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD ON THIS 26th DAY OF OCTOBER, 2016.



YOLA DORE,
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:



Derek Murray,
STAFF LIAISON

A copy of the audio recording of this meeting can be obtained from the City Clerk's office upon request.

(Disclaimer: Staff records the meetings for the sole purpose of composing the official meeting minutes; therefore the recordings are not of commercial quality.)