

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD

Minutes of the Disabilities Advisory Board January 25, 2017 Rooms 5 & 6, Plummer Park

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Joy Freiberg led the pledge of allegiance.

B. ROLL CALL

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

ABSENT: Suzanne Dietrich

STAFF PRESENT: David Giugni, Joan Mithers, Derek Murray and Kim Patterson

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda for the January 25, 2017 meeting was approved by the Board.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the December 14, 2016 meeting were approved by the Board, with corrections from Michael Wojtkielewicz.

E. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

2. NEW BUSINESS

A. HIV ZERO STRATEGIC PLAN

David Giugni, Social Services Manager, gave a presentation on the City's HIV Zero Strategic Plan, including the four goals, indicators of progress, and the role of contracted and collaborative service providers. Even if there are changing policies with the Affordable Care Act, there will be continued effort to provide community members access to comprehensive health care and HIV prevention services.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH ACTIVITIES DEBRIEF

The Board held a debrief of the activities during Disabilities Awareness Month. Overall, the Board was pleased with the Health & Wellness event, though the

attendance was lower than the previous two years, and there was discussion about increasing attendance next year. The Board generally felt that the televised meeting was successful, but there were glitches that need to be corrected for the future. The 2017 subcommittee for Disabilities Awareness Month are Tom Demille, Yola Dore, Anny Semonco, and Michael Wojtkielewicz, with Rick Watts as the alternate.

B. STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION DEBRIEF

The Board evaluated the Strategic Planning Session that was held on December 14. Most felt that the meeting was enlightening and needed. There was concern that there was no reference of the work plan. Facilitator Diane Burbie will return to the February meeting to continue the planning process and develop the work plan.

4. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Joan Mithers announced two Community Conversations on Housing that will be hosted by the City, one on February 1 at West Hollywood Park, and the other on February 16 at Plummer Park.

Derek Murray brought back information requested by the DAB at their September meeting regarding Supported Employment Programs. He said that Public Facilities currently contracts with Social Vocational Services for recycling services. Social Vocational Services is a 501©3 nonprofit that provides supported employment for people with developmental disabilities. He stated that the Human Resources Division is open to suggestions for agencies to reach out to with job postings. Derek also gave an update on the Affordable Care Act. He announced that February is Low Vision Awareness Month and American Heart Month, and February 21-27 is National Eating Disorder Awareness Week.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Tiffany Robinson, Senior Planner for WeHo Pedals, addressed plans to consider rental bicycles that are better suited for people with mobility issues. There is a special reduced rate for people with low incomes.

Cathy Blaivas, resident, thanked the Board for the Individual Award that she received, and asked if there is a way that the Board can oversee ADA violations in buildings in the City.

Jerome Boyce, resident, suggested that the City consult the populations affected by HIV in the HIV Zero strategic plan and not only service providers. One idea is to reinstitute a speakers bureau.

6. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Anny Semonco reported on the Stonewall Democrats meeting and suggested that an adult tricycle be included in the WeHo Pedals program, along with a place to park a wheelchair. She announced that the Vagina Monologues play will be

performed on February 11 at City Council Chambers as a benefit for Planned Parenthood.

Rick Watts announced the annual Homeless Count on January 26, and thanked everyone who participated in the clean-up at West Hollywood Elementary School on Martin Luther King's birthday. He also thanked all those who donated to Fast2Feed; he was able to raise enough money to feed 1,000 people.

Michael Wojtkielewicz addressed ethics issues, in regards to the Board role in serving the community, and he said the Board has not been following the bylaws. He said that the Board should be not knowingly use false or inaccurate information. He announced that the SOVA Food Pantry on Pico and Robertson has food available for those in need.

Tom Demille reported that the City's Human Resources could post job announcements in the West Hollywood Community Housing Corporation newsletters, to reach out to the disabled community.

Chair Dore requested that staff report on the status of the Affordable Care Act and healthcare on a quarterly basis and asked the Board if there was consensus to receive such reports. There was consensus from the Board and Michael Wojtkielewicz and Louie Smith, requested that the report include a report on Medicare and community nonprofit health clinics. She announced that the Senior Valentine's Dance will be held at Fiesta Hall in Plummer Park on February 14, and that Tom Demille will sing.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned to its next special meeting, which will be held at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, February 22, 2017, in Rooms 5&6 of Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood 90046.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD ON THIS 25th DAY OF JANUARY 2017.



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.)