

**MINUTES  
HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION  
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD**

**FEBRUARY 13, 2018  
6:00 PM**

**FIRST FLOOR COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM  
8300 SANTA MONICA BLVD  
WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA 90069**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Patrick Shandrick called the meeting to order at 6:09 pm.

**A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Lisa Belsanti led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**B. ROLL CALL** –

**PRESENT:** Elizabeth Anderson, Sam Borelli, Nate Clark, Steven L. Davis, Barbara Meltzer, Jimmy Palmieri, Patrick Shandrick.  
**ABSENT:** None.  
**ALSO PRESENT:** David Giugni, Acting Director of Human Services and Rent Stabilization; Derek Murray, Diane Kahn-Epstein, Jeff Book.

**C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Commissioner Davis requested that Item 2.B. Request for Qualifications for the Community Study for the City of West Hollywood, be pulled from the Consent Calendar. Commissioner Borelli requested that Item 2.A. Criteria for Re-Programming of Savings from Social Services Contracts, be pulled from the Consent Calendar. Without objection these items were moved to 5.A. and 5.B., Excluded Consent Calendar. Commissioner Shandrick asked that Item 4.B. be taken up before Item 3, and that the order of Items 3.A. and 3.B. be reversed.

**ACTION:** Approve the agenda for February 13, 2018, as amended. Motion by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Meltzer, and approved unanimously by roll call vote.

**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**ACTION:** Approve the minutes of the January 9, 2018, meeting. Motion by Commissioner Meltzer, seconded by Commissioner Clark, and approved unanimously by roll call vote.

**E. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Yola Dore said how much she appreciated the City Council's Study Session on Homelessness. She wished everyone a happy Mardi Gras and Valentine's Day.

**2. CONSENT CALENDAR**

There were no items on the Consent Calendar.

**4. NEW BUSINESS**

**B. SOCIAL SERVICES VIDEO PROJECT**

*Subject: The Human Services Commission will receive an update on the Social Services Video Project.*

Lisa Belsanti, Communications Director, and Joshua Schare, Communications Manager, spoke about two public service announcements that came from the work of the Human Services Commission and have been produced by a contracted videographer. The topics are: the HIV Zero campaign, with Jeffrey Rodriguez of the LA LGBT Center West Hollywood; and the Homeless Initiative, with Jake Weinraub, mental health clinician at the LA LGBT Center. The Commission watched and discussed the videos, which will appear on the City Channel and social media. Commissioner Borelli said that the original Public Relations subcommittee, consisting of himself and Commissioners Meltzer and Shandrick, plan to show the videos at board and commission meetings, with a call to action that will underscore the services available and how to access them.

**3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**B. LA LGBT CENTER'S MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES REPORT**

*Subject: The LA LGBT Center's Mental Health Services program staff will provide a status report to the Human Services Commission.*

Diane Kubrin, Director of Mental Health Services at the LA LGBT Center, discussed their most recent monthly report, which showed them meeting or exceeding in a number of categories. She discussed ways they are conducting outreach and building relationships with other agencies.

**A. BEING ALIVE REPORT**

*Subject: The Human Services Commission will receive a status report from staff of Being Alive.*

Jamie Baker, Program Manager, and Garry George Bowie, Executive Director of Being Alive, discussed progress with outreach and the challenges of their intern program.

**4. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. INPUT FOR THE CITY'S PLAN TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS**

*Subject: The Human Services Commission will provide input for the City's Plan to Address Homelessness.*

Staff introduced Abby Arnold, consultant working with the City on the Plan to Address Homelessness. She asked for input on unmet needs and other ideas that Commissioners may have on the subject. The City Council

recently held a study session on this subject.

Commissioners said planning should emphasize outreach and education; that the project should include housing retention initiatives, to help connect housed people with the importance of the program; to continue to invest in multi-disciplinary street teams; the importance of prevention; the need for the public to understand what the City is doing about homelessness; more aggressive steps toward helping the mental health issues of the homeless; and consideration of rental assistance and tenant protections.

David Giugni said the unofficial count of the homeless, taken in January, was 89 adults, down from 92 last year. He also provided data on youth, vans, tents, and shelters.

## **5. EXCLUDED CONSENT**

### **A. CRITERIA FOR RE-PROGRAMMING OF SAVINGS FROM SOCIAL SERVICES CONTRACTS**

*Subject: The Human Services Commission will receive the updated criteria for the re-programming of savings from Social Services contracts.*

Staff presented a report on re-programming of savings from Social Services contracts, highlighting changes.

**ACTION:** Commissioner Borelli moved if the Commission and staff do not reach agreement on the recommendation on the re-programming of contract savings, the Commission's recommendation will be listed as the primary recommendation in the staff report to Council, with staff's listed as an alternative. This was seconded by Commissioner Meltzer and unanimously approved on a roll-call vote.

### **B. REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE COMMUNITY STUDY FOR THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD**

*Subject: The Human Services Commission will consider recommending to the City Council that a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) be issued to solicit consultants to conduct a Community Study for the City of West Hollywood.*

Staff presented a Request for Qualifications for consultants to conduct a Community Study, and said the report was planned to go to City Council on March 5. Commissioner Clark said the survey instrument could be improved by adding questions about public education.

**ACTION:** Commissioner Meltzer moved to recommend to the City Council that the Request for Qualifications be issued. This was seconded by Commissioner Borelli and unanimously approved on a roll call vote.

## **6. ITEMS FROM STAFF**

David Giugni is Acting Director of Human Services and Rent Stabilization. He reconvened the working group on Wellness at Any Age, and reviewed classes

being offered. Staff spoke about development of Seniors in Action; the upcoming Homeless Connect day at the West Hollywood Park Auditorium on February 28; and the Older Adults Dance, to be held in Fiesta Hall tomorrow, February 14.

**7. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**8. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioner Clark spoke about increasing dialogue on public education, and asked that conducting a survey at the Kids Fair be considered.

Commissioner Anderson said recent minutes of the Transportation Commission showed calming of traffic on Fountain Avenue, which has been a goal.

Commissioner Davis said he attended the Transgender Advisory Board as liaison and was appalled at the frequent reports of murders of trans women. He also said that the City should look at barriers that seniors experience in accessing City programs and assistance.

Commissioner Palmieri asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Joseph Burkhart. There was no objection.

Commissioner Borelli attended the Disabilities Advisory Board meeting. He asked that the meeting also be adjourned in memory of Matt Palazzolo, former member of the Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board, and spoke about the Celebration of Life event being held in his memory. Commissioner Clark said that the Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board is recommending that Matt Palazzolo be one of this year's Rainbow Key honorees.

Commissioner Shandrick spoke about doing the homeless count.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

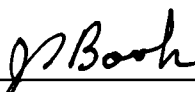
The Human Services Commission was adjourned in memory of Joseph Burkhart and Matt Palazzolo, to its next regular meeting, which is at 6 pm, Tuesday, March 13, 2018, in the First-Floor Community Conference Room at West Hollywood City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood 90069.

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APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION ON THE  
13TH DAY OF MARCH 2018.

  
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Chair

Attest:

  
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Secretary