

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD

Minutes of the Disabilities Advisory Board

June 26, 2019

Rooms 5 & 6, Plummer Park

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice-Chair Freiberg led the pledge of allegiance.

B. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Yola Dore, Joy Freiberg, Mikie Friedman, Danny Hang, Anny Semonco and Louise Smith

ABSENT: David Nash and Rick Watts

STAFF PRESENT: Joan Mithers, Derek Murray and Kim Patterson

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda for the June 26, 2019 meeting was approved by the Board.

D. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the May 22, 2019 meeting and the Workplan Updates were approved by the Board.

3. NEW BUSINESS

A. CAREGIVING PRESENTATION

The Board received a presentation from Maria-Elena Mata, Outreach Coordinator of the LA County Adult Protective Services Program and Planning Division. She reviewed the materials that she distributed, outlining the extensive services that they refer through their call center to persons over 60 years of age and to persons with disabilities and veterans of any age. One of the programs that she featured is the Family Caregiver Support Program which provides support and trainings to unpaid caregivers caring for elderly relatives, or to older caregivers of younger family members. The purpose of the program is to help minimize the negative emotional, physical, and financial consequences of unpaid family caregiving.

B. OUTREACH EVENT: NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

The Board unanimously selected the Gateway Plaza as the location for their outreach booth, and selected the following Areas of Focus for the information table:

1. Mental Health and Counseling
2. Emergency Preparedness for People with Disabilities
3. HIV Prevention, Treatment and Support Services
4. Food Resources
5. Transportation Services in West Hollywood
6. Fentanyl Strips
7. General Social Services for West Hollywood Community Members with Disabilities

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

5. EXCLUDED CONSENT

None.

6. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Staff made the following announcements:

- The next Disabilities Awareness Month Subcommittee will be on Tuesday, July 9 at 1 PM.
- The Human Services Commission will meet to discuss the Requests for Proposal for Social Services contracts on July 9 from 6-8 PM in Council Chambers.
- The mandatory Board and Commission training will be held on July 17 at 6 PM in Council Chambers.
- Items for the DAB's July 24 meeting will include: 1) elections for Board Chair and Vice-Chair, 2) a fentanyl training, and 3) the selection of a representative to the Complete Count Committee for the 2020 Census.
- If any Board members have changes they would like to see on the Disabilities Awards nomination form, they can email them to City staff. The deadline for nominations will be mid-August.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

8. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS:

The Board thanked Maria-Elena Mata for her presentation.

Danny Hang attended the Pride Festival and rode in the parade on a City vehicle. He thought that Christopher Street West successfully resolved accessibility issues this year. He also attended the Mayor's Welcome, along with Louise

Smith and Rick Watts. He will be attending the World Pride activities in New York City.

Anny Semonco was unable to attend the Pride Parade due to the heat. She reported that she almost got scammed and advised people to not answer the phone if the number is not a familiar one.

Louise Smith made the following announcements:

- She attended the County Board of Supervisors' breakfast with Supervisors Sheila Kuehl and Hilda Solis where the primary issue of homelessness was addressed.
- She announced that 28 scholarships were awarded to students with disabilities, thanks to the fundraising of the County Commission on Disabilities.
- She invited the Board to be her guests at the upcoming County Commission luncheon on October 21 at the Omni Hotel.
- She attended today's Senior Advisory Board meeting where they had a speaker on fraud.
- She bought and recommended a new phone that screens calls to prevent scam callers.
- She reported that there have been phone outages resulting in disconnections to her medical alert.

Yola Dore asked for information on the next Sample Saturday event. Staff will investigate and report back. She would like to have a speaker about the Smart City plans which she understands will have many services for seniors and people with disabilities. Lastly, she wished Chair Friedman a belated happy birthday.

Vice-Chair Freiberg wasn't able to attend the Pride festivities but watched on Channel 7. She asked to adjourn the meeting in memory of her friend Jason Krieger who was a caregiver.

Chair Friedman congratulated the City on its All American City award. She thanked Boardmember Dore for taking her place on the Pride float. She visited Boardmember Nash who is recovering from surgery.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The Disabilities Advisory Board adjourned at 8 PM in memory of Jason Krieger to its next meeting on Wednesday, July 24, 2019 beginning at 6 PM in Rooms 5 & 6 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 JUNE, 2019.


MIKIE FRIEDMAN,
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:



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.)