

**HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES
JULY 9, 2019
6 PM
WEST HOLLYWOOD CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Sam Borelli called the special meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 625 N. San Vicente Blvd., 90069.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Rachel Resnick led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Sam Borelli, Nate Clark, Steven L., Davis, Barbara Meltzer, Jimmy Palmieri, Andrew L. Reback, Patrick Shandrick

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT:

David Giugni, Social Services Manager; Leslie Isenberg, Derek Murray, Joan Mithers, Elizabeth Anderson, and Jeff Book.

C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

ACTION: Approve the Agenda of Tuesday, July 9, 2019. Motion by Commissioner Meltzer, seconded by Commissioner Shandrick, and unanimously approved by roll call vote.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION: Approve the minutes of June 11, 2019. Motion by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Meltzer, and unanimously approved by roll call vote.

E. PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Julie Smith of Friendly House spoke about the usefulness of that agency's programs, which seek to use the newest science and best practices in their field.
2. Alexis Sanchez of the West Hollywood Project provided an update on #SIZZLE!, the alcohol- and substance-free carnival at LAPRIDE. She advocated for funded social services agencies to work collaboratively with other agencies.
3. Bamby Salcedo, founder of the TransLatin@ Coalition, spoke about the importance of continuing to provide critical services for all sectors of people in the city.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no items on the Consent Calendar.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION'S REVIEW OF SOCIAL SERVICES PROPOSALS

David Giugni reported that Commissioners had the opportunity to ask questions of Social Services staff and/or agency staff about the social services proposals as soon as they were received. A summary of questions and responses had been provided.

Public Comment:

1. Fred Summers thanked the City for its many years of support for the programs of Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles. He spoke in support of a modest increase for the new funding cycle due to ongoing need.
2. Yola Doré spoke about the need to support community members undergoing catastrophic illness. She spoke in support of additional funding for the Senior Center and the LA LGBT Center to address these issues.

Commissioners thanked social services agencies for the work they do for the community, and posed questions to several of the applicant agencies.

Mikko D. Sperber and Jennifer Jorge, representing the Motion Picture and Television Fund, clarified that anyone who has worked in the entertainment business, whether in front of or behind the camera, is eligible for their services. If anyone seeking help is not eligible, they work with partner agencies like Jewish Family Service and Bet Tzedek to help them find services.

Paul Chavez and Chris Clarkin, representing the WeHo Life program at the LA LGBT Center, spoke about the process of review for videos that appear on their website, and discussed the monthly reports of condom distribution.

Tim Alderson, executive director of Seeds of Hope, spoke about the agency's mission of growing and distributing food. They are a community partner with the West Hollywood Community Housing Corporation.

Kiera Pollock, representing the LA LGBT Center's Senior Program, and April Harris and Alla Chasnik, on behalf of Bet Tzedek Legal Services, also responded to questions.

B. HIV ZERO INITIATIVE YEAR THREE MIDYEAR REPORT

Aaron Celious, Ph.D., the City's consultant for the HIV Zero Initiative, provided a slideshow of information about the accomplishments of the program. The program's goals include expanding access to healthcare for people living with HIV or at elevated risk for acquiring HIV; reducing new HIV infections; reducing HIV-related disparities and health inequalities; and slowing the progression of the disease from HIV to Stage 3 (AIDS).

Public Comment: John Erickson said that women had not been mentioned during the presentation, and recommended more awareness of gender inclusivity, because meetings of this Commission are very male- and cisgender-oriented.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. EXTENSION OF METRO RAIL SERVICE TO THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD

Joanna Hankamer and David Fenn of the City's Planning and Development Services Department spoke about work to bring rail service back to West Hollywood, especially by accelerating by 20 years the completion of the Crenshaw Line Northern Extension, currently slated for 2041. West Hollywood Advocates for Metro Rail (WHAM) supports these efforts.

5. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR:

There were no Excluded Consent Calendar items.

6. ITEMS FROM STAFF:

David Giugni reminded Commissioners of the training for Commission and Board Members planned for July 17.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no Public Comment.

8. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Palmieri spoke about the very large attendance at #SIZZLE!, as part of the LA PRIDE festival. Commissioner Meltzer said Gov. Newsom has asked for a master plan for aging, and she attended a meeting on the subject and will keep the Commission informed as it progresses.

9. ADJOURNMENT: The Human Services Commission was adjourned at 8:30 pm to a Special Meeting and Public Hearing to be held Tuesday, July 23, 2019, beginning at 6:00 pm, in the West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room/Council Chambers at 625 North San Vicente Boulevard, 90069. This is also the address for rideshare or drop-off.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION ON THE
23RD DAY OF JULY 2019.



Chair

Attest:



Secretary