

**HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES
JULY 30, 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** – Kris Nameth led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. **ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Sam Borelli, 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, Corri Planck, Elizabeth Anderson, Diane Kahn-Epstein, and Jeff Book.

C. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

ACTION: Approve the agenda of Tuesday, July 30, 2019. Motion by Commissioner Meltzer, seconded by Commissioner Palmieri, and unanimously approved by roll call vote.

D. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

ACTION: Approve the minutes of July 23, 2019. Motion by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Meltzer, and unanimously approved by roll call vote.

E. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Alexis Sanchez thanked the Human Services Commission for their work in developing Social Services funding recommendations.
2. Liza Ceballos spoke about her experience in several roles at the TransLatin@ Coalition, including volunteer and case manager.
3. Maria Roman, TransLatin@ Coalition, thanked the Human Services Commission for really listening to and considering their remarks.
4. Bamby Salcedo, TransLatin@ Coalition, spoke about the agency's proposal to provide social services.
5. Paul Chavez, Los Angeles LGBT Center, spoke about his program's work to improve their proposal.

2. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

There were no items on the Consent Calendar.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. 2019-2020 SOCIAL SERVICES FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

David Giugni described the process leading to Social Services funding recommendations, which has included a community study, gathering of information from the City's other Commissions and Advisory Boards, extensive public outreach, and a Public Hearing held at the meeting of July 23, 2019.

Based on the current budget allocation of \$5,077,713, staff recommended funding for these current City-funded social services providers: Alliance for Housing and Healing; APLA Health Community Support; Ascencia; Being Alive; Bet Tzedek; Disability Community Resource Center (DCRC); Friends Research Institute HIV Education; Friends Research Institute Outpatient; Housing Works; Jewish Family Service (JFS) Comprehensive Services; JFS Nutrition; JFS SOVA; JVS SoCal WeHo Works; Los Angeles LGBT Center Mental Health; Los Angeles LGBT Center Sexual Health; Los Angeles LGBT Center Transgender Economic Empowerment Project; Los Angeles LGBT Center WeHo LIFE; Los Angeles LGBT Center Homeless Youth Services; McIntyre House; Men's Health Foundation; National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW); Pathways; PAWS/LA; Planned Parenthood; Project Angel Food; Saban Community Clinic; St. Thomas the Apostle Church; Step Up on Second; and Tarzana Treatment Centers.

Staff also recommended funding for these applicants who are not current City-funded providers: Awakening Recovery, Inc.; Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles – Seeds of Hope, JQ International, Los Angeles LGBT Center Senior Services; Trans Can Work, Inc.; and TransLatin@ Coalition. Tarzana Treatment Centers and Awakening Recovery, Inc., will also have access to the Treatment/Supportive Housing Pool of Funds.

Staff recommended that the City Council approve an additional \$357,939 in General Funds be allocated to Social Services contracts to enter into or augment contracts with Alliance for Housing and Healing, Ascencia, JFS Comprehensive Services, JQ International, Los Angeles LGBT Center Senior Services, National Council of Jewish Women, Seeds of Hope, and Step Up on Second.

The Commission received public comment on this agenda item from:

1. Yola Doré, in support of JFS Comprehensive Services and other programs addressing catastrophic illness and community needs
2. Brian Hardin, on behalf of McIntyre House
3. Cory Smith, on behalf of McIntyre House
4. Gary Seiden, on behalf of McIntyre House
5. Asher Gellis, on behalf of JQ International

6. Siona Huyck, on behalf of Ascencia and TransLatina@ Coalition
7. Jessie Kornberg, on behalf of Bet Tzedek
8. Kiera Pollock, on behalf of LA LGBT Center Senior Services

Chair Borelli said that he and Commissioner Palmieri would like to recommend that the City begin providing tampons and sanitary pads to the community at no cost, from all public buildings.

Commissioner Meltzer said she was glad to see that support for family caregivers was included in the social services requested by the City. She said that although no agency applied to provide these this year, she will continue to advocate for these purposes, as well as dementia and loneliness.

Commissioner Davis said his preference on contracts would be to provide greater funding than the staff recommendation for JFS SOVA, Raise A Child, and McIntyre House.

ACTIONS:

Funding Recommendations

Commissioner Davis moved to approve the staff recommendations as presented, with the exceptions of APLA Health, Friends Research Institute, Men's Health Foundation, Saban Community Clinic, and Seeds of Hope. This was seconded by Commissioner Meltzer, and approved by a roll-call vote 6 to 0.

APLA Health and Friends Research Institute

Commissioner Reback recused himself from discussion of funding for APLA Health and Friends Research Institute, and left the room.

Chair Borelli moved to approve the staff recommendation regarding funding for APLA Health and Friends Research Institute. This was seconded by Commissioner Shandrick, and approved by a roll-call vote of 5 to 0.

Commissioner Reback returned to the meeting.

Men's Health Foundation

Commissioner Davis recused himself from discussion of funding for Men's Health Foundation, and left the room.

Chair Borelli moved to approve the staff recommendation regarding funding for Men's Health Foundation. This was seconded by Commissioner Meltzer, and approved by a roll-call vote of 5 to 0.

Commissioner Davis returned to the meeting.

Saban Community Clinic

Commissioner Palmieri recused himself from discussion of funding for Saban Community Clinic, and left the room.

Chair Borelli moved to approve the staff recommendation regarding funding for Saban Community Clinic. This was seconded by Commissioner Shandrick, and approved by a roll-call vote of 5 to 0.

Seeds of Hope

Chair Borelli recused himself from discussion of funding for Seeds of Hope. In the absence of a Vice Chair, he passed the gavel to Commissioner Davis, the longest-serving member present, and left the room.

Commissioner Meltzer moved to approve the staff recommendation regarding funding for Seeds of Hope. This was seconded by Commissioner Reback and approved by a roll-call vote of 5 to 0.

Chair Borelli returned to the meeting and resumed the chair.

Funding Recommendation	Motion to Approve	Second	Vote
All Recommendations, with exception of the following four	Davis	Meltzer	Aye, 6-0
APLA Health, Friends Research Institute	Borelli	Shandrick	Aye, 5-0 – Reback recused
Men's Health Foundation	Borelli	Meltzer	Aye, 5-0 – Davis recused
Saban Community Clinic	Borelli	Shandrick	Aye, 5-0 – Palmieri recused
Seeds of Hope	Meltzer	Reback	Aye, 5-0 – Borelli recused

Commissioners discussed designating a member to speak on the group's behalf at the City Council meeting that will act on the Social Services recommendations. Without objection, the Commission designated Chair Borelli to speak on their behalf.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

ACTION: Chair Borelli moved to cancel the Human Services Commission meeting of August 13, 2019, and to postpone election of a Vice Chair to the meeting of September 10, 2019. This was seconded by Commissioner Palmieri and approved by a vote of 4 to 2, with Chair Borelli and Commissioners Meltzer, Palmieri, and Shandrick voting in favor, and Commissioners Davis and Reback opposed.

B. COMPLETE COUNT COMMITTEE: 2020 CENSUS

ACTION: Commissioner Meltzer nominated Commissioner Reback to represent the Human Services Commission on the City's Complete Count Committee for the 2020 Census. This was seconded by Commissioner Davis and unanimously approved.

5. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR:

There were no Excluded Consent Calendar items.

6. ITEMS FROM STAFF:

Commissioners were provided with copies of the Social Services Guide in its new Russian translation. David Giugni thanked Nina Tolchinski for her work in translating the Guide. Commissioner Reback asked that when possible the Social Services Guide also be provided in Spanish translation.

Staff said there will be a screening of "The Advocates," a film about advocates on homelessness in Los Angeles, on August 28, 2019, in the City Council Chambers, and that the Disabilities Advisory Board will participate in National Night Out on August 6 at The Gateway.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no additional Public Comment.

8. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioners thanked staff and all the representatives from the agencies for their work in developing and editing the recommendations for Social Services.

Commissioner Shandrick agreed with an earlier public comment by Bamby Salcedo that the City should consider a needs assessment for the transgender community.

9. **ADJOURNMENT:** The Human Services Commission was adjourned at 7:26 pm to a Regular Meeting to be held Tuesday, September 10, 2019, beginning at 6:00 pm, in the First Floor Conference Room at West Hollywood City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, 90069. The address for rideshare or drop-off is 1085 North Sweetzer Avenue, 90069.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION ON THE
10TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2019.


Chair

Attest:


Secretary