

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

**DECEMBER 10, 2019
6:00 PM**

**WEST HOLLYWOOD CITY HALL
FIRST FLOOR CONFERENCE
ROOM
8300 SANTA MONICA
BOULEVARD
WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA 90069**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Andrew L. Reback called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.
 - A. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Elizabeth Anderson led the Pledge of Allegiance.
 - B. **ROLL CALL**
PRESENT: Sam Borelli, Steven L., Davis, Barbara Meltzer,
Jimmy Palmieri, Andrew L. Reback, Marquita Thomas
ABSENT: Patrick Shandrick

ALSO PRESENT: David Giugni, Social Services Manager; Corri Planck,
Strategic Initiatives Manager; Leslie Isenberg, Derek
Murray, Joan Mithers, Elizabeth Anderson, Diane Kahn-
Epstein, and Kim Patterson
 - C. **ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS:**
Commissioner Borelli moved to adjourn in memory of Steve Ganzell.
 - D. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**
ACTION: Approve the Agenda of Tuesday, December 10, 2019, as amended. Motion by Commissioner Borelli, seconded by Commissioner Davis, and approved unanimously by roll-call vote.
 - E. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
ACTION: Approve the minutes of November 12, 2019. Motion by Commissioner Borelli, seconded by Commissioner Meltzer, and approved with one abstention by Commissioner Palmieri, by roll-call vote.
 - F. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
TJ Hill, Executive Director of the Disability Community Resource Center, introduced himself to the Human Services Commission, thanked the Commission for their support, and spoke about the valued partnership they

share with the City.

David Pieribone of the Men's Health Foundation introduced himself as a relatively new member of their staff. He looks forward to working with the Commission and the City.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR:

A. 2019-2020 AGENCY DEVELOPMENT FUNDS

The Human Services Commission received a report on the Agency Development funding awards.

ACTION: Approval of the Consent Calendar was moved by Commissioner Borelli, seconded by Commissioner Thomas, and approved unanimously.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. HIV ZERO INITIATIVE YEAR THREE EVALUATION REPORT

Dr. Aaron Celious of the Maroon Society gave a PowerPoint presentation outlining the HIV Zero Initiative Year Three Evaluation Report. Overall, progress was made in achieving the goals of increasing healthcare coverage, reducing annual HIV/AIDS diagnosis, and reducing HIV disparities.

Commissioners raised questions about a lack of concern about transmission and lower use of condoms among younger people.

B. YEAR-END REPORT ON SOCIAL SERVICES PROGRAMMING 2018-19

David Giugni, Social Services Manager, gave an overview of the Client Demographics which totaled 9,214 people served during the 2018-19 contract year –a slight increase over the previous year's number. This was followed by more detailed reports from the Social Services staff who monitor the programs.

Commissioners asked for clarification about how to resolve persistent low numbers for some agencies; dissemination of information to residents; barriers to employment; geo-coding for street level data collection; outreach for nutrition services; dissemination of safer sex kits; and the process of setting goals and budgets. Commissioners congratulated agencies which have made important contributions through their services to the City's residents.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. PRESENTATION TO THE HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION FROM SOCIAL SERVICES PROVIDERS (AWAKENING RECOVERY)

David van der Velde, Executive Director of Awakening Recovery, gave a presentation detailing their outreach services and unique long-term

structured recovery for community members (men 18+) seeking lasting recovery from alcoholism and drug addiction.

Commissioners requested more information about what a day is like at the agency/home; who trains the peer mentors; and who provides employment once the men are ready to work.

B. HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION'S 2020 WORK PLAN CALENDAR

Given the lateness of the hour, the Human Services Commission began discussion of the 2020 work plan and made some initial recommendations:

- Social isolation and loneliness, perhaps from an outside expert like the Motion Picture and Television Fund
- Dementia, for all populations, perhaps with the Alzheimer's Association
- Communications, with City staff
- Dedicated agenda item on employment services
- Commission and Advisory Board Liaison assignments
- Measure H and HHH funding
- Site visits to new agencies and to Friends Research Institute's new location
- Domestic violence/intimate partner abuse, with Public Safety staff

5. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR:

There were no Excluded Consent Calendar items.

6. ITEMS FROM STAFF:

David Giugni announced that beginning January 2, 2020, bus passes for seniors and people living with disabilities in West Hollywood will be free of charge. He also announced that Perri Sloane Goodman, Transportation Program Administrator, will retire on December 24, 2019 after many years of service to the City.

Derek Murray announced that Being Alive will hold their Syringe Service Program on December 14 and 28 from 4-7 PM in collaboration with the AIDS Healthcare Foundation mobile testing team. He also announced that Tarzana Treatment Centers and La CADA will provide educational information and referrals.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Yola Dore, resident, expressed her enjoyment as liaison to the Commission from the Disabilities Advisory Board. She also wished everyone happy holidays.

8. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Borelli said the TransLatin@ Coalition graduation ceremony may be an appropriate time to schedule a visit and asked for the Commission to be notified of its time and date. He wished everyone happy, healthy holidays and new year.

Commissioner Thomas commended Chair Reback for his leadership at the World

AIDS Day program and to the staff for the great event. She wished everyone happy holidays.

Commissioner Palmieri distributed cards for the #Boom! Drug and Alcohol-Free New Year's Eve event that may attract over 1,000 people.

Commissioner Meltzer congratulated Chair Reback on handling his first Commission meeting.

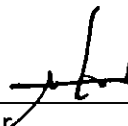
Vice-Chair Davis appreciated the participation of all seven Commissioners at the World AIDS Day event. He was particularly moved by the CITYX1 Warrior Award recipient's acceptance speech.

Chair Reback said that he enjoyed chairing the meeting and is open to suggestions on ways to improve. He also was thankful for the invitation to host the World AIDS Day event.

9. ADJOURNMENT:

In memory of Steve Ganzell, the Human Services Commission was adjourned at 8:55 pm to the next regular meeting, on Tuesday, January 14, 2020, at 6:00 pm in the First Floor Conference Room at West Hollywood City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood, CA 90069. The rideshare/drop-off address is 1085 North Sweetzer Avenue, West Hollywood, CA 90069.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION ON THE 14TH DAY OF JANUARY 2020.

Chair 

Attest:

Secretary 