

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

**October 13, 2020
6:00 PM**

TELECONFERENCE

1. CALL TO ORDER: Chair Reback called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Commission said the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. ROLL CALL: Human Services Commission Secretary Jenny Ivanova took roll call.

PRESENT: Sam Borelli, Steven Davis, Barbara Meltzer, Jimmy Palmieri, Andrew Reback, Patrick Shandrick, Marquita Thomas.

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Corri Planck, David Giugni, Leslie Isenberg, Derek Murray, Katie Egan, Jenny Ivanova

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

ACTION: Approve the agenda of Tuesday, October 13, 2020. Motion by Commissioner Borelli, seconded by Commissioner Thomas, and approved unanimously by roll call vote.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

ACTION: Approve the minutes of September 8, 2020. Motion by Commissioner Meltzer, seconded by Commissioner Palmieri, and approved unanimously by roll call vote.

E. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Yola Doré, liaison from the Disabilities Advisory Board, shared with the Human Services Commission that October is Disabilities Awareness Month. She shared that the Disabilities Advisory Board's annual televised meeting and awards ceremony will be held on Wednesday, October 28 as well as the Free Outdoor Flu Vaccination Clinic, which will take place at Plummer Park on Thursday, October 29, 2020.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR:

A. 2020-21 AGENCY DEVELOPMENT FUNDS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The Human Services Commission received a report on the Agency Development funds Request for Proposal (RFP).

ACTION: Approval of the Consent Calendar was moved by Commissioner Borelli, seconded by Commissioner Palmieri, and approved unanimously by roll call vote.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There are no items under unfinished business.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. UPDATE ON THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD'S EVICTION MORATORIUM

The Human Services Commission received a presentation from Yazmin Spiteri, Rent Stabilization & Housing Information Coordinator, on how the City is supporting tenants through the City of West Hollywood's Eviction Moratorium, as well as information on what renters can do to prevent eviction due to financial impact from COVID-19. Adriana Borge, Rent Stabilization & Housing Information Coordinator, provided an overview of the City's process on maintaining and expanding affordable housing.

The Human Services Commissioners discussed the Eviction Moratorium and asked questions of the presenters.

ACTION: Received and discussed.

B. AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT WITH BET TZEDEK LEGAL SERVICES

David Giugni, Social Services Manager, provided context for the contract with Bet Tzedek Legal Services. Derek Murray, Social Services Program Administrator, discussed the contract amendment with Bet Tzedek Legal Services, which includes the Eviction Prevention and Defense Program. The amendment provides funding for additional staff positions and legal representation for all West Hollywood tenants facing eviction proceedings.

The Human Services Commissioners discussed the Eviction Prevention and Defense Program and asked questions of staff.

ACTION: Received and discussed.

C. HOMELESS, MENTAL HEALTH, AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE OUTREACH AND SUPPORT SERVICES UPDATE

Katie Egan, Social Services Program Administrator, provided an update to the Human Services Commission on the outreach and support services provided by contracted social service agencies to community members experiencing homelessness, mental health challenges, and substance abuse. She answered questions from the Commission on the outreach services provided during the pandemic.

David Giugni, Social Services Manager, shared that the Public Safety Commission received this update last night at their Commission meeting. He stated that there was no further discussion about proceeding with a joint subcommittee.

The Human Services Commissioners discussed homeless, mental health, and substance abuse outreach and support services and asked questions of staff.

ACTION: Received and discussed.

5. ITEMS FROM STAFF:

David Giugni, Social Services Manager, provided an overview of the utilization of West Hollywood Emergency Funds in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. He stated that City Line and Dial-a-Ride will offer free transportation to voting centers in the City of West Hollywood.

Derek Murray, Social Services Program Administrator, invited the Human Services Commission to attend this year's free Outdoor Flu Vaccination Clinic hosted in partnership with Cedar-Sinai. The Flu Vaccination Clinic will be held on Thursday, October 29, 2020 9am to noon, at Plummer Park near the Senior Center. Mr. Murray stated that social distancing will be enforced.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Clifford Roberts, Step-up on Second, spoke regarding homeless outreach services.

7. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Meltzer reported on the success of the Social Isolation and Loneliness webinar, stating that 140 people attended. She thanked staff for hosting this event.

Commissioner Shandrick shared that the California Community Foundation in conjunction with the County of Los Angeles launched an RFP for a Cares Act Relief Reimbursement Grant Program, which addresses food insecurity during COVID from March to December. He asked staff to share this information with City non-

profit agencies. He thanked Chair Reback for doing a great job managing their meetings.

Commissioner Palmieri thanked David Giugni for assisting a close friend of his during this difficult time. He stated many people are facing mental health challenges, depression, and relapse. He asked if the Flu Clinic was free and who could attend. Leslie Isenberg stated that the Flu Clinic is free and open to all. Commissioner Palmieri shared information on the CalFresh program.

Commissioner Borrelli asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

Commissioner Thomas stated tonight's presentations were very thorough and comprehensive. She also shared how impressed she was with the City's response to the pandemic and the resources that it continues to provide to residents. She thanked staff who presented.

Vice Chair Davis encouraged everyone to vote.

Chair Reback shared that he attended the Cultural Diversity Certification Training held by Drian Juarez with Trans Can Work and stated that the presentation was informative. He also attended the Social Isolation and Loneliness webinar and found it be full of good information and resources. He thanked staff for providing tonight's presentations. Lastly, he echoed other commissioners reminding everyone to vote and get a flu shot.

8. ADJOURNMENT

In memory of Ruth Bader Ginsburg, the Human Services Commission meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m. to the next regular meeting on November 10, 2020 via Zoom teleconference.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION ON
THE 10TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2020.



Chair

Attest:

Secretary