

**SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD TELECONFERENCE MEETING
MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2021
2 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair John Allendorfer at 2 PM.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Boardmember Dixon led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Members present: John Allendorfer, Esther Baum, Pat Dixon, Michael Hollingsworth, William McNeeley, Nadia Sutton, and Lee Walkup

Members absent: Joy Nuell

Staff present: Katie Egan, Leslie Isenberg, and Kim Patterson

4. ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS

Boardmember Walkup moved to adjourn for all those who have been skipped over in line for COVID-19 vaccines.

Boardmember McNeeley moved to adjourn in memory of the 500,000 people who have died in the U.S. due to COVID-19.

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was unanimously approved.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the January 27, 2021 meeting were approved with one abstention.

7. PRESENTATIONS

A. WEST HOLLYWOOD PARK PHASE II PROJECT

Helen Collins, Facilities and Field Services Division Manager, gave a follow-up PowerPoint presentation on the West Hollywood Park Phase II Project, and answered questions from the Senior Advisory Board.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

Victor Omelczenko, resident of West Hollywood, addressed Item 7A in regard to the suggestion of the addition of a kitchen, possible free parking for residents, and the importance of community input to maintain green space in the City.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

10. NEW BUSINESS

A. ITEMS FROM SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITY PROGRAM

Kimiko Kelly, the new Director of Arts, Wellness and Engagement (AWE) Programming, introduced herself. Alex Pagan-Mejia from the Activities Program of Jewish Family Service reported on February programming, including the virtual Valentine's Day event, and highlighted upcoming March activities, including International Women's Day, through the West Hollywood Comprehensive Services Center.

B. AGING IN PLACE/AGING IN COMMUNITY INITIATIVE

The Senior Advisory Board received an update on Year 4 of the City's Aging in Place/Aging in Community Initiative from the entire Strategic Initiatives Division (SID). SID staff gave a detailed overview of their work with contracted agencies, which have provided ongoing constituent contact throughout the pandemic. They also reported on regional and state collaborations, as well as new efforts for racial justice and cross-sector work with the Mental Evaluation Team. In addition, there is now transportation to vaccination sites through the On-Call Transportation program. All residents will soon receive a new trilingual Social Services Agency brochure listing services available.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

Stephanie Harker, resident of West Hollywood, complimented the ease of access to the SAB meeting. She announced the joint Los Angeles County and City of West Hollywood free food giveaway on March 6. Lastly, she addressed a concern about the shame some people feel in seeking assistance.

Eva Angeloff, Arts Grants Coordinator, encouraged the Boardmembers to apply to be panelists for the grant process. She said no expertise is required, just interest and enthusiasm for the arts. The application is available at www.weho.org/arts, to be completed by the April 30 deadline.

Victor Omelczenko, resident of West Hollywood, asked why the Year 4 evaluation for the Aging in Place Initiative was postponed. He raised the point that mailings are important for seniors who may not have access to the internet. He also talked about the need to protect seniors from scams, including landlords who are offering cash for keys at lower rates than are required under the Ellis Act. He also expressed concern that the Ellis Act is forcing seniors out of their homes. Lastly, he mentioned the number of people who have contracted COVID-19 in the City, and the number who have died.

12. ITEMS FROM THE BOARD

Boardmember Walkup reported that he almost got scammed by a caller, purportedly from Direct TV. He also raised an issue of direct Council appointments that promote Pay to Play, and recommended that all appointees should be At-Large.

Boardmember McNeeley thanked Boardmember Baum for explaining the appointment process for the West Hollywood Park Plan, and reiterated his interest in adjustments to the Plan.


Vice-Chair Hollingsworth agreed with the adjustments to the Park Plan.

13. ITEMS FROM STAFF

None.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The Senior Advisory Board adjourned at 4:05 PM for all those who have been skipped over in line for COVID-19 vaccines and in memory of the 500,000 people who have died in the U.S. due to COVID-19 to its next teleconference meeting on Wednesday, March 24, 2021, beginning at 2 PM.

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JOHN ALLENDORFER,
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.)