

**MINUTES  
HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION  
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2021  
6:00 PM**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Palmieri called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

**A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Commissioner Davis led the pledge.

**B. ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Chelsea Byers, Adam Darvish, Steven Davis, Joy Freiberg, Barbara Meltzer, Jimmy Palmieri, Patrick Shandrick

STAFF: David Giugni, Leslie Isenberg, Derek Murray, Joan Mithers, Francisco Gomez, Doug Nguyen, Katie Egan, Jenny Ivanova

**C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**SUBJECT:** The Human Services Commission approved the meeting agenda for December 14, 2021.

**ACTION:** Motioned by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Meltzer, and approved by roll call vote.

**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**SUBJECT:** The Human Services Commission approved the minutes of the November 9, 2021, Human Services Commission meeting, noting corrections from Chair Palmieri to item 4A.

**ACTION:** Motioned by Commissioner Darvish, seconded by Commissioner Davis, and approved by roll call vote.

**E. PUBLIC COMMENT**

David Nash, West Hollywood, addressed the Commission and asked for their support in creating a more streamlined and coordinated way to apply for Social Services programs using a central database for easy access.

Yola Dore, liaison from the Disabilities Advisory Board, expressed her gratitude to the Human Services Commission and Social Services providers for their extraordinary work.

Dean Ambrosini, WeHo Project, addressed the Commission regarding Harm Reduction & Syringe Services.

Sarah Blanch, WeHo Project, addressed the Commission regarding Harm Reduction & Syringe Services.

## 2. CONSENT CALENDAR

### A. L.A. METRO'S FARELESS SYSTEM INITIATIVE

**SUBJECT:** The Human Services Commission received a report on the L.A. Metro's Fareless System Initiative.

**ACTION:** Received and filed. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

## 3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### A. PRESENTATION FROM STAFF OF THE COALITION FOR ECONOMIC SURVIVAL (CES)

**SUBJECT:** Eugene Maysky, Tenant Outreach Organizer, provided an overview of the Coalition for Economic Survival's program (CES).

**ACTION:** Received presentation and discussed.

### B. 2020-21 YEAR END REPORT ON SOCIAL SERVICES PROGRAMS

**SUBJECT:** David Giugni, Social Services Manager, presented the year end report on Social Services. He thanked the contracted social service providers and stated that, despite challenges to service provision resulting from adherence to Public Health Orders, several programs realized significant achievements during the contract year. He gave a PowerPoint presentation of the Client Demographics for the 2020-21 contract year.

Social Services staff including Leslie Isenberg, Derek Murray, Joan Mithers and Katie Egan reported on some of the programs they monitor.

**ACTION:** Received report and discussed.

## 4. NEW BUSINESS

### A. BEING ALIVE'S SYRINGE SERVICES PROGRAM

**SUBJECT:** The Human Services Commission received a PowerPoint presentation from Timothy P. Zembek, Syringe Service Program Coordinator at Being Alive, on the Harm Reduction & Syringe Services Program.

**ACTION:** Received report and discussed.

### B. NUTRITION SERVICES PRESENTATION/REPORT

**SUBJECT:** The Human Services Commission received a PowerPoint presentation on food and nutrition services from Siri Perlman, Director of Senior Nutrition at Jewish Family Service/LA, and Robert Boller, Director of Programs of Project Angel Food.

**ACTION:** Received report and discussed.

**C. 2022 HUMAN SERVICES WORKPLAN CALENDAR**

**SUBJECT:** David Giugni, Social Services Manager, provided an overview of the Board's 2021 workplan and encouraged the body to review the draft of the 2022 workplan calendar before next month's meeting.

**ACTION:** Received report and discussed.

**5. EXCLUDED CONSENT**

None.

**6. ITEMS FROM STAFF**

David Giugni, Social Services Manager, thanked the commission for their participation in World AIDS Day. He encouraged everyone to take the West Hollywood Survey on Stigma, share it with their network, and encourage community members to provide feedback. He provided information on an item going to the City Council at their December 20, 2021 meeting regarding settlement agreements with pharmaceutical companies who distribute opioids.

**7. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**8. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioner Shandrick informed the Commission that he was stepping down and this would be his last meeting. He stated it had been an honor to serve the community for the last seven years. He thanked Social Services staff and Commissioners.

Commissioner Davis attended the HIV/Substance Abuse Prevention Providers Meeting. He asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Barbara Krupa, former Senior Advisory Board member. He asked staff to investigate David Nash's comment to look for a solution to remove duplication of paperwork. He thanked Commissioner Shandrick for his service and leadership on the Commission.

Commissioner Byers thanked Commissioner Shandrick for his service. She talked about her attendance at the World AIDS Day, Paul Andrew Starke Warrior Awards, and congratulated Chair Palmieri and Vice-Chair Meltzer on hosting the event. She thanked Katie Egan for arranging an informative site visit at Ascencia. She agreed with the public comment on streamlining the process for applying for social services. Lastly, Commissioner Byers thanked staff for looking into whether Block by Block security

ambassadors are trained to perform Narcan overdose treatment.

Commissioner Darvish acknowledged December as National Human Rights Month. He thanked Commissioner Shandrick for his service.

Vice-Chair Meltzer thanked Commissioner Shandrick for his service. She shared that it was wonderful to co-host the World AIDS Day Paul Andrew Starke Warrior Awards with Chair Palmieri. She spoke about an upcoming LACCOA panel she will be organizing entitled, "Renewing and Restoring in the Time of COVID" and encouraged people to attend.

Chair Palmieri thanked Commissioner Shandrick for his service. He agreed with Mr. Nash's comment brought forth to the Commission. He noted that case managers assist community members with paperwork and forms. He spoke highly of former Senior Advisory Board member Barbara Krupa. Lastly, Chair Palmieri talked about the #BOOM! virtual event.


Commissioner Freiberg thanked Commissioner Shandrick for his service. She expressed her desire for the City to provide N95 masks for all. She encouraged staff to continue sharing information on mental health services and expand services for people experiencing homelessness.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

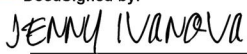
The Human Services Commission adjourned at 9:07pm in memory of Barbara Krupa to its next regular meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 11, 2022, at 6:00 pm via teleconference.

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**APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION ON THE 11<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JANUARY 2022.**

DocuSigned by:  
  
Chair  
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**Attest:**

DocuSigned by:  
  
Secretary