

MINUTES
DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2022
6:00 PM

TELECONFERENCE MEETING

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - Chair Blood called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Boardmember Watts led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: **Patrick Blood, Yola Dore, Mikie Friedman, David Nash, Anny Semonco, Louise Smith, and Rick Watts**

ABSENT: **Danny Gomez**

PRESENT: **Doug Nguyen, Derek Murray, Joyce Britton**

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

SUBJECT: The Disabilities Advisory Board is requested to approve the Agenda.

ACTION: Approve the Agenda of Wednesday, June 22, 2022.
Motion by Boardmember Dore to approve the June 22, 2022 Agenda, seconded by Boardmember Nash and approved

D. PUBLIC COMMENT

Kerri Balbone, Public Safety Commission Liaison, thanked those who attended the Public Safety Commission's most recent meeting on bike scooters and mobility issues and spoke about what the vendors are doing to improve public safety.

Danny Hang, West Hollywood resident, thanked the Board, staff, Mayor and Councilmembers for being able to serve on the Disabilities Advisory Board.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. TITLE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

SUBJECT: The Disabilities Advisory Board is requested to approve the minutes of prior Disabilities Advisory Board meetings.

ACTION: Approve the minutes of May 25, 2022. **Motion by Boardmember Friedman, seconded by Boardmember Semonco, and approved.**

3. NEW BUSINESS:

A. TITLE: VISION ZERO ACTION PLAN TASK FORCE

SUBJECT: The Disabilities Advisory Board received a presentation from Bob Cheung, Senior Transportation Planner, on the Vision Zero Action Plan and selected a representative for the task force.

ACTION: Received report and selected Boardmember Friedman as the task force representative, with Boardmember Semonco as an alternate. **Approved by roll call vote.**

B. TITLE: DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH

SUBJECT: The Disabilities Advisory Board discussed the October televised meeting, service awards, and vaccination event. Doug Nguyen, Transportation Program Administrator, provided voting guidelines and instructions.

ACTION: Approved award guidelines, nomination form, and timeline. Discussed and approved theme and format for televised meeting, and vaccine event including voter registration activity.

1. Vote for Sheriff's Department as additional item at Cedars event
Motion by Boardmember Smith, seconded by Boardmember Nash, and approved by roll call vote.
2. Vote for the theme, "Perseverance, Security, Hope"
Motion by Boardmember Smith, seconded by Chair Blood, and approved by roll call vote.

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None.

5. EXCLUDED CONSENT

None.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

7. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Boardmember Dore spoke about attending the Public Safety Commission's meeting, along with Boardmember Friedman. She spoke about scooters and their negative impacts on the mobility of people living with disabilities. She mentioned the budget and the allotment of funds to support people living with disabilities. She encouraged the Board to attend the Human Services Commission meeting.

Boardmember Friedman motioned to adjourn in honor of Ruth Williams. She mentioned that she attended the Public Safety Commission, Human Services Commission, and Transportation Commission meetings and brought up the issue of scooters and mobility.

Boardmember Nash spoke about the Pride celebration and the cost for admission at the festival site. He mentioned that he would like to see the cost dropped or done away with entirely. He spoke about the traffic congestion around the Pacific Design Center. He spoke about a Public Works issue.

Boardmember Semonco spoke about crowd control for festivals and large scale events and brought up an issue with MTA drivers not asking if she needs help in getting up the ramp. She spoke about attending the Women's Advisory Board meeting.

Boardmember Smith thanked the Board for their comments and spoke about the new County department for aging and disability.

Boardmember Watts spoke about a law on rent stabilization and affordability. He seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting in honor of Ruth Williams.

Chair Blood thanked the presenters, staff and Boardmember Friedman for volunteering to be the task force representative. He thanked Danny Hang for his service on the Board. He mentioned a new movie starring Vanessa Burghardt, who is living with autism, and the

awareness that this brings to entertainment for those living with disabilities. He mentioned comments made by Lizzo that were received by many as derogatory toward people with disabilities and the apology that followed. He spoke about his involvement in the Pride Parade and moved to adjourn in honor of Ruth Williams.

8. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Derek Murray, Social Services Program Administrator, spoke about the Human Services Commission meetings in July that will cover RFP, social services, funding and other big decisions the Commission will make. He mentioned that those meetings will be held July 12th, July 19th and July 26th. He spoke about the increase in fentanyl overdose deaths and mentioned the purchase of 8,000 fentanyl testing strips for Pride. Due to the widespread presence of fentanyl in other drugs, he encouraged anyone who uses recreational drugs to get them tested for fentanyl. He asked the Board to adjourn in memory of Carlos Katana Rios, a West Hollywood resident and long-time HIV prevention advocate.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The Disabilities Advisory Board adjourned in memory of Ruth Williams and Carlos Katana Rios to its next meeting, which will be held at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, July 27, 2022, via teleconference.

DocuSigned by:

Patrick Blood

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PATRICK BLOOD,
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:

Jean Mitlers

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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

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