

MINUTES
DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD

WEDNESDAY, JULY 27, 2022
6:00 PM

TELECONFERENCE MEETING

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - Chair Blood called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
 - A. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Commissioner Chelsea Byers 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, Joan Mithers, Joyce Britton

- C. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

ACTION: Approve the Agenda of Wednesday, July 27, 2022.
Motion by Boardmember Dore to approve the July 27, 2022 Agenda, seconded by Boardmembers Friedman and Smith and approved.

- D. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Marina Berkman introduced Katya Ryndenkova, Disability Specialist, and mentioned that they are open for face to face appointments for anyone in need. The phone number to call for services is 323-851-8202.

Katya Ryndenkova, Jewish Family Services, introduced herself and provided an overview of the services to clients with disabilities aged 18 to 55.

Lee Walkup, West Hollywood Resident, spoke about the Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles' annual summer concert and offered complimentary tickets to interested members of the Disabilities Advisory Board. The concert will be held on Sunday, August 14, 2022 at Royce Hall, UCLA. He encouraged boardmembers to contact Boardmember Watts.

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 June 22, 2022. **Motion by Boardmember Dore, seconded by Boardmember Friedman, and approved.**

3. NEW BUSINESS:

A. TITLE: ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

SUBJECT: The Disabilities Advisory Board is requested to hold the annual elections for Chair and Vice-Chair.

ACTION: Melissa Crowder, City Clerk, conducted the elections. **Boardmember Watts was elected Chair and Boardmember Nash was elected Vice Chair.**

B. TITLE: COALITION FOR ECONOMIC SURVIVAL SERVICES

SUBJECT: The Disabilities Advisory Board received an update on the Coalition for Economic Survival's legal services program.

ACTION: Received and discussed.

C. TITLE: DOCKLESS MOBILITY PILOT PROGRAM

SUBJECT: The Disabilities Advisory Board received an update on the City's

Dockless Mobility Pilot Program.

ACTION: Received and discussed.

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. TITLE: DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH

SUBJECT: The Disabilities Advisory Board received an update on the October events

ACTION: Received and discussed.

5. EXCLUDED CONSENT

None.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

7. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Boardmember Dore thanked Chair Blood for his service and thanked the staff for making sure she received her agenda in time for the meetings. She reported that the Human Services Commission did a great job on the figures for the multiple services provided.

Boardmember Friedman thanked Chair Blood for his service and congratulated the new Chair and Vice Chair. She reported that she attended the Human Services Commission meeting and received word from Bob Cheung that the Vision Zero Task Force has been slow getting up and running, but the first meeting should be held the second or third week of August. She mentioned her email to City Council asking about informing the public of smoking cessation programs and was told that the issue has been referred to the Communications Department so that the answers could be provided later.

Boardmember Nash made a motion to have Danny Rivas, Director of Community Safety, come speak at a future meeting and make a presentation on what purview the Community Safety Division of the City has. After a brief discussion amongst boardmembers and staff, it was decided that a motion was not needed since it's part of the work plan. He also inquired about having a bench placed at certain drop-off/pick-up points for Ambience Transportation, in front of the new recreation center.

Boardmember Semonco reported that she attended the Public Safety meeting and mentioned that they are aware of the issues with the scooter program. She also reported that she attended the Women's Advisory Board meeting and that they are working on an event for Women's Equality Day.

Boardmember Smith thanked Chair Blood for the job he has done this year and thanked the staff and boardmembers for their work. She reported that she attended the County Commission on Aging and

Disability and mentioned some issues with connecting virtually.

Boardmember Watts thanked Chair Blood for conducting the meetings over the last year. He spoke about the smoking ordinance. He spoke about the Neighborhood Watch and National Night Out. National Night Out will be an outdoor event due to covid. He reminded the Board about the monkeypox townhall meeting and encouraged them to get their covid boosters. He reminded the Board to submit their DAB award nominations.

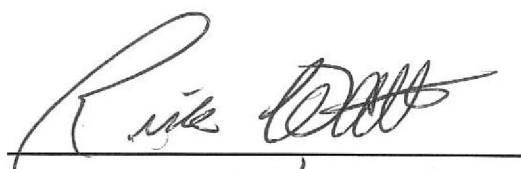
Chair Blood acknowledged the 32-year anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act and expressed gratitude for serving on the board with those who are passionate about the rights of people living with disabilities. He mentioned a program he read about regarding a Department of Justice lawsuit against Uber for persons with disabilities who endured longer wait times to get to a vehicle. He spoke about the Ability One program under the Department of Labor that agreed to change the Ability One program to minimum wage for persons with disabilities. He mentioned a documentary airing on PBS on August 1 called "He's My Brother." He mentioned that, in addition to standard closed captioning, there would be real time audio interpretations for an audience with sensory disabilities live on PBS. He thanked the Board and staff for having him as Chair for the past year.

8. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Joan Mithers, Program Administrator, reported to the Board in response to Boardmember Nash's concerns about benches and facilities that it would be best to contact David Kruskall, with DCRC, who is working with another community member and City staff on addressing those issues. She provided an update on monkeypox. The County Public Health website <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov> is updated on a regular basis; people who do not have internet access can call 211 and ask for monkeypox information.

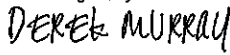
9. ADJOURNMENT

The Disabilities Advisory Board adjourned at **8:09 PM** to a regularly scheduled meeting on **August 24, 2022** beginning at **6:00 PM** via **Teleconference**.


Rick Watts, Chair

RICK WATTS,
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:


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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 not of commercial quality.)