

**MINUTES
HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2023
6:00 PM**

**PLUMMER PARK, ROOMS 5&6
7377 SANTA MONICA BLVD.
WEST HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA 90046**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Meltzer called the meeting to order at 6 pm.

A. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Adam Darvish, Steven Davis, Barbara Meltzer, Jimmy Palmieri

ABSENT: Sam Borelli, Joy Freiberg

STAFF: Leslie Isenberg, Derek Murray, Becca Lubin, Joyce Britton

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Palmieri led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Human Services Commission is requested to approve the meeting agenda for April 11, 2023. **Motioned by Vice Chair Darvish, seconded by Commissioner Palmieri and approved unanimously.**

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Human Services Commission is requested to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2023 Human Services Commission meeting. **Motioned by Vice-Chair Darvish, seconded by Commissioner Davis and approved with Commissioner Palmieri abstaining.**

E. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

None.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. BLOCK BY BLOCK SECURITY AMBASSADORS PROGRAM

The Human Services Commission received a presentation from Shea Gibson on the Block by Block Security Ambassadors program. He spoke about the 24-hour service and discussed additional services provided such as escorting (walking) people home at night, clearing sidewalks of obstructions such as scooters, and addressing the needs of community members who may be exhibiting signs of dementia. He also discussed the training that ambassadors receive.

ACTION: Received and discussed.

B. MAPLE COUNSELING CENTER PRESENTATION

The Human Services Commission received a presentation from Varina Bliel, Chief Executive Officer of Maple Counseling Center, about services provided to West Hollywood community members. She discussed the services provided including individual, couples, group, and family therapy. She explained that clients are frequently presenting with anxiety, depression, and grief. She talked about the training Maple Counseling Center therapists receive.

ACTION: Received and discussed.

C. OLDER ADULT/SENIOR MONTH PROGRAMMING 2023

The Human Services Commission received information from Social Services Division staff member Becca Lubin on events and activities taking place during May in recognition of Older Adult/Senior Month. She spoke of some of the arts and cultural programs being offered by community partners Jewish Family Service's West Hollywood Comprehensive Services Center and the Los Angeles LGBT Center's Senior Services Program.

ACTION: Received and discussed.

5. EXCLUDED CONSENT

None.

6. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Staff spoke about the upcoming Lesbian Speaker Series event, "I know You See Me", which will take place in the City Council Chambers on Tuesday, April 25th at 7:00p.m.

Staff congratulated Chair Meltzer on being honored by Congressman Adam Schiff as "Woman of the Year".

Staff stated that the City-wide mailing of the tri-lingual Social Services

Guide went out this week.

Staff discussed the timing of the swearing-in of the new Human Services Commissioners. Staff also mentioned that the Human Services Commission meetings are slated to move back to the first-floor meeting room at City Hall.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

8. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Davis spoke about the Social Services Guide.

Commissioner Palmieri congratulated Chair Meltzer on her honor and spoke about the effects of COVID-19.

Vice-Chair Darvish congratulated Chair Meltzer.

Chair Meltzer stated how much she appreciates the agency presentations.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The Human Services Commission adjourned at 7:00 pm to its next meeting scheduled for May 9, 2023, at 6 pm, at the Plummer Park Community Center, Rooms 5 & 6, located at 7377 Santa Monica Blvd, West Hollywood, CA 90046.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION ON THIS 9th DAY OF MAY, 2023.

DocuSigned by:

Barbara Meltzer

BARBARA MELTZER,
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:

Leslie Iseberg, Acting

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.)