

**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD**

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2023
6:00 PM**

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

1. CALL TO ORDER Chair Dore called the meeting to order at 6:01pm.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Hernan Molina, Governmental Affairs Liaison, led the pledge of allegiance.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Board Member Leathem, Board Member Mann,
Board Member Nash, Board Member Schwartz,
Board Member Semonco, Board Member Watts
Vice Chair Smith and Chair Dore

Also Present: Dee Saunders, Social Services Specialist
Maribel Ulloa, Social Service Program Administrator
Derek Murray, Social Service Program Administrator

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ACTION: *The Disabilities Advisory Board approved the agenda of the December 13, 2023 special Disabilities Advisory Board meeting. Motioned by Vice Chair Smith, seconded by Board Member Nash and approved unanimously by roll call vote.*

D. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION: *The Disabilities Advisory Board approved minutes of the October 18, 2023 meeting.*

Motioned by Board Member Mann, an amendment by Vice Chair Smith, and seconded by Board Member Watts with edits provided by Board Member Mann, Board Member Watts, Vice Chair Smith, and Chair Dore.

3. NEW BUSINESS

A. LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

The Disabilities Advisory Board received a debrief from staff on the City's Legislative Priorities.

Hernan Molina, Governmental Affairs Liaison, provided the Board with background information on Bills that the City has supported in the last year, legislative background information on some of the City's first ordinances, and specific regulations for persons living with disabilities such as, ADA modifications to include expanded protections and accessibility.

Board Member Watts questioned AB2449 and the City's understanding of it. Mr. Molina will follow up with Board Member Watts, directly.

Vice Chair Smith requested the City to provide more advocacy for persons living with disabilities in the healthcare industry.

Board Member Semonco shared her experience as a board member affected by AB2449 and dealing with healthcare facilities as a person living with disabilities.

Board Member Watts requested access to vaccinations in healthcare facilities. He was encouraged to bring this to the attention of Los Angeles County.

ACTION: The Disabilities Advisory Board provided feedback to staff for legislative priorities in support of persons living with disabilities.

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH DEBRIEF

The Disabilities Advisory Board reviewed the 2023 Disabilities Awareness Month activities.

Staff provided an overview of the services and feedback from participants and providers of the Community Health and Wellness Event.

Board Member Nash noted the attendance for the Community Health and Wellness event.

Board Member Watts requested the Board return to having a subcommittee to assist with the event planning. He requested tree trimming to be completed beforehand to ensure the viability of the street banners. He requested the Board's inclusion in the design process of marketing materials.

Vice Chair Smith requested to have more information on Channel 10.

Board Member Schwartz requested to have the health event over the weekend at West Hollywood Park with the option of a food truck.

Board Member Mann supported the suggestions to host the event on a weekend, have a subcommittee, and to work with other boards and commissions.

Staff suggested the Board have an agenda item for a subcommittee and ways to commission for more funding for Disabilities Awareness Month events.

Board Member Nash requested news outlets be alerted.

Chair Dore requested the Board to use their connections to alert the public of the Disabilities Awareness Month events.

Staff asked for Board input on the layout of the Service Awards.

Chair Dore expressed her appreciation of the layout and Board participation at the Service Awards.

Board Member Nash shared the lack of space with the City step and repeat, chairs, and entertainment.

Board Member Schwartz shared his discomfort with the tables.

Board Member Watts requested the formation of the subcommittee to be on the agenda in the first quarter of the year.

Chair Dore asked about the budget and was directed to address the Council. She requested the subcommittee to write a letter to the City Manager and asked to have a budget item to be on the agenda for January.

ACTION: The Disabilities Advisory Board made suggestions for 2024 Disabilities Awareness Month, which included having a subcommittee to assist with planning all Disabilities Awareness Month events.

5. EXCLUDED CONSENT

None.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

7. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Board Member Watts emphasized the importance of raising awareness about veterans living with disabilities and wished everyone a happy holiday season.

Board Member Mann extended holiday wishes to everyone and conveyed excitement for the upcoming year as a board member.

Board Member Semonco expressed her joy being back and for the ongoing to heal process.

Board Member Schwartz addressed a sidewalk issue that was reported and asked Staff to follow-up and share an update at the next meeting.

Lastly, he summarized the remarkable achievements of the Disability Service Awards.

Board Member Nash inquired about the progress of the sidewalk spillage rollback, particularly at Revolver, and requested that Staff provide an update at the January meeting.

Vice Chair Smith extended holiday wishes to everyone and wished for a healthy, happy new year. She conveyed well wishes to Derek Murray as he transitions from the Board. Lastly, she acknowledged Board Member Watts as a recipient of the County's Disability Award.

Chair Dore expressed her pride in the board and emphasized the honor to serve with them. She extended well wishes to Derek Murray. She requested the meeting be adjourned in honor of Donna Saur, mother of former Disabilities Advisory Board member Dena Saur; Board Member Bill McNeely of the Older Adults Advisory Board; and Board Member Sybil Zaden, of the Disabilities Advisory Board. Lastly, she wished everyone health, happiness, and love this holiday season.

Board Member Watts requested to adjourn in memory of Charles Murray, father of City staff Derek Murray.

8. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Dee Saunders informed the Board of the Vision Zero Plan updates and wished everyone a happy holiday.

Maribel Ulloa wished everyone a happy holiday.

Derek Murray wished everyone a happy holiday, thanked the Board for the adjournment and reflected on his time as the liaison.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The Disabilities Advisory Board adjourned in memory of Donna Saur, Bill McNeely, and Sibyl Zaden at 7:44pm to its next meeting which will be held at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, January 24, 2024, at Plummer Park Rooms 5 & 6, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood, CA 90046.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD ON THIS 24th DAY OF JANUARY, 2024.



YOLA DORE,
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:



STAFF LIAISON

A copy of the audio recording of this meeting can be obtained from the City Clerk's office upon request.

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