

**CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD  
MINUTES  
A STUDY SESSION WITH THE  
HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION  
MONDAY, MAY 13, 2002  
WEST HOLLYWOOD PARK**

**6:00 P.M. – SPECIAL MEETING**

**1. CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Guarriello called the meeting to order at 6:08 P.M.

**2. ROLL CALL:**

**PRESENT:** Councilmember Duran, Heilman, Mayor Pro Tempore Martin and Mayor Guarriello. Commissioner Cislowski, D'Amico, Davis, Gratton, Griffin and Mackler.

**ABSENT:** Councilmember Prang and Commissioner Decrescenzo.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Director of Human Services, Lloyd Long, City Clerk Russell and Assistant City Clerk Taylor.

**3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**

**ACTION:** Moved by Councilmember Duran and seconded by Councilmember Heilman to approve the May 13, 2002 agenda. Motion carried noting Councilmember Prang as Absent.

**4. STUDY SESSION:**

**4.A. JOINT STUDY SESSION ON SOCIAL SERVICES PRIORITIES:**

Daphne Dennis, Social Services Manager, provided background information as outlined in the staff report dated May 13, 2002.

**RECOMMENDATION:** 1) Identify priorities to be included in the City's Request for Proposal; and 2) Provide direction to the Human Services Commission on the Commission's role with respect to CSW.

Social Services Programs and Funding

Peter Mackler, Chairman, Human Services Commission, provided an overview of the Human Services Commission priorities regarding the Social Services Programs and Funding.

John D'Amico, Vice-Chairman, Human Services Commission, spoke regarding the need for affordable housing. He also stated that the Commission needs look at in-kind services that the City provides to organizations when it comes to fundraising events and overall funding.

Steven Davis, Commissioner, stated that when the City has fundraising events for social services, the public should have the ability to choose which organization they want the money to go to.

William Griffin, Commissioner, stated that there is continued duplication in funding to some organizations. He also stated that he has concerns with the lack of affordable senior housing.

Ponsella Gratton, Commissioner, stated that the need for job placement and job training for the Trans-Gender population should be addressed.

Ruth Ciswloski, Commissioner, stated that there is a lack of public access to the most needy population in the City. She also stated that there is an increased need for more in-home services.

Peter Mackler, Chairman, Human Services Commission, summarized the priorities and issues of the Commission. He also stated that organizations should have the ability to collaborate with each other when providing the same services to the public.

Councilmember Heilman stated that there needs to be an increase in funding for immigrant services. He also stated that with the increase homeless population and the reduced service that the City is receiving from the current homeless shelter, the Commission should review how it allocates its monies for housing. He also stated that there needs to be increased allocation of monies for job training and job placement for the Trans-Gender community. He recommended that agencies providing HIV education be re-evaluated on their performance.

Councilmember Duran, stated that the City needs to protect the most vulnerable and this should be the most important issue for the Commission. He also raised several questions to the Commission concerning families with children, senior housing and healthcare, the prevention and treatment of HIV, the increase addiction of alcohol and illegal drug use and job development and placement for welfare recipients.

Mayor Pro Tempore Martin, stated that with the current budget crisis, the Commission needs to provide Council with the best options for the most needy and the most vulnerable residents. He also stated that the City needs to provide a homeless shelter within the City. He suggested that the Commission review certain programs that coincide with the needs of certain populations in the community and that agencies that are providing HIV education and prevention be re-evaluated.

Mayor Guarriello stated that certain programs the City funds need to be reviewed to make sure they are providing quality services to the entire community. He also stated that with the current budget crisis every program must be re-evaluated.

#### Christopher Street West

Councilmember Duran stated that after discussing this item with the City Attorney, it was determined that a conflict of interest existed because one of his law partners who represents Christopher Street West and that he has to recuse himself.

Commissioner Davis expressed his concern with Christopher Street West's financial situation. He also stated that the City doesn't receive any benefit from the Christopher Street West event.

Lloyd Long, Director of Human Services Department, stated that the Human Services Commission does not have direct oversight of the Christopher Street West organization.

Councilmember Heilman stated that certain events the City sponsors should be re-evaluated and direct the appropriate oversight committee's to the appropriate event. He directed staff to come back to Council with an item regarding the Human Service Commission's role with respect to Christopher Street West.

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

**6. COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS:**


Councilmember Heilman requested that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Elizabeth Savage's mother Cornelia O. Savage.

- 7. ADJOURNMENT:** The City Council adjourned at 7:40 P.M. in memory of Cornelia O. Savage to its next regular meeting to be held on Monday, May 20, 2002 at 6:30 P.M. at West Hollywood Park, 647 N. San Vicente Boulevard.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE WEST HOLLYWOOD CITY COUNCIL THIS 17<sup>th</sup>  
DAY OF JUNE, 2002.

  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
TONY RUSSELL, CITY CLERK