

WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES – OCTOBER 9, 2012
COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

The West Hollywood Human Services Commission was called to order by Chair Mark Zangrando at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 9, 2012, in the Community Conference Room at West Hollywood City Hall.

A. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jimmy Palmieri.

B. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Ruth Cislowski, Steven L. Davis, Jimmy Palmieri, Heidi Shink,
Bob Shepard, Anne-Marie Williams, Mark Zangrando

Not Present: None.

A quorum was present at all times. Staff members included Sam Baxter, Director of Human Services and Rent Stabilization; Daphne Dennis, David Giugni, Corri Planck, Elizabeth Savage, Anwar Zraikat, and Jeff Book.

C. **POSTING OF AGENDA**

The secretary reported notices for the meeting had been posted as required.

D. **PROCEDURE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

Persons desiring to address the meeting were asked to complete a form.

II. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the Sept. 11, 2012, meeting were approved on a motion by Commissioner Williams, seconded by Commissioner Cislowski, with thanks to Margarita Kustanovich, who served as secretary at that meeting.

III. **ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Brett Holland of the Gay & Lesbian Center's WeHo Life program spoke about the "In the Moment" web series, and gave a brief update on the program's year. He said some local businesses were cooperating with the distribution of free condoms, but others were not. Commissioner Palmieri asked for the names of the businesses not participating, and that these businesses contacted.

IV. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A. **CENTER FOR CIVIC MEDIATION**

Octavio Olivas and Jacklin Mizrahi provided the last of several monthly updates from the Center for Civic Mediation. They sent representatives to the most recent Children's Roundtable. David Giugni said changes to the scope of services in the contract with the Center for Civic Mediation are being considered.

B. WEST HOLLYWOOD LIBRARY

Kurt Thum, adult services librarian at the West Hollywood Library, gave a presentation on activities and developments there. The new library is greatly noticed due to its appearance and location; it is often visited by architects. He spoke about the programming process for the library, including book clubs, story times, author talks, and related events.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. RENT STABILIZATION AND HOUSING ANNUAL REPORT

Elizabeth Savage, Rent Stabilization Manager, and Anwar Zraikat, Rent Information Coordinator, spoke about the reorganization of the Rent Stabilization Department into the Rent Stabilization Division of the renamed Department of Human Services and Rent Stabilization. They distributed the City's rent stabilization guide, and spoke about how the City's rent ordinance is administered. They reviewed interesting data from the 2011 annual report. Anwar Zraikat spoke about Section 8 housing.

B. HOARDING TASK FORCE

Elizabeth Savage discussed the background and activities of the City's Hoarding Task Force, which seeks to provide assistance in helping residents who have a problem with hoarding, which is a behavior that can affect safety and neighboring properties.

C. RFQ FOR COMMUNITY STUDY

Daphne Dennis said the City plans to initiate a Request For Qualifications (RFQ) to conduct a community study, and seeking respondents with experience in this kind of demographics and analysis. The goal is to complete a study by April 1, 2013, which can be provided to agencies considering applying for social services contract funding. The Commission supported asking the Council to proceed with issuing the RFQ.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Davis noted that the calendar calls for election of officers at the next meeting. He also asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of the author Gore Vidal, who died July 31, 2012, at the age of 86.

Heidi Shink spoke about Breast Cancer Awareness Month. She is moderating a panel discussion on Oct 24. The She discussion group also will meet on Oct. 24.

Commissioner Cislowski spoke about the recent West Hollywood Book Fair, and said the event should be improved to be more engaging to children. She said the children's stage was done by 2 pm, and that more attention to entertainment and items for youth should be given.

Commissioner Palmieri visited McIntyre House. Tribe discussion group meets this Thursday, on the topic of activism in the gay community.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Sam Baxter said AIDS Walk is this Sunday at 10 am. The route has been shortened due to City of Los Angeles commitments regarding the transport of the Space Shuttle Endeavour from LAX to the Science Center.

Sam Baxter said this year's Book Fair had about 3,000 people, compared to 5,000 last year, when it was held the day after the Library's grand opening. Commissioner Davis said West Hollywood food vendors should be present at the Book Fair, and Commissioner Williams noted problems with sound interference from other stages.

Daphne Dennis said the Congress of Boards and Commissions is at 6 pm tomorrow, in the Auto Court and Council Chambers. There will be an agency orientation meeting on Oct. 16. Plans for the Cityline route are being finalized, for presentation to the Transportation Commission later in October, and then to City Council. She said Ethics Training is required by Jan. 1, 2013, for all board and commission members, with City Attorney Mike Jenkins conducting a training on Nov. 17, and training also available online.

David Giugni said September was Alcohol and Drug Sobriety Month, and October is Disability Awareness Month. The Disability Advisory Board will be televised on Oct. 24, and is honoring Nadia Sutton, Toy Box Party, Gelsons, and Frontiers.

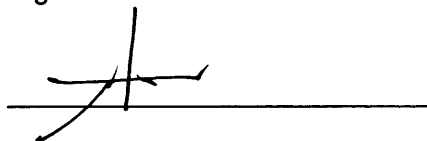
VIII. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no additional items from the public.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 pm in memory of Gore Vidal.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a vertical line and several horizontal strokes, positioned above a horizontal line.