

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD

Minutes of the Disabilities Advisory Board

March 25, 2015

Rooms 5 & 6, Plummer Park

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Watts called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Suzanne Dietrich led the pledge of allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Michael Arrigo, Louise Smith, Rick Watts, Suzanne Dietrich, and Yola Dore

ABSENT: Jim Chud, Marco Colantonio, and Anny Semonco

STAFF PRESENT: Corri Planck, Derek Murray, and Kim Patterson

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda for the March 25, 2015 meeting was approved with the addition by Yola Dore to adjourn in honor of journalist Judd McIlvain.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the February 25, 2015 meeting were approved.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. TAXI ASSISTANCE PROGRAM UPDATE

Francisco Gomez, the City's new Transportation Program Administrator, announced the following changes in the taxi assistance program which serves people 62 years and older, and people living with disabilities:

- 1) the current two programs will be combined into one;
- 2) the \$8 fee will now purchase \$50 of taxi fare;
- 3) participants can purchase two increments for a total of \$100 taxi fare for \$16 in payments per month;
- 4) the maximum per-trip fare has been increased to \$25;
- 5) a Taxi Driver Recognition Program has been implemented to promote high service standards and reward drivers for excellent passenger service.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. ADA 25/SPECIAL OLYMPICS SUBCOMMITTEE

Arrangements have been made for two buses to transport the DAB Fans in the Stands group to UCLA on August 1 to cheer the gymnastics teams at the

Special Olympics. Posters, flyers and media outreach will promote this activity.

The renamed Disability Awareness Month Subcommittee will dedicate the October televised meeting to ADA25. Curt Baldwin from Access Services will be asked to speak. Requests for proclamations will be sent to Adam Schiff, Richard Bloom, and Ben Allen.

B. AGING IN PLACE INITIATIVE

This items was tabled to the April meeting due to the absences of DAB representatives Marco Colantonio and Jim Chud, as well as Anny Semonco.

9. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Staff made the following announcements:

- The DAB reappointment process will take place after current terms expire at the end of May.
- The documentary about Glen Campbell, *I'll Be Me*, will be held on May 11, co-hosted by the DAB and SAB. A representative from the Alzheimers Association will attend.
- Gender-neutral restrooms will only apply to single-stall facilities, as a way to allow transgender people to feel more comfortable.
- The DAB decided to reschedule two upcoming meetings to September 9 and December 2, due to holiday and venue conflicts.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT

Larry Block, resident, thanked the Board for giving him confidence and a changed perspective from a focus on self to service.

11. BOARDMEMBERS COMMENTS

Vice-Chair Louise Smith proposed a joint televised meeting with the SAB to present the Aging in Place Initiative to the community.

Michael Arrigo appreciated Larry Block's comments and stated that the Board members learn from each other.

Suzanne Dietrich reported that at Plummer Park some people have written their names in the fresh cement.

Yola Dore would like to agendize health insurance and health care rights.

Chairperson Watts announced that he will hold his annual fast to raise funds for the homeless and invited others to join him.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 22, 2015 at 6:00 p.m., in Rooms 5 & 6 at Plummer Park 7377 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood.

