

WEST HOLLYWOOD COMMITTEE ON DISABILITY

MEETING SUMMARY

JUNE 10, 1993

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Michealjohn Horne
Carmen Apelgren
Deirdre Hays
Rena Dean
Bill Stirrup
Jane LaRue
Z Zimmermann

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Louise Mebane

STAFF:

Perri Sloane
Gregg Bruschaber
Vivian Sauer

VISITORS: Public Comment

Don Fisher, Braille Inst.

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 pm in the Community Conference Room located in City Hall, 8615 Santa Monica Boulevard.

II. PRIOR MEETING SUMMARY:

The meeting summary of May 13, 1993, previously distributed, was reviewed.

III. INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Rena Dean, Community Representative, and Carmen Apelgren, Agency Representative, were introduced and welcomed as new members of the committee.

IV. ADA - CITY UPDATE:

Gregg Bruschaber informed the committee that the Council will be presented with a 93-94 budget allocation request to begin facility renovations to comply with ADA requirements. Bill Stirrup voiced a question regarding the renovations of the park facilities. The parks have initiated a "Master Plan" to address complete renovations of the 3 park facilities. This is being addressed through a separate budget request.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

Due to time constraints the agenda was reordered. Michaeljohn Horne, Commissioner, addressed the need for the committee to develop a plan for a stronger advocacy role. General discussion followed with the following recommendations: Develop a T.V. "Talk Show" to address ADA issues in the community. The show could be taped and aired in several time periods. A suggestion to use more press releases to give the community more information about the committee. More involvement is needed from the business community. Prior efforts to use the W.H. Chamber of Commerce and Santa Monica Business Association for involvement have not been successful. The recommendation was made for the committee and W.H.D.S. to host an "Access Awareness" workshop for businesses, and provide certificates/window displays advertising the business enterprise as accommodating of customers with access needs. The committee will consider development of ADA info pamphlets.

The Manager of Mayfair Market on Santa Monica has been approached about joining the committee, Michealjohn Horne will send a letter of invitation and introduction.

Community Development will be contacted to establish a working partnership on access issues.

Jane LaRue invited committee members to her home on June 17, 1993, for an informal planning meeting.

VI. WEST HOLLYWOOD COMMUNITY HOUSING CORPORATION:

Ann Ehrenthal, Projects Director, presented information about the W.H.C.H.C.'s work in the community. At present, 79 units are available to low - moderate income individuals and families. Units are designated for use according to funding sources. Seniors, PWA's, and persons with disabilities are groups served. The W.H.C.H.C. has begun construction of 41 new units with expected completion in Spring/Summer '94. General questions and discussion followed. Currently there is a waiting list of approximately 800 names. New construction is preferred to renovations because it allows greater access for persons with disabilities.

VI. BREAK:

3:50 to 4:00 pm.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT:

The public comment session focused on visual impairments. Don Fisher, of the Braille Institute was present for the discussion.

- Access to information was the initial topic presented to the committee. Often, information of news and events is presented to the community in written form. This presents difficulty for persons with visual impairments. The following ideas were discussed as alternate options:
 - Information access through a telecommunication system. Recorded information that would provide information normally found in written form, i.e. City Calendar, press release info, community event information, etc.
 - Tape recorded information can be an alternative for lengthy forms of written information. This could be used for "City News", quarterly Parks and Recreation schedules, City information packages. Tapes could be distributed through the mail from telephone requests by constituents, on "loan" at the library, City Hall receptionist, etc.
 - In addition to information on tape, it was suggested that orientation information be available on tape to residents in the City. Orientation tapes are of great value to persons with visual impairments who have received mobility training. The tape would need to be prepared by a certified Orientation - Mobility Trainer. The basic information would orient the individual to specific areas in the City and transportation. Also, safety and emergency information could be presented. A tape specific to business, shopping, professional services would also be needed and the cost could be absorbed by the business community/Chamber of Commerce.
 - To increase mobility in business areas and high traffic areas, signage can be a solution. Labeling busy intersections with information about traffic lights and street crossing info. This could be signed in large print and braille.

Submitted by: G. Brushaber

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MEETING ATTENDANCE

June 10, 1993

COMMITTEE:

COMMUNITY MEMBERS:

Deirdre Hays

Jane LaRue

Bill Stirrup

Z Zimmerman

Renee L. Dean
Deirdre Hays
Jane LaRue
Bill Stirrup
Z Zimmerman

AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES:

Louise Mebane

Carmen Appelgren

Carmen Appelgren

BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVE:

CHAIRPERSONS:

Michaeljohn Horne

SUPPORT STAFF:

Jodi Curlee

Perri Sloane

Gregg Bruschaber

Vivian Sauer

Perri Sloane
Gregg Bruschaber
Vivian Sauer

OTHER PERSONS IN ATTENDANCE:

Donald Fisher, Braille Institute

