

**WEST HOLLYWOOD
DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES
August 23, 2006**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Dietrich called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Debra Chodash led the pledge.

3. ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Debra Chodash, Bryan Dahlgren, Suzanne Dietrich, Pamela Keevil-Grey, Tom Pavich and Joel Ring

ALSO PRESENT: Daphne Dennis and Paul Sánchez

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The agenda of August 23, 2006 was approved.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of July 26, 2006 were approved with amendments.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Randy Gavazzo, West Hollywood resident and disabled veteran, expressed interest in working with the DAB.

Fred Vanacore, West Hollywood resident and founding director of the West Hollywood Convention and Visitors Bureau, congratulated Ms. Dietrich on her first chairwomanship.

Laura Diepenbrock, West Hollywood resident and new program manager of the LIFE program for older adults. She announced a disaster awareness fair on Sept. 27 and encouraged the DAB to invite the LIFE program back, as they are very willing to make presentations to the board and the community.

Joan Schumacher, West Hollywood resident, introduced herself as the part-time Disability Specialist while Inna Khariton is on maternity leave. She will be at the Comprehensive Services Center Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays.

7. STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Daphne Dennis announced that the City Council meeting scheduled for September 5 was cancelled, so the National Organization on Disability Initiative recommendation will be heard on September 18. She said that if any members of the Board received a \$200

check from Medicare, they should hold onto it because it was sent in error, and contact her if they have questions.

Paul Sánchez updated the Board on National Disability Mentoring Day scheduled on October 18.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Parliamentary Procedure

Tom West, City Clerk, distributed a brochure about Roberts Rules of Order and discussed it with the Board.

B. October Televised Meeting

Several speakers were discussed who could make presentations on the history of disabilities, on disability and the law, and on mental health issues. The staff will check on their availability. Two musical performances were also discussed and staff will confirm their participation.

C. Christopher Street West Update

Mr. Ring and Mr. Dahlgren raised criticisms of the lack of accessibility at the festival, and the Board discussed them. Mr. Ring will raise these issues with the Special Events Coordinator for resolution for the City's Halloween activities. Ms. Dennis will investigate the possibility of getting free tickets for people with disabilities at CSW in the future through their community outreach program.

D. Commission/Advisory Board Liaisons

Mr. Pavich will be liaison to the Human Services Commission. Ms. Keevil-Grey will not be able to continue as liaison to the Women's Advisory Board.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

10. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Ms. Chodash said that there are no bus seats at Sierra Bonita & Willoughby. Ms. Dennis will look into it.

Mr. Pavich asked about the progress with getting new Board members. Ms. Dennis said that there are three applications, and encouraged the Board to invite quality candidates to apply with the City Clerk.

Chair Dietrich reported on the last PAC meeting and shared brochures about new construction. She also announced that the new captain of the Sheriffs Department is Buddy Goldman. Thirdly, she said that there is an increase in prostitution on the eastside. She also attended the SAB meeting where there was discussion of the new cable TV service, Time Warner, which will provide low-cost cable service for \$12/month. If anyone has been charged a city tax on the phone bill, they should call 323-848-6388 because West Hollywood doesn't charge a tax. Lastly, she announced that there is a new exercise class of qi gong which is suitable for people with disabilities.

11. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Dietrich adjourned the Disabilities Advisory Board meeting at 8:10 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 27, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Conference Room, City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood, CA.

G: human/soc-svcs/msc/Disabilities Advisory Board/minutes/062806