

WEST HOLLYWOOD COMMITTEE ON DISABILITY

MEETING SUMMARY

OCTOBER 5, 1992

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Keith Jeffries, Commissioner
Jane LaRue
Louise Mebane
Z Zimmermann

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Michaeljohn Horne, Comm.
Will Scoles
Bill Stirrup

STAFF:

Gregg Bruschaber
Perri Sloane
Vivian Sauer

GUESTS:

Bob Edgerly
Janyce Kamaheli

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of the Committee on Disability was called to order at 3:15 pm, by K. Jeffries in the Community Conference Room located in City Hall, 8611 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood.

II. ACCEPTANCE OF PRIOR MEETING SUMMARY:

The summary of the September 3, 1992, meeting was discussed. K. Jeffries requested that the summary reflect his absence from the meeting. Without further discussion, group consensus accepted the summary as written.

III. INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Self-introductions were conducted by each person present at the meeting.

A104-03

IV. ADA IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE:

B. Edgerly, Assistant City Manager, discussed the role of the committee as it relates to the City's ADA transition plan. A final draft of the plan will be presented to the City Council in December 1992. The committee will be asked to comment on the first 6 months of implementation. The committee can also be instrumental in making recommendations for public accommodations, i.e. use of ASL interpreters for meetings. The City's ADA task force will be responsible for making recommendations to the Council and the committee will be asked to participate in the review of the recommendations.

V. NEEDS ASSESSMENT PLANNING:

The following informational items were distributed with meeting agenda packages:

- Needs Assessment Report, 1990, pg. 43.
- West Hollywood General Statistics.
- Map and index of street addresses within the City's limits.
- PL 101-336, Americans with Disabilities Act.
- Memo: Atty. General Lungren, 9/17/92, Enforcement of California Disabled Access Standards.
- "What you must do for the disabled", Bradford McKee, Nation's Business, December 1991, pg.36-40.

K. Jeffries, volunteered to assemble discussion summaries from prior Human Service Commission sub-committee meetings relating to community outreach to the disabled.

G. Brushaber reported that the 1990 needs assessment used 3% as the national statistic for disabled persons and reported results of 12% disabled persons in the City. This is in comparison to ADA supportive statistics of 43 million, approx. 20%, Americans with a disability. Four (4) primary areas of need were identified in the 1990 survey. The areas were; 1. Transportation, 2. Vocational training/placement, 3. In home services, and 4. Affordable housing.

During open discussion, committee members present discussed methods and justifications for conducting a needs assessment targeting persons with disabilities in the City of West Hollywood. The first method discussed focused on a point of service distribution of questionnaire for persons receiving disabled transportation assistance. Currently, 90 persons are registered to receive disabled R.T.D. passes through Aide for AIDS, 25 persons are registered under the City's mailing list, and approx. 125-135 passes are sold monthly through City Hall and Plummer Park purchase points. Because this method would only reach a limited number of individuals already receiving R.T.D. transportation services, alternate forms of outreach were discussed. One recommendation was made to use a message on Cable Public Access with an address and phone number for registration/additional information. D. Hays, J. LaRue and Z Zimmerman volunteered to work on a survey sub-committee for further discussion and planning.

Another method of outreach discussed was using community forum/focus groups. Possible topics would focus on various types of disabilities. Groups would be held monthly starting in January 1993.

VI. COMMITTEE MEMBER SELECTION:

Two persons have expressed interest in participation in the committee. G. Brushaber asked if committee members would be willing to assist with the selection process. Z Zimmermann expressed interest in assisting.

VII. NEW BUSINESS:

Z Zimmermann reported that she had contacted Erik Lemmons, of West Hollywood Parks and Recreation, to inquire about future "Tom Proctor Run & Walkathons" open to persons with disabilities.

VII. ADJOURNMENT:

Without further discussion the meeting was adjourned at 4:40 pm., until Monday November 2, 1992.

Community Needs Assessment Report
City of West Hollywood

Social Service Needs of Individuals With Disabilities

Sources of Data

The community household survey asked respondents to indicate whether or not they had a disability, with 98 respondents answering affirmatively (12% of the sample). The responses of this group were analyzed for this section.

In addition, the first names and telephone numbers of West Hollywood residents receiving services from the Westside Center for Independent Living were obtained. Six of these individuals were interviewed by telephone regarding their satisfaction with existing social services and areas of pressing social service needs.

Profile of the Population

The population of people with disabilities is heterogeneous, with representation from all segments of the general population. Precisely defining what constitutes a disability is problematic, although one commonly used yardstick is the inability to carry out one's work or major activity.

Estimates by the National Center for Health Statistics are that approximately 3% of the nation's population are disabled (0.2% of children, 2.6% of working age adults, and 17.1% of seniors). The 98 respondents indicating that they had a disability on the community household survey represent a higher proportion of the population than these national estimates (25% of older adult respondents reporting a disability, and 7% of working age adults).

Approximately two-thirds (69%) of individuals who indicated they had a disability were willing to identify the nature of their disability. Most commonly reported disabilities were stroke and related problems (21), arthritis (12), and vision problems (10). Other disabilities included impaired mobility (8), respiratory (6), neurological (6), and AIDS (5).

More than half of the respondents reporting a disability were older adults (30% aged 65-74 years, and 32% being 75 years or older), with an additional 14% being from 55-64 years. 10 individuals with disabilities were aged 34 years of age or younger.