

**WEST HOLLYWOOD  
DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD  
MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1999  
647 N. SAN VICENTE BOULEVARD  
WEST HOLLYWOOD PARK AUDITORIUM**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Pavich called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Board Member Dietrich led the Pledge.

3. **ROLL CALL:**

PRESENT: Board Members Aizenman, Arrigo, Dal Porto, Dietrich, Margolis, Pavich, Semonco, Weber, and Weltman.

ALSO PRESENT: Liaisons Jacobs and Springer and Deputy Clerk Diaz.

ABSENT: None.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**ACTION:** Approve the Minutes of September 8, 1999 as presented. Motion Vice Chair Weltman, seconded by Board Member Dietrich and unanimously carried.

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None.

6. **STAFF COMMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:**

Liaison Springer introduced the new Disabilities Services Specialist Jonathon Rosenberg.

Mr. Rosenberg introduced himself and gave a brief history of his background.

Liaison Jacobs informed the members on an article in the Weekly Times which will feature Board Members Aizenman and Semonco. He also spoke on the success of the Job Fair that was held at Plummer Park on October 6<sup>th</sup>.

**7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**A. SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT/INFRASTRUCTURE SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE:**

Board Member Semonco reported that there have not been any meetings, but gave an update regarding the MTA bus stops. The MTA Liaison is Michael Bedros and he can be reached at 1-800-366-3300.

Vice Chair Weltman reported he has experienced trouble crossing the streets.

Board Member Margolis gave a brief overview regarding implementing textured roads, vibrating signals and a study which will be done by the Transportation Department on various intersections and the possible timing changes that will be implemented.

Liaison Jacobs mentioned that people can also contact the Santa Monica Boulevard office at 1-800-366-3300.

**B. OTHER UPDATES FROM DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD SUB-COMMITTEES:**

Outreach Sub-committee: Board Member Weber reported of a recent meeting in which the members discussed informing other Commissions and Boards of Disabilities Awareness Month.

**C. NAMING OF FUTURE SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:**

Chair Pavich stated that the criteria for naming an award after an individual is not met in regards to the suggestion of naming an award after Reverend John Von Douris.

Vice Chair Weltman spoke on behalf of Reverend Von Douris and his long tenure as an activist in West Hollywood.

Board Member Dietrich agreed that the award should be named after Reverend Von Douris

**ACTION:** Recommend to the City Council to have the Individual Service Award named after Reverend John Von Douris.

**Motion Vice-Chair Weltman, seconded by Board Member Margolis and unanimously carried.**

**8. NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. RAISED GARDEN PLOTS:**

Liaison Jacobs gave a brief background on the garden plots and how the project came to the attention of the Board. He also explained that the plots will also be used by schools for the Healthy West Hollywood Program and by physically and emotionally disabled students.

Chris Worland, Recreation Supervisor, spoke to the Board on the Community Garden Program and introduced John Armstrong, the designer of the raised garden plots.

John Armstrong, Architect, presented a package on a proposed garden, which will be wheelchair accessible. He went through a few drawings of the garden and described each section contained therein. He also answered questions from the Board as to how this will accommodate visually impaired persons and the safety precautions that have been implemented.

Barbara Hamaker, West Hollywood, spoke in support of the raised gardens and brought an example of a variety plants and recommended the braille signs be placed to identify different plants.

**Action:** Recommend to the City Council that raised signage/lettering and braille be included on the plots to identify the various parts of the garden.

**Motion Board Member Weber, seconded by Board Member Dietrich, and unanimously carried.**

**B. ANNOUNCEMENTS ON CITY CHANNEL 10:**

John Paul Drayer, West Hollywood, spoke in support of the announcements being visual as well as verbal.

Board Member Arrigo spoke in support of the verbal announcements and commented on the difficulty he has in reading the current notices.

Board Member Aizenman commented that this would also benefit the senior community.

**ACTION: Tabled to November 10, 1999 meeting by consensus of the Board.**

**9. PRESENTATION OF DISABILITY SERVICE AWARDS:**

Mayor Pro Tem Prang addressed the Advisory Board and stated how pleased he is with the involvement and participation they have given to the City of West Hollywood. He presented the following awards:

Business Award: Cedars Sinai Medical Center for the special accommodations they have made for an employee, Ms. Jorian Claire. Ms. Claire has been a journalist for the center for 15 years and has since become almost completely blind. The center created an office in her home, connected an SIDM telephone line in her home, and she also has been provided with a computer that interacts with special adaptive computer technology with a voice synthesizer. A Plaque and Certificate of Recognition from State Assemblyman Wally Knox was presented to Cedars Sinai Medical Center.

Non Profit Agency: Jewish Family Disability Service Program for it's services which helps all people with disabilities who live, work, or have a business in West Hollywood. A Plaque and Certificate of Recognition from State Assemblyman Wally Knox was presented to Cedars Sinai Medical Center.

Chair Pavich presented the following award:

Award to an Individual: Presented to Kathy Marshall, Department Head of the Jewish Vocational Services Testing and Assessment Center. She assists persons with disabilities with recommendations to workplace adaptations and advocates replacement in the workforce.

She has also received recognition from the Department of Social Services and GAIN offices and has received the National Rehabilitation Association Award.

**10. PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

**11. DISABILITIES ADVISORY MEMBER COMMENTS:**

**A. SUMMARY OF COMMISSION/ADVISORY BOARD CHAIRS' MEETING.** Board Member Aizenman informed the Board members that most of the meeting was about the Santa Monica Boulevard Reconstruction.

**B. GENERAL COMMENTS REGARDING DISABILITY ISSUES:** Board Member Arrigo, commented that there should be an educational session to inform the public of disability issues.

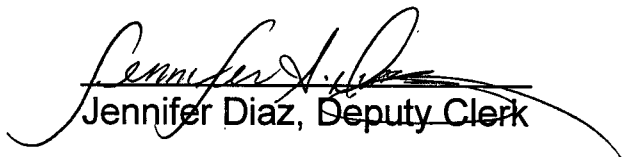
Board Member Dietrich stated that she would like to see the Disability Advisory Board notices be written in Russian.

**12. ADJOURNMENT:** The Disabilities Advisory Board adjourned in memory of Reverend John Von Douris at 7:00 P.M. to their next regular meeting to be held on **Wednesday, November 10, 1999.**

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD  
THIS 10<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF NOVEMBER, 1999.

  
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Chair Pavich

ATTEST:

  
Jennifer Diaz, Deputy Clerk