

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD

Minutes of the Disabilities Advisory Board

October 26, 2011

Council Chambers, West Hollywood Park

1. CALL TO ORDER

Rick Watts, Chair of the Disabilities Advisory Board, called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Debra Chodash led the pledge of allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Lisa Andreson, Michael Arrigo, Larry Block, Tim Carlson, Debra Chodash,
Thomas De Lorenzo, Suzanne Dietrich and Rick Watts

ABSENT: James Chud

STAFF PRESENT: Craig Rhea, Kim Patterson and Daphne Dennis

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda for October 26, 2011 was approved.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the September 27, 2011 meeting were approved.

6. PERFORMANCE BY BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE

Catte Adams and Marc Hugenberger treated the audience to several songs.

7. WELCOME BY MAYOR JOHN DURAN

Mayor Duran thanked the DAB for their invaluable contributions to the community and asked for their input in looking ahead to developing direction for the next twenty years.

8. 2011 DISABILITY SERVICE AWARD PRESENTATIONS

Councilmember John D'Amico and DAB member Dietrich presented Ric Rickles with the Lovedy Brydon Differently Abled Individual Award.

Mayor Pro Tempore Jeffrey Prang presented LMS Health Partners ADHC with the Business Award.

Mayor Duran and DAB member Andreson presented the Amanda Foundation of Beverly Hills with the Non-Profit Award.

Mayor Pro Tempore Jeffrey Prang and DAB member Arrigo presented Janet Neal of the Disability Network with the Media Award.

9. REMARKS BY BOARD CHAIR

Chairperson Watts welcomed the audience and spoke about some of the DAB's work as a way to give back to the community.

10. REMARKS BY BOARDMEMBERS

Lisa Andreson commented that Mayor Duran's question about "Now what?" after the first 25 years was a good one, and suggested that a \$1 charge for the Halloween Carnival be used for people in need, and that the City Line bus be opened up to others because it is not well-used.

Tim Carlson hopes that as many services as possible can be delivered to the constituents and that there be more collaboration with other Boards.

Larry Block spoke about his experience becoming sight-impaired and announced that the City has a Disability Specialist who can help members of the disabled community.

Thom De Lorenzo started law school in health policy law at the same time that he was appointed to the DAB, and said that he feels lucky that we have a strong support system in place for people living with disabilities.

Debra Chodash said that she is glad to be back after back surgery and welcomed the new DAB members.

Michael Arrigo said he was the "new old kid on the block", returning to the DAB after a several-year break, and spoke about his involvement with paratransit services.

Suzanne Dietrich spoke about October also being Breast Cancer Awareness Month and said that it's the second leading cause of death among women worldwide, advocating early detection.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

Anna Swett thanked the Board for selecting LMS for their award.

Yola Dore said, "Hat's off for the Board's volunteer efforts."

Victor Omelczenko congratulated the awardees and spoke about the work of the Bicycle Task Force.

Jeanne Dobrin said that the City is beyond compare in the treatment of constituents, especially the disabled. She said, however, that the lighting in the Council Chambers is a disaster.

12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. \$20,000 NOD AWARD – WEST HOLLYWOOD LIBRARY

Linda Demmers, the City's Library Consultant, gave a presentation about the new West Hollywood Library and the enhanced services for people living with disabilities

that will soon be available thanks to the DAB's donation of \$20,000 to the library from the National Organization on Disability award.

13. ITEMS FROM STAFF

A. Future DAB Meetings:

- **November 30th, 6pm, EOC** – Evaluation of televised meeting, City Transit Programs, Rent Stabilization 2010 Annual Report, City Clerk's presentation about the Brown Act.
- **No meeting in December**

B. Annual Congress of Boards & Commissions

- **Saturday, November 5th from 8:30am to 1:30pm in the Community Meeting Room at the new West Hollywood Library.**

C. Other:

- Check the City's website for **Halloween activities this weekend**, culminating in the Costume Carnival on Santa Monica Boulevard Monday night, October 31st from 6pm to 11pm.

14. PUBLIC COMMENT

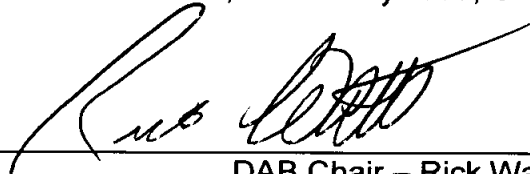
None

15. BOARD REPRESENTATIVE TO REPORT TO COUNCIL

Lisa Andreson will report to Council offices about the DAB's October 26th meeting.

16. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m. to the reception in the foyer and to its next meeting on Wednesday, November 30, 2011, at 6:00 p.m., in the Community Conference Room, City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood, CA 90069.



DAB Chair – Rick Watts