

**WEST HOLLYWOOD
DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES
November 29, 2006**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Suzanne Dietrich called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm.

5. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Debra Chodash led the pledge.

6. SWEARING-IN OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS:

Councilmember Sal Guarriello conducted the swearing-in of Steven E. Sawyer and John "Rick" Watts.

7. ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Alan Bernstein, Debra Chodash, Suzanne Dietrich, Pamela Keevil-Grey, Tom Pavich, Steven Sawyer, and Rick Watts

ABSENT: Joel Ring

ALSO PRESENT: Leslie Isenberg, Craig Rhea and Kim Patterson

8. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The agenda for November 29, 2006 was approved.

9. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes for October 25, 2006 were approved.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Capt. Buddy Goldman of the Sheriffs Department urged the DAB to raise issues with them and they will do likewise. He shared the ADA Guide for Emergency Preparedness and answered questions about issues such as increased signage of the Sheriffs Dept. phone number and work with the Russian community.

8. STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Leslie Isenberg began by introducing Craig Rhea, the newest member of the Social Services Division who has worked for the City for 15 years and who will transition to become the DAB staff liaison. She also announced the Housing Summit on Dec. 4 and reminded the DAB that there will be no December board meeting. She relayed the phone call that she received from a disabled person who had watched the October televised DAB meeting and suggested that the use of the term "people with disabilities" is preferable to disabled people.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. EVALUATION OF OCTOBER TELEVISED MEETING

Mr. Sawyer suggested that in the future the protocol for Q&A be spelled out at the beginning of the meeting so the audience will understand that only the DAB can address the speakers.

There was discussion of the absence of the media awardee, KCBS, and further discussion was placed on the January agenda. The nomination form will be evaluated for the possible addition of specific examples of why the nominee is deserving of the award.

Overall, the DAB felt that the October meeting went very smoothly and commended the new Chair on her role.

10. NEW BUSINESS:

A. WEST HOLLYWOOD COMMUNITY HOUSING CORPORATION PROPOSED PROJECT

Ann Ehrenthal and Rick Abramson of the West Hollywood Community Housing Corporation presented a verbal and visual report on the proposed affordable housing project at Sierra Bonita Avenue and Santa Monica Boulevard that will provide 42 one-bedroom units for persons with disabilities.

Motion: To support the West Hollywood Community Housing Corporation mixed-use project as it's been proposed and request to review the project as it becomes more final. Recommend that future projects for persons with disabilities include some units for larger-size households.

Motion by: Suzanne Dietrich Seconded by: Pamela Keevil-Grey
Motion passed unanimously.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no more public comments.

12. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Chair Dietrich tabled this item until the January meeting due to lack of time.

13. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Dietrich adjourned the Disabilities Advisory Board meeting at 8:33 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 24, 2007 at 6:30 p.m. in Community Conference Room of City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood, CA.