

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD

Minutes of the Disabilities Advisory Board

November 28, 2012

Community Conference Room, West Hollywood City Hall

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Abbe Land led the pledge of allegiance.

3. SWEARING IN OF NEW DAB MEMBER

Councilmember Abbe Land swore in Anny Semonco.

4. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Michael Arrigo, Larry Block, James Chud, Thomas De Lorenzo,
Suzanne Dietrich, Anny Semonco, and Rick Watts

STAFF PRESENT: David Giugni, Corri Planck, and Kim Patterson

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda for November 28, 2012 was approved.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the October 24, 2012 meeting were approved.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

Owen Ward and Dr. John Foster of the new Sunset Walk-in Health Care Clinic introduced their urgent-care center and invited the DAB to the ribbon-cutting.

David Nash, West Hollywood resident, is legally blind and stubbed his toe on the San Vicente retaining wall at West Hollywood Park. He hopes the City will address this. He lives in affordable housing for people living with HIV/AIDS and spoke about the grey area where people are living in independent living situations but need more help. David Giugni suggested that the West Hollywood Community Housing Corporation speak at an upcoming meeting on this matter.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. BET TZEDEK LEGAL SERVICES

Alla Chasnik, the West Hollywood case attorney at Bet Tzedek, invited the DAB to their open house at their new location in Koreatown (3850 Wilshire). Begun 38 years ago, Bet Tzedek provides legal representation for the

disenfranchised. She detailed the many services that they offer and fielded questions.

B. RENT STABILIZATION ANNUAL REPORT (2011)

Elizabeth Savage and Chris Uzler of Rent Stabilization and Housing Department made a presentation about their Annual Report, including the rental referral list and the rebate program.

C. BOARD LIAISON ASSIGNMENTS

Chair Block announced that beginning in January the Board will hear one liaison report per month. The DAB members volunteered for the following liaison assignments:

Anny Semonco – Women’s Advisory Board

Michael Arrigo – Historic Preservation & Public Facilities Commissions

Jim Chud & Rick Watts – Human Services Commission

Larry Block – Transportation Commission & Russian Advisory Board

Suzanne Dietrich – Public Safety Commission and Senior Advisory Board

Jim Chud – Rent Stabilization Commission

Tom DeLorenzo – Lesbian & Gay Advisory Board

Rick Watts – Transgender Advisory Board

D. EVALUATION OF THE OCT. 24 TELEVISED MEETING

Corey Roskin was thanked for the slide presentation which has a highlight of the meeting, and Adam Walden’s performance and commendation were a perfect fit. The banners gave needed visibility to the DAB. Criticism was raised of the entertainment, though it was acknowledged that the Council chambers are not conducive to amplified music. Overall, the Board agreed that the meeting went well.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

10. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Corri Planck reminded the Board that the next DAB meeting will be Jan. 23 (there will be no meeting in December). She outlined the World AIDS Day events that were listed in the handout. She announced that WeHo Cares was launched to publicize services, including on Facebook.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

12. REMARKS BY BOARDMEMBERS

Michael Arrigo announced that the Dec. 3rd LA Commission on HIV will host an expert panel addressing vision needs and services for individuals with HIV at 3550 Wilshire Blvd. He also said that Elizabeth Weeks of the Beauty Bus thanked him for inviting her to speak at the last meeting.

Rick Watts announced the Dec. 1st annual dedication of The Wall/Las Memorias at Lincoln Park in East LA. He also reported that the City is seriously proceeding with the upgrade of the Werle Building.

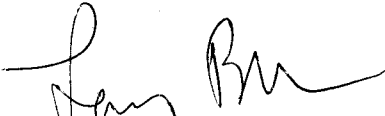
Larry Block made an appeal to work to fill the two vacancies on the Board.

13. BOARD REPRESENTATIVE TO REPORT TO COUNCIL

Rick Watts volunteered.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 pm to its next meeting on Wednesday, January 23, 2013, at 6:00 p.m., in the Community Conference Room at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood, CA 90069.



DAB Chair – Larry Block