

# CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD

## *Minutes of the Disabilities Advisory Board*

**March 27, 2013**

***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**

David Nash led the pledge of allegiance.

### **3. ROLL CALL**

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

ABSENT: James Chud

STAFF PRESENT: David Giugni, Corri Planck and Kim Patterson

### **4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda for March 27, 2013 was approved.

### **5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the February 27, 2013 meeting were approved.

### **6. PUBLIC COMMENT**

David Nash, resident, talked about the REGGIE system which consolidates the client registration system for AIDS services. He asked DAB to consider encouraging such a system of centralization for low-income clients so they only have to register once for a variety of services. Rick Watts proposed that the item be agendized to a future meeting.

### **7. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **A. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

Shirley Berry, the City's Emergency Management Coordinator encouraged the DAB to prepare for major, and minor, emergencies with supplies of food, water, medications, etc., including for pets, for at least 3-7 days for "shelter in place" (camping out at home). She also suggested building personal support networks, including for communication. She announced a May 11<sup>th</sup> training for CERT, and said that the City just received 150 special needs cots from the Red Cross.

#### **B. ACCESS TO CHRISTOPHER STREET WEST**

Rodney Scott, president of CSW, gave some history of the 43 year old event, including 20 years in West Hollywood, that showcases the LGBT community. He stated that the mission is for the intentional inclusion of all, including

people living with disabilities "because you matter". He also addressed questions, including ticket giveaways to social service agency clients, designated viewing at Santa Monica & Holloway, and the fact that CSW doesn't handle parking. He looks forward to continued input from the DAB.

## **8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

## **9. ITEMS FROM STAFF**

David Giugni reported that he will ask Linda Demmers to bring an initial list of proposed purchases to the April DAB meeting, but instead the DAB decided to have the City staff proceed with the purchases to speed up the process.

Corri Planck announced that the Channel 10 #Trending Show with host Tracy Savage will feature two 8 minute segments on disabilities, one with Chair Block on general services and the other with a service provider that highlights particular services. It will be taped on April 10.

There was lots of great feedback on the Community Study, and a preliminary update will be given at the April 1<sup>st</sup> City Council meeting. A final report will be presented later in April or May.

The upcoming 3 year funding cycle process will begin with the issuance of the Request for Proposals at the end of May, with a June submission deadline. At this time input is needed from the Boards and Commissions regarding needs use and satisfaction.

The April televised meeting will be held at Plummer Park in Rooms 5 & 6. The DAB will meet around 5:15 PM to prepare.

The Women's Leadership Conference will be held April 19 & 20.

## **10. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

## **11. REMARKS BY BOARDMEMBERS**

Anny Semonco attended the Women's Advisory Board meeting where they discussed the candidates.

Suzanne Dietrich attended the Senior Advisory Board where they announced that grab bars will be installed in all public restrooms, and the transition to the swipe card for public transportation will begin on July 1. She asked about the possibility of having another Disability Mentoring Day.

Rick Watts attended the Abilities Fair and distributed a letter announcing his fast to raise money for food pantries. Anny Semonco also attended the fair which she thought was basically a wheelchair expo and suggested that they address other needs.

Tom de Lorenzo raised concern about outreach, including social media, especially given Frontiers magazine's bankruptcy.

Michael Arrigo expressed disappointment that Frontiers didn't thank the DAB for the award they received last October.

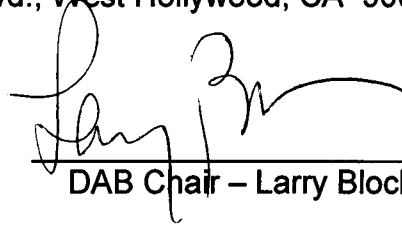
Chair Block attended the Russian Advisory Board meeting. He asked if the DAB could purchase an optalec machine for Plummer Park. City staff will look into that possibility.

**12. BOARD REPRESENTATIVE TO REPORT TO COUNCIL**

Louise Smith volunteered.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 pm to its next meeting on Wednesday, April 24, 2013, at 6:00 p.m., in Rooms 5 & 6 of the Community Center at Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood, CA 90046.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Larry Block", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

DAB Chair – Larry Block