

**WEST HOLLYWOOD
DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES
APRIL 27, 2005**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Cherner called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Jordan Chinich led the Pledge.

3. ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Norman Cherner, Jordan Chinich, Phyllis Coto, Suzanne Dietrich, Bryan Dahlgren, Anne Semonco

ABSENT: Debra Chodash, Dr. Harrison Kline-Aguado, Joel Ring

ALSO PRESENT: Leslie Isenberg, Kim Patterson

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The agenda of April 27, 2005 was approved.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The amended minutes of the March 23, 2005 meeting were approved.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Michael Arrigo, a former DAB member, offered his assistance and drew people's attention to the radio program for the disabled on KPFK (90.7 FM) called "Access Unlimited".

7. STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Ms. Isenberg gave an update on the ADA transition plan. Ms. Dietrich requested a copy. Ms. Isenberg announced that the presentation by David Giugni on HIV/AIDS as a hidden disability will be given in June. She also passed around a sign-up sheet to staff the DAB table at the Senior Health Fair on May 18th. She reminded the DAB that the next meeting will focus on housing and asked who

the DAB would like to hear from on this topic. Recommendations for speakers included Jeff Skorneck and West Hollywood Community Housing Corporation. Topics included pets, availability of rental housing and rights of condo owners. Finally, Ms. Isenberg distributed the Social Services Request for Proposal for perusal.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. TRANSPORTATION:

Marlon Perry, Manager of Operations for Access Services, LA County's ADA provider, outlined the services provided to their 79,000 riders, 353 of whom reside in West Hollywood. He detailed usage, including 1,083 pick-ups in West Hollywood during the month of March. He reported that there were 10 complaints, giving Access an 88.6% approval rating. He also fielded questions from the DAB.

Toya Brown, Transit and Taxi Specialist for the City, answered questions about bandit cabs, and encouraged the DAB to call her with any complaints, detailing the cab number, taxi company and date & time of occurrence. She clarified that drivers have no right to ask for proof of disability.

Joyce Rooney, Transportation Programmer for the City, spoke about taxi coupons, Dial-a-Ride and bus ticket subsidies.

Yola Dore, former DAB member, commended the Transportation Division of the City and shared her trick for handling cab drivers. She tells them she's taking a survey for the nicest drivers.

B. CITY EVENT DISCOUNTS FOR THE DISABLED:

This item was tabled due to the absence of Dr. Harrison Aguado who raised this issue.

C. DISABILITY SERVICE AWARDS:

After several rounds of discussion and voting, the DAB approved the amended rules and procedures from Chairperson Cherner governing the Disability Service Awards.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

11. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS/LIAISON UPDATES:

Ms. Coto will now be the DAB liaison to the Senior Advisory Board.

Ms. Dietrich reported on the successful Women's Month activities.

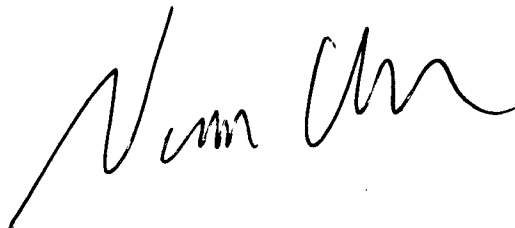
Mr. Chinich reported that the Historic Preservation Committee meeting did not discuss any issues relevant to the DAB.

Vice-Chair Semonco informed the DAB that she will not be seeking reappointment in June. She reported that the Transportation Commission discussed a study of walking vs. automobile traffic. She announced that the Rapid Line 717 will be in effect in June, and that on May 5 from 10 am – 2 pm there will be a celebration of the Division Seven remodel.

Chairperson Cherner announced upcoming activities, including Holocaust Remembrance Day on May 1st in Plummer Park, Public Safety Awards on May 4, WWII Veterans Memorial event on May 8th, Russian Cultural Fair on May 22, and the televised Senior Advisory Board meeting on May 25. He said that at the second Council meeting next month there will be an agenda item concerning Advisory Board term limits and rotating chairmanships. Lastly, he said that the Human Services Commission is awaiting proposed amendments to the outdoor dining statute.

11. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Cherner adjourned the Disabilities Advisory Board meeting at 8:40 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 25, 2005 at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Conference Room at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood, CA.



Norman Cherner,
CHAIRPERSON