

**WEST HOLLYWOOD
DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 22, 2004**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Cherner called the meeting to order at 6:45 pm, after the DAB read several new nominations for Disability Awareness Month awards.

2. ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Norman Cherner, Jordan Chinich, Debra Chodash, Bryan Dahlgren, Suzanne Dietrich, Joel Ring, and Ann Semonco

ABSENT: Phyllis Coto

ALSO PRESENT: Staff Liaisons Leslie Isenberg and Kim Patterson

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The agenda of September 22, 2004 was approved.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the August 25, 2004 meeting were approved.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Yola Dore, former DAB member, made recommendations for two nominees for the Disability Service Awards, Good Neighbors and Trader Joe's.

6. STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Inna Epshteyn, Disability Specialist, spoke briefly about the services that her office provides: information and referral, case management, counseling, and advocacy with entitlement programs. She will expand on these services at the next meeting. She also reported on the number of clients served in August, and solicited suggestions for a lecture or similar function that the DAB could work on. Several DAB members volunteered to assist her. Lastly, she announced an upcoming lecture called "Living with Vision Loss" on September 29, 2-4 p.m. in Room 6 at the Comprehensive Services Center.

Ms. Isenberg announced that the City Council will present a proclamation for Disability Awareness Month on Monday, October 4 at 6:30 p.m. at the West Hollywood Park Auditorium, and suggested that the DAB attend. She also announced that Wednesday, October 20 will be National Disability Mentoring Day and that she is working with prospective mentors and mentees.

There was discussion about the outdoor dining amendment and it was decided that the item will be agendaized for the November meeting.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a. Community Enhancement Services

Valerie McFarlin, HEAP (Home Energy Assistance Program) Program Manager, described the free services that they offer:

- 1) Fastrack – if utilities are going to be shut off
- 2) Non-emergency – if the bill is higher than usual
- 3) Weatherization services.

In addition they have an ESL school. They are in need of additional funding to meet the needs of their clients, as the City of L.A. is competing for the funds. They are located at 1335 N. La Brea, Ste. 3.

b. Disabilities Awareness Month

The DAB finalized the October DAB agenda. The Hi-Tops will perform several numbers at the beginning of the meeting so that their members don't have to stay for the whole time.

c. Disabilities Awareness Month Awards

The DAB selected Deyanire Villachica for the Individual award, Good Neighbors for the community-based organization award, and Trader Joe's Store #40 for the business award.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

9. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Ms. Semonco announced that the Westside Central Governance Board voted for to approve the 217 line, and on December 19 they will start an express line 787 for the Fairfax route.

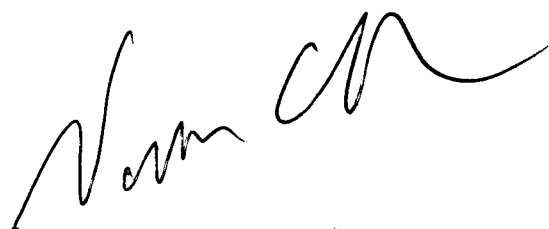
Mr. Dahlgren announced that the West Hollywood Community Housing Corporation will be opening an apartment complex for the disabled at the beginning of December at 1433 Havenhurst.

Chairperson Cherner reminded the DAB of the upcoming lead paint detection training. He also announced that at the next DAB meeting there will be two opportunities for Board comments, once during introductory remarks and secondly during Board Member comments toward the end of the meeting. He requested suggestions from the DAB concerning topics that they would like him to address in his opening statement.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Cherner adjourned the Disabilities Advisory Board meeting at 8:40 p.m. The November meeting will be held a week earlier than usual due to the Thanksgiving holiday weekend. The November meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 17 at 6:30 p.m. in the Rent Stabilization Division Conference Room on the first floor of City Hall.

G: human/soc-svcs/misc/Disabilities Advisory Board/minutes-092204

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Norman", is located at the bottom of the page.

Norman Cherner,
CHAIRPERSON