

WEST HOLLYWOOD SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, November 20, 2013

City Hall

8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood 90069

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Chairperson Baum.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

B. ROLL CALL

Members present: Esther Baum, Pat Dixon, Sophia Gelman, Bernice Levin, Rita Norton, Ric Rickles, Muriel Schoichet, Lee Walkup

Members absent: Barbara Krupa

Staff present: Daphne Dennis

C. POSTING OF THE AGENDA

Daphne Dennis stated that the agenda was posted at all the usual places.

D. PROCEDURE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairperson Baum stated the procedure for public comment.

E. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was unanimously approved, moving the Public Safety presentation to the top of the agenda.

F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the October 23, 2013 meeting were approved.

G. ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS

The Board adjourned in memory of the victims of the disaster in the Philippines and tornadoes in Illinois.

II. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Stephanie Cohen, Field Deputy for Assemblymember Richard Bloom, distributed invitations to an Open House to be held on December 18 with a food drive for SOVA and the Westside Food Bank. She distributed guides for Seniors to local services and reported that the Assemblymember is researching bills on a number of issues of importance to Seniors.

Marcy Norton, Public Safety Commissioner, requested that parking signs be placed in the City Hall lot reserving spaces for Board members. She

reminded members that safe disposal of expired or unneeded medications and needles is available at the Sheriff's station.

III. ITEMS FROM THE SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITY PROGRAM

Nancy Desser, Activity Program Director, announced trips to the Camarillo Outlets on December 5th, the Showtime Cabaret at the Castaways Restaurant on December 11th, and the Space Shuttle Endeavor at the California Science Center on December 19th. A lecture on the music of Ella Fitzgerald by a professor from USC will be held on December 12th.

Members discussed again the possibility of additional ways for people to access tickets to excursions as the current system provides limited access.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Public Safety Presentation: Captain Eric Kuck, and several of the firefighters from Fire Station # 8, attended the meeting for a public safety presentation. Captain Kuck provided a number of suggestions for personal safety, reminding the Board that emergency response will be available in a disaster, but the response will not always be immediate. He demonstrated how to use a fire extinguisher, urged safety around the stove and in use of candles, and suggested members have a Lifeline system in their homes. Sheriff's Captain Gary Honings and Sgt. Cheryl Newman also attended the meeting and thanked the Board for being active members of the community and urged them to contact the Sheriffs about any safety concerns.
- B. Movietown Plaza: David de Grazia, City Planner, discussed the plans for development at the former Movietown Plaza site. The proposed project will be mixed-use with commercial and residential. There are 294 units at market rate and 77 Senior units planned. The Planning Commission's design review subcommittee will meet on December 12th at 5:30 at Plummer Park to discuss the project. It is anticipated that demolition of the current buildings will begin in January and construction will take approximately two years.
- C. New substance abuse treatment options: David Giugni, Social Services Supervisor, discussed two newly-funded options available to community members seeking residential substance abuse treatment: Tarzana Treatment Center and Substance Abuse Foundation of Long Beach. He reported that a demographic report on the users of substance abuse programs which the City supports shows that 5% are Seniors and that the most common substance abused is alcohol.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Seniors Striving to Stay in West Hollywood: Staff referred the Board to two articles distributed: "Apartment for Life," a project at USC and the

Calgary Elder-Friendly Communities Project for further discussion at a future meeting.

VI. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Pat Dixon announced that Medicare will now pay for shingles vaccinations.

Sophia Gelman praised the City Sheriff and Fire Department service and the involvement with young people.

Lee Walkup announced the World AIDS Day commemorations planned on December 1st and 2nd. He announced the Gay Men's Chorus holiday concerts scheduled for December 14th and 15th.

Esther Baum asked that someone who can speak to the Cable TV access for Seniors be invited to a future meeting. She is concerned that fewer people have access to City Channel 10 as a result of recent changes in service.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Daphne Dennis spoke about possible locations for the holiday lunch.

VIII. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no items from the public.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned to the holiday lunch to be held on December 18, 2013. The next meeting will be held on January 22, 2014 in the Community Conference Room of City Hall.



Chairperson – Esther Baum