

**WEST HOLLYWOOD
DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES
May 24, 2006**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Aguado called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Debra Chodash led the pledge.

3. ROLL CALL:

PRESENT:, Norman Cherner, Debra Chodash, Suzanne Dietrich, Pamela Keevil-Grey, Harrison Kline-Aguado, PhD., Joel Ring and Tom Pavich

ABSENT: Bryan Dahlgren

ALSO PRESENT: Leslie Isenberg and Kim Patterson

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The agenda of May 24, 2006 was approved with the amendment to move 8B after New Business.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of April 26, 2006 were approved.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Gérard Reyes, from Assemblyman Paul Koretz' office, told the DAB that he is a strong supporter of the Palm View Apartment tenants.

Megan Gonzalez, social worker with the LIFE program, invited the DAB to a Transportation Forum on May 31 from 5-8 p.m. at Plummer Park.

7. STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A. Senior Health Fair

Leslie Isenberg reported that the Senior Health Fair was a success and thanked the DAB for staffing their booth.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Outdoor Dining

Tom Benedetti, Code Compliance Manager, reported that an inventory is being created to assess accessibility of businesses and will be completed by June 10th. He urged the DAB to raise any concerns with Ms. Isenberg.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Housing Presentation

Jeff Skorneck, Housing Manager, gave an overview of affordable housing in the City, an issue that is a key component of the City's plans. He gave comparisons to the County's housing, and discussed problems and developments.

B. Presentation by Palm View Residents Advisory Board Chair

David Nash thanked the DAB for its support of the residents in their opposition to a large rent increase. They are requesting support for funding an additional on-site social worker. In a 3-2 vote with two abstentions, the DAB voted to support the idea of having more on-site social services at the Palm View Apartment building.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS (cont.)

B. National Organization on Disability Access America Award

After different proposals were raised, the discussion was tabled until month. The Board was asked to provide Ms. Isenberg with categories for which they would like to see the award money utilized. Deadline for these submissions is June 7th at 5:00 pm.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Yola Dore acknowledged Ms. Dietrich's participation in meetings where she has spoken on behalf of housing needs of the disabled, and encouraged everyone to become more involved.

12. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Ms. Dietrich reported that she attended the National Emergency Preparedness meeting. She also drew the DAB's attention to the lack of the TTY number on the Human Services letterhead.

Mr. Cherner commended Daphne Dennis who is being honored at Christopher Street West for her contributions to the disabled and HIV community. He said that the City website has an easy link to disability services.

Chairperson Aguado reported that Bryan Dahlgren was very pleased with the accessibility of the ATM at the Wells Fargo Bank.

Pamela Keevil-Grey requested that Partners be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

13. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Aguado adjourned the Disabilities Advisory Board meeting at 8:28 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 28, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Conference Room, City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood, CA.

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Suzanne Dietrich
Suzanne Dietrich, Board Member