

**WEST HOLLYWOOD  
DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD  
MINUTES  
OCTOBER 26, 2005**

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

Chair Kline-Aguado, PhD. called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Debra Chodash led the Pledge.

**3. ROLL CALL:**

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

ABSENT: Norman Cherner

*ALSO PRESENT: Leslie Isenberg and Kim Patterson*

**4. PERFORMANCE BY NEW DIRECTIONS CHOIR**

**5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

The agenda of October 26, 2005 was approved.

**6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The minutes of the September 28, 2005 meeting were approved.

**7. OPENING REMARKS OF BOARD CHAIR:**

Harrison Kline-Aguado-PhD. gave opening remarks.

**8. BOARD MEMBER INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS:**

DAB members shared personal background and work with the disabled community.

**9. SEVENTH ANNUAL DISABILITY SERVICE AWARDS  
PRESENTATIONS:**

DAB Vice-Chair Suzanne Dietrich and Councilmembers Sal Guarriello and Jeffrey Prang presented the Individual Award to Janine McDonough, founder of Positive Image.

Chair Kline-Aguado, PhD, and DAB member Bryan Dahlgren presented the Non-Profit Award to the Center for the Partially Sighted.

**10. STATEMENT BY MAYOR ABBE LAND:**

Mayor Land congratulated the awardees and thanked the DAB for their important work on behalf of the disabled community of West Hollywood.

**11. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Phyllis Coto, former DAB member, spoke about Proposition 63 which allocates 1% of more than \$1 million for services to the physically and mentally disabled.

Michael Arrigo, former DAB member, spoke about HR3858 which sponsors and amends the Disaster Relief and Emergency Services Act.

**12. DISABILITY SPECIALIST COMMENTS:**

Inna Khariton, Disability Specialist at the West Hollywood Comprehensive Services Center, described services available for people with disabilities, aged 18-60 years, and their families in West Hollywood.

**13. NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Emergency Preparedness**

Kristin Cook, Public Safety Manager, discussed emergency preparedness for people with disabilities and fielded questions.

**B. INCREASED ENFORCEMENT OF BICYCLISTS AND SKATEBOARDERS ON SIDEWALKS:**

The DAB passed a motion to encourage Council to increase enforcement of the current municipal code in regard to the ban on bicycles and skateboards on City sidewalks.

**C. USED EYE GLASS COLLECTION:**

The DAB passed a motion to investigate the establishment of a program to collect used eye glasses for distribution to those in need.

**D. INCREASED SUPPORT FOR DISABLED VETERANS:**

The DAB approved a motion to encourage the City Council to support increased federal funding for disabled veterans.

**E. REAL TIME CAPTIONING OF ALL TELEVISED MEETINGS AND LOCALLY PRODUCED TV PROGRAMS:**

This item was tabled until the November DAB meeting.

**14. STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**A. ACCESS AMERICA AWARD APPLICATION**

Ms. Isenberg announced that the City has submitted an application for the Access America Award, for which West Hollywood was a finalist last year.

**B. REPORT ON DISABILITY MENTORING DAY**

Ms. Isenberg reported that this year's Disability Mentoring Day was a success with half a dozen mentees placed in a variety of work sites. James McClean, one of the participants, spoke about the wonderful mentoring experience he had at the Mondrian Hotel, after which he was offered a part-time job.

**15. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:**

The DAB encouraged the public's participation in their work, and invited interested persons to apply for the open position on the Board.

**16. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There was no public comment.

**17. PERFORMANCE AND COMMENTS:**

New Directions Choir treated the audience to two more songs and introduced themselves.

## **18. ADJOURNMENT TO RECEPTION:**

Chair Kline-Aguado, PhD. adjourned the Disabilities Advisory Board meeting at 8:30 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 16, 2005 at 6:30 p.m. in the RSD Hearings Room, City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood, CA.

G: human/soc-svcs/misc/Disabilities Advisory Board/minutes/102605

*Suzanne Dietrich*  
Suzanne Dietrich, Board Member