

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD

Minutes of the Disabilities Advisory Board December 2, 2015 Community Room, West Hollywood Library

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Michael Wojtkielewicz led the pledge of allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Jim Chud, Suzanne Dietrich, Anny Semonco, Louise Smith, Rick Watts, Michael Wojtkielewicz, and Brian Zeiden

ABSENT: Marco Colantonio and Yola Dore

STAFF PRESENT: Corri Planck and Kim Patterson

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda for the December 2, 2015 meeting was approved.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the October 28, 2015 meeting were approved.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Dan Morin, resident, spoke about the Ellis Act.

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. PRESENTATION FROM AIDS PROJECT LOS ANGELES (APLA) POSITIVE SELF-MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Michael Barrett and Jackie Perez of APLA gave an overview of services that their program offers, and announced a new medical center in Baldwin Hills and another opening in Long Beach soon.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. PRESENTATION ON AGING IN PLACE/AGING IN COMMUNITY FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

Elizabeth Savage, presented a draft report of the Aging in Place/Aging in Community Five-Year Strategic Plan and fielded questions and comments. Michael Wojtkielewicz spoke to the stated purpose of the May 9th Special Meeting which was to share emerging Aging in Place IDEAS and INNOVATIONS", and in regards to the

draft report - - there are a lot of ideas, but not many seem 'emerging' and even less come across 'innovative'. Brian Zeiden asked about the definition of "serious mental illness". Rick Watts suggested that relocation assistance fees should be adjusted upwards in relation to inflation, and requested that landlords be encouraged to create new units that are rent-stabilized. Jim Chud raised the issue of reasonable accommodations and suggested applying for Google funding for tech programs for people living with disabilities. Anny Semonco raised the need for getting benefits in place now because people are getting older.

B. DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH ACTIVITIES DEBRIEF

Overall the Board thought the televised meeting in October was very good and the Health and Wellness Fair was a success. They agreed to change the hours of the fair from 10 AM – 2 PM to 9 AM – 12 noon to accommodate the greatest number of participants.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

Dan Morin, resident, 1) spoke favorably about the televised meeting, 2) suggested that the City Council receive more detailed minutes, and 3) requested that relocation fees be revised.

10. BOARDMEMBER COMMENTS

Michael Wojtkielewicz a) thanked the members of the public who attended the meeting, b) requested a log of heavily-used publicly-funded buildings, c) raised that Hart Park is plagued by non-compliant accessibility issues, and that the level that is the existence of Hart Park is to Sunset Boulevard, or conversely De Longpre, what the upper second floor of the Werle Building is to someone with a mobility impairment who is on its ground floor, d) requested that the Board re-agendize the ADA discussion from a previous meeting due to insufficient time, and e) brought attention to the Inland Empire Disability Collaborative.

Brian Zeiden expressed appreciation of the Aging in Community aspect of Elizabeth Savage's report.

Rick Watts requested that the Board agendize further planning for the Joint Town Hall on the cost of pharmaceuticals, and announced the details for the Los Angeles Annual Interfaith Service at the Crematorium for unclaimed bodies.

11. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Staff announced that 1) APLA food drive bins will be placed in City Hall for donations, 2) volunteers are needed for the NCJW Clothing Drive, 3) the Women's Advisory Board invites participation in the evaluation of the Status Report on Women at their January meeting, and 4) the Human Services Commission will have Aging in Place consultants at their Dec. 8 meeting in the Community Room of the West Hollywood Library at 6 PM.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm in honor of all who serve people with disabilities and in memory of those murdered in San Bernardino. The next meeting will be held on

Wednesday, January 27, 2015 at 6:00 p.m., in Rooms 5 & 6 of the Community Center at Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD ON THIS 2nd DAY OF DECEMBER, 2015.



LOUISE SMITH,
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:



CORRI PLANCK,
STAFF LIAISON

A copy of the audio recording of this meeting can be obtained from the City Clerk's office upon request.

(Disclaimer: Staff records the meetings for the sole purpose of composing the official meeting minutes; therefore the recordings are not of commercial quality.)