

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD

Minutes of the Disabilities Advisory Board

February 24, 2016

Rooms 5 & 6, Plummer Park

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

3. ROLL CALL

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

ABSENT: Jim Chud and Yola Dore

STAFF PRESENT: Corri Planck, Derek Murray and Kim Patterson

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda for the February 24, 2016 meeting was approved.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the January 27, 2016 meeting were approved with an amendment from Rick Watts.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Nir Zilberman, resident, thanked the Board for their work.

James Wen, Transgender Advisory Board, spoke about Trans Voter Enrollment Day and asked if the Board could suggest a volunteer ASL interpreter for a training on April 2.

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

The Board unanimously voted to postpone the election.

B. PRESENTATION FROM BET TZEDEK HIV LAW & POLICY PROJECT

Shawn Kravich, Vice President of External Affairs and Development at Bet Tzedek, spoke about the services offered by the HIV Law & Policy Project. A Board member asked if Bet Tzedek could table at one of their events, and a concern was raised about the lack of services for people living with mental illness.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD AND DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD JOINT MEETING ON PHARMACEUTICAL DRUG PRICING

Board members suggested inviting AIDS Project Los Angeles, the Center for Healthcare Rights, the LA LGBT Center, the County Board of Supervisors, elected officials, the Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board and Human Services Commission to the Town Hall Forum.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

Nir Zilberman, resident, asked for a definition of "disabled", and announced that he is working to open a 16-bed home in West Hollywood that will be partially non-profit.

10. BOARDMEMBER COMMENTS

Anny Semonco made a presentation at the Women's Advisory Board and reported that progress is being made with the Street Media Design Committee.

Suzanne Dietrich announced that her brother-in-law, Dr. William Everhart, died and asked that the meeting be adjourned in his memory.

Rick Watts reported that in the latest homeless count there were several thousand children and seniors, and announced that he will participate in a week-long fast during Easter and will give away meals to the homeless during that time.

Michael Wojtkielewicz expressed concern about some of the residents in his building. He also raised issue with the use of office space in the building. He proposed agendizing Hart Park accessibility, which was unanimously approved.

Chair Smith suggested that more emphasis should be placed on homeless and mental health services.

11. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Corri Planck announced the March 8 Human Services Commission meeting on Social Services' RFP process. She reported that 55 bins of clothing were collected for the LA LGBT Center's Youth program, The West Hollywood Recovery Center, ONE Gallery and Mazer Lesbian Archives will be relocated during the renovation of the Werle Building. The City Line X shuttle has received an enthusiastic response; and there will be a transit evaluation to determine how improvements or enhancements can be made.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm in memory of Dr. William Everhart and Jim Paul Sambrano. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 23, 2016 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 24th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2016.



LOUISE SMITH,
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:



CORRI PLANCK, *Derek Murray*
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.)