

WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES – DECEMBER 9, 2014
LIBRARY COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM

I. CALL TO ORDER

The West Hollywood Human Services Commission was called to order by Chair Anne-Marie Williams at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 9, 2014, in the Community Meeting Room of the West Hollywood Library, 625 N. San Vicente Blvd., West Hollywood.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Barbara Meltzer.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Rob Bergstein, Ruth Cislowski, Steven L. Davis,
Barbara Meltzer, Andrew Oldershaw, Jimmy Palmieri,
Anne-Marie Williams.

Not Present: None.

A quorum was present at all times. Staff present included: Elizabeth Savage, Director of Human Services and Rent Stabilization; David Giugni, Social Services Manager; Corri Planck, and Jeff Book. Council Deputy Michelle Rex was also present.

C. POSTING OF AGENDA

The secretary reported that notices for the meeting had been posted as required.

D. PROCEDURE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Persons desiring to address the meeting were asked to complete a form.

II. MINUTES

The minutes of the November 18, 2014, meeting were approved on a motion by Commissioner Bergstein, seconded by Commissioner Davis.

III. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no items from the public.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. REVIEW OF THE HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION'S SUGGESTED PRIORITY ISSUES

David Giugni said staff is presenting issues that were previously listed by the Commission as priority items, along with a tentative timeline and opportunities to gather information. Information on the social media survey of agencies, the lease extension for the WeHo Recovery Center, and info on the Aging in Place strategic planning process will be presented today.

Corri Planck discussed the report on 27 responses on social media from social services agencies, indicating that 26 have a social media presence. Of these, 100% use Facebook, and 70% use Twitter. About 80% were interested in learning more about social media use for social services agencies. A total of 30 agencies had been asked for information. A roundtable meeting to share information is being considered.

Commissioner Cislowski said she'd like the Commission to learn more about City services in this area, then consider whether a subcommittee is needed.

Commissioner Williams recommended having Taproot as a speaker.

The Commission discussed how to proceed in considering its priority items, and whether a subcommittee was needed to develop a strategic plan on all the items.

Commissioner Cislowski moved to accept the staff presentation on priority issues and the calendar of Commission items, with a subcommittee to be available for consultation as the process moves forward. This was seconded and approved.

B. LIAISON ASSIGNMENTS AND ATTENDANCE AT PLANNING AND COORDINATION MEETINGS

The Commission discussed what is expected from liaisons to others boards and commissions, and its participation in the periodic planning and coordination meetings held by the social services agencies.

Updated list of liaisons:

- Planning Commission – Rob Bergstein, Anne-Marie Williams
- Public Facilities – to be determined
- Public Safety – to be determined
- Rent Stabilization – Rob Bergstein
- Disabilities – to be determined
- Lesbian and Gay – Jimmy Palmieri
- Senior – Barbara Meltzer, Steven Davis
- Transgender – Ruth Cislowski, Steven Davis
- Women's – Barbara Meltzer
- East Side Working Group – Rob Bergstein

Commissioner Davis asked about social services on legal matters, and David Giugni said the City is not currently contracting for that service. It previously contracted with the LGBT Center's Legal program, and with the Center for Civic Mediation.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. EXTENSION OF THE LEASE AGREEMENT AND SOCIAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH WEST HOLLYWOOD RECOVERY CENTER

David Giugni reported that the city began a lease agreement with the West Hollywood Recovery Center in 2003, and that more than sixty 12-step meetings are held there each month now. The City would like to provide a long-term home for the meetings, and has completed a new agreement, running until Sept. 30, 2024, with rent at \$2,200 per month. The City provides an extra hour of validated parking as well.

Note: At the meeting of Jan. 8, 2015, prior to approval of these Minutes, Commissioner Bergstein said he thought the figure of more than sixty 12-step meetings per month was mistaken.

Commissioner Davis spoke about the dire need for meeting room space in the City. He asked about the former Partners Adult Day Health Care building on Santa Monica Boulevard near Plummer Park.

B. AGING IN PLACE STRATEGIC PLAN

Elizabeth Savage reviewed background steps which have created a basis for the Aging in Place strategic planning process. A kick-off meeting with 24 staff and consultant Elizabeth Sadlon was held. The development of the strategic plan will not be a needs assessment, but a concise plan for this subject area, along with action items as needed. The strategic planning group is requesting a special meeting of the Human Services Commission on a Saturday in the spring, with representatives from other boards and commissions, on this topic.

Commissioners expressed support for the process.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Bergstein said Los Angeles County has opened its waiting list for senior housing, and that seniors can apply for a specific building or the overall list.

Commissioner Palmieri reminded that #BOOM!, the sober New Year's Eve event at West Hollywood Park Auditorium, is coming up.

Commissioner Cislowski spoke about attending an event with Wang DeLong, creator of "The Game," the statue of bears currently on display outside the West Hollywood Library.

Commissioner Williams welcomed volunteers for the APLA toy drive.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

David Giugni spoke about the World AIDS Day event held on Dec. 1, and congratulated Commissioner Oldershaw, who was an honoree. He thanked Corey Roskin for his work on this event and others happening during this season.

VIII. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no items from the public.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 pm.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION ON THE 13TH DAY
OF JANUARY 2015



Andrew Oldershaw, Vice Chair

Attest:



Jeff Book, Secretary