

**WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES – APRIL 14, 2015**  
**LIBRARY COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM**

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

The West Hollywood Human Services Commission was called to order by Acting Chair Andrew Oldershaw at 6:01 p.m., Tuesday, April 14, 2015, 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 Commissioner Patrick Shandrick.

B. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Rob Bergstein, Steven L. Davis, Barbara Meltzer, Andrew Oldershaw, Jimmy Palmieri, Patrick Shandrick.

Not Present: Ruth Cislowski.

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, Derek Murray, and Laura Schoonover. Councilmember Lauren Meister 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. **INSTALLATION OF NEW MEMBER**

Councilmember Lauren Meister administered the oath of office to Commissioner Patrick Shandrick.

III. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Commissioner Bergstein moved to table the election of officers until all seats on the Commission are filled. This was seconded by Commissioner Davis and approved. Vice Chair Andrew Oldershaw will serve as Acting Chair in the interim.

IV. **MINUTES**

With the correction that the signature line will have to reflect the Acting Chair rather than the former Chair, the minutes of the March 10, 2015, meeting were approved on

a motion by Commissioner Bergstein, seconded by Commissioner Meltzer, with Commissioner Shandrick abstaining.

V. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Michael Wojtkielewicz discussed a recent occurrence at the Sierra Bonita Apartments in which a resident was locked out of the property.

Stephanie Harker spoke about West Hollywood Community Housing Corporation and the residents of the Detroit bungalows.

Cathy Blaivas welcomed Commissioner Shandrick. She spoke about the West Hollywood Community Housing Corporation and the Detroit bungalows.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. AGING IN PLACE STRATEGIC PLANNING

Elizabeth Savage presented materials being prepared for the May 9 special meeting on the topic of Aging in Place, including the strategic plan preparation timeline. The process has included meeting with boards and commissions as well as experts in the field. The May 9 meeting will include discussion of the eight domains of aging in place, as identified by the World Health Organization and AARP. It will also include an Innovations Café, highlighting useful age-friendly inventions. Commissioners volunteered for roles in the meeting. She also spoke about how the plan, once developed, will be implemented.

David Giugni spoke about meeting with small groups, including long-term HIV survivors, to gather ideas for the city's Aging in Place plan. Corri Planck spoke about the Disabilities Advisory Board, which has discussed the material three times.

B. RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

David Giugni provided background on the City's rental assistance programs through NCJW (grants of up to \$1,000) and Jewish Free Loan (loan of one month's rent), and gave information on the current balances and expenditures of the programs. The agencies are required to do a 90-day follow-up with those helped, and those contacts have reflected that the funds have been helpful. Commissioners discussed the efficacy of providing grants or loans for this purpose, as well as JFLA's assessment of a 10% administration fee, and asked for their concerns to be shared with the City Council.

C. AGENCY DEVELOPMENT FUNDING AWARDS

Derek Murray discussed the capacity-building awards provided to contracted social services agencies. The amount of \$25,000 was made available through allocation by the City Council. There were 12 proposals, with awards going to Aid for AIDS, APLA, Being Alive, Bet Tzedek Legal Services, Housing Works, LA LGBT Center Youth program, and Saban Community Clinic. The funding to APLA will come from an HIV prevention line item, rather than the agency

development project. Similar grants should be available next year.

Commissioners discussed the purpose of the grants, and whether the APLA amount should have been included in the report because it's not part of the agency development funding.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. SENIOR MONTH

David Giugni reported on behalf of Leslie Isenberg and Social Services staff on events occurring during Senior Month (May) in West Hollywood, including the May 11 screening of "I'll Be Me," the film about Glen Campbell. The 14<sup>th</sup> annual Senior Health Fair will be held on Tuesday, May 19.

VIII. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Shandrick said he has lived in the city for more than 20 years, grew up in Pittsburgh, and is honored to be on the Commission.

Commissioner Meltzer attended the Children's Roundtable. She spoke about the Friends of the Library, which is talking about age-friendly initiatives. There will be elder fraud prevention workshops. She spoke about the documentary "How to Die In Oregon."

Commissioner Bergstein acknowledged former Commissioner Anne-Marie Williams, and said he appreciated her work to improve the lives of West Hollywood residents. He said this was probably his last meeting, given possible turnover in Commission membership, and thanked staff, including former Social Services Manager Daphne Dennis.

Commissioner Davis asked for an update from the senior program at the LA LGBT Center, particularly with regard to seniors living with HIV. He attended a health update at Being Alive, including nutrition information. He also spoke about the West Hollywood Community Housing Corporation, and the lack of public awareness of how its leaders are appointed, and what the organization does. He thanked Commissioner Bergstein for his service.

Commissioner Oldershaw also thanked Commissioners Williams and Bergstein, and welcomed Commissioner Shandrick.

IX. ITEMS FROM STAFF

A. HIV ZERO TRANSMISSION UPDATE

Derek Murray said Social Services has supported this initiative through events and supporting agencies that are working on it. The Centers for Disease Control and World Health Organization recommend pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP). There are barriers for some populations to access this treatment. National Minority AIDS Council is holding a training for medical professionals on Wednesday, May 13. There will also be a basic information meeting that

evening in the Council chambers.

The Greater Los Angeles Agency on Deafness attended a recent meeting, and educated about their work with the deaf and hard-of-hearing.

The West Hollywood Women's Leadership Conference will be held soon, with a kickoff film screening of "The Hunting Ground," and keynote address by Sandra Fluke.

LA County Board of Supervisors is considering creating a single health department including health and mental health components. The public is invited to provide input.

X. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Michael Wojtkielewicz spoke about the Detroit bungalows and the West Hollywood Community Housing Corporation.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm

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APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION ON THE 9<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JUNE 2015.

  
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Andrew Oldershaw, Acting Chair

Attest:

  
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Jeff Book, Secretary