

WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES – DECEMBER 12, 2006
COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL

I. CALL TO ORDER

The West Hollywood Human Services Commission was called to order by Chair Steven L. Davis at 6:05 p.m., Tuesday, December 12, 2006, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Commissioner Augeri.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Gary Augeri, Steven L. Davis, Debra Farmer,
Charles Henry, Shirley Roberts.

Not Present: Ruth Cislowski.

A quorum was present at all times. Staff members present included Lloyd R. Long, Director of Human Services; Daphne Dennis, Social Services Administrator; and Jeff Book.

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 request form.

II. MINUTES

Minutes of the November 14, 2006, meeting were approved on a motion by Commissioner Farmer, seconded by Commissioner Augeri.

III. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no items.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. LA GAY AND LESBIAN CENTER'S TRANSGENDER JOB TRAINING AND PLACEMENT PROGRAM

Daphne Dennis reported there are enough savings to cover funding for both the transgender program and urgent needs program. The requested funding for the current period is \$37,500, not the \$50,000 stated in the printed staff report, because the contract is for nine months rather than 12. The source of funds would be \$25,000 from the social services contract and the remainder from savings from the 2004/2005 contract period. The proposed scope of services for the transgender program has been finalized.

Commissioner Henry said this is a much-needed program, wondered whether there are start-up costs that the City is permitted to cover, and emphasized the need for a two-year commitment to the program. Daphne Dennis said social services contracts are for one-year periods, but due to the two-year funding cycle, there is the strong intention to continue programs for the second year.

Commissioner Henry moved to recommend approval of funding up to \$50,000 for the current year of the transgender job training and placement program, with the understanding that the City would cover legitimate start-up costs to the extent it is permitted to do so, and with the commitment that staff would provide Council with a memo giving the Council their recommendation, and the Commission's endorsement, that this funding be added to the social services funding base for Year 2 of the contract. This was seconded by Commissioner Farmer and unanimously approved. The proposal for the transgender program will go to the City Council on Dec. 18.

B. PROCEDURE FOR RE-PROGRAMMING OF SAVINGS FROM SOCIAL SERVICES CONTRACTS

Daphne Dennis discussed the proposed procedures for re-programming savings in current and future years of social services contracts.

Commissioner Henry said he would like the procedure to include a provision that all agencies would receive notice of reprogramming opportunities and the process for applying, and that the community would also be given notice of the reprogramming opportunities.

After discussion, Commissioner Henry moved to table the item to the next meeting. This was seconded by Commissioner Augeri, and unanimously approved.

C. SOCIAL SERVICES URGENT NEED FUNDS ALLOCATIONS FOR 2006-07

Daphne Dennis provided the staff recommendation of urgent need funds allocation for 2006-07, with \$15,000 for the Jewish Family Services program, and \$5,000 for the Aid for AIDS program.

Commissioner Augeri said that some community members may not know that they can approach Jewish Family Services for assistance, due to the agency's name. Daphne Dennis said this could be addressed in community education and

information. Commissioner Henry raised the possibility of naming the urgent funds program in honor or memory of a notable community figure, and Commissioner Roberts said that the liaisons to the commission could assist in informing various parts of the community about the availability of the program.

Commissioner Henry moved to approve the recommendation. This was seconded by Commissioner Farmer, and unanimously approved.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. REVIEW OF CITY'S HOUSING SUMMIT

Commissioner Davis discussed the Dec. 4 housing summit, at which a panel discussed current topics in housing, both in West Hollywood and the broader metropolitan area and region, including affordable housing and workforce housing.

Daphne Dennis said that streaming video of the housing summit is available on the City's website, and that the portion in which the panel responds to questions from the audience is particularly informative.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Henry asked for clarification that any currently available savings that were not allocated earlier in the meeting would not be lost, but be retained for future use. Daphne Dennis said this was the case.

Commissioner Davis spoke about the World AIDS Day event, which included a march from City Hall to the Metropolitan Community Church.

VIII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Daphne Dennis provided information about a social marketing evaluation that is being conducted.

IX. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Ruth Tittle, liaison from the Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board, spoke about the possible sale of part of the Metropolitan Community Church building on Santa Monica Boulevard.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

The next regular meeting is at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 9, 2007, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall.

Signed: 
Steven L. Davis

Attest:


