

**WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES – OCTOBER 8, 2002**  
**COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL**

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. CALL TO ORDER

The West Hollywood Human Services Commission was called to order by Vice Chair John D'Amico at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 8, 2002, in West Hollywood Park Auditorium, 647 N. San Vicente Blvd., West Hollywood.

B. ROLL CALL

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Griffin.

Present: Ruth Cislowski, John D'Amico, Steven Davis,  
Teresa DeCrescenzo, Ponsella Gratton, Dr. Bill Griffin.

Excused: Peter Mackler.

A quorum was present at all times. Staff present included Lloyd R. Long, Director of Human Services; Daphne Dennis, Social Services Administrator; Tom West, Diane Kahn-Epstein, David Giugni, and Jeff Book. Commissioner DeCrescenzo joined the meeting in process.

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

Commissioner Davis moved approval of the minutes for September 10, September 24, and October 1. This was seconded by Commissioner Griffin, and approved, with Commissioner Gratton abstaining due to absence with regard to September 10 and 24.

III. SOCIAL SERVICES FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

Daphne Dennis distributed staff recommendations for social services funding. The staff recommendations total about \$25,000 less than the total available amount of \$2,735,046 (for the 11-month period beginning November 1).

Tom West discussed funding for community-wide STD testing and medical services, including LA Free Clinic, AHF, GLC sexual health program, and The Spot.

Diane Kahn-Epstein discussed community-wide social services, including Bet Tzedek, DRS, Maple Counseling Center, SOVA, Van Ness substance abuse program, WHEST, and an increase to Women Helping Women.

Tom West discussed AIDS services and prevention, including AFA, Being Alive, PAWS, Project Angel Food, Shanti / City Project, APLA, GLC WeHo Life, and Van Ness education and outreach.

Diane Kahn-Epstein discussed children's services, included CFS, Aviva, Light Up the Library, and new funding for Psychological Trauma Center.

Tom West discussed gay and lesbian services, including GLC legal and mental health programs, and Van Ness residential. Staff does not recommend funding for Rainbow Bridge, a 6-bed sober living facility, because it has not acquired a West Hollywood location yet, and due to questions about the staffing plan.

Daphne Dennis discussed homeless services, including PATH and GLC youth program.

David Giugni discussed immigrant services, including the Russian Community Center and CBD College, which was recommended for zero funding due to low job placement. He also discussed senior services, including the West Hollywood Senior Center.

Commissioner D'Amico thanked staff for their presentation.

#### IV. PUBLIC HEARING

The public was invited to comment on social services funding recommendations. Fifty-one comments were received, including: 1. Suzanne Silverstein, Psychological Trauma Center; 2. Pat Dockenhauser, Psychological Trauma Center; 3. Marcy, Psychological Trauma Center; 4. David Lash, Bet Tzedek; 5. Semyon Torchinsky, Bet Tzedek; 6. Mr. Pinchevsky, Bet Tzedek; 7. Carol Henault, West Hollywood Children; 8. Esther Raab, Laurel school; 9. Lisa Phillips, GLC transitional living; and 10. Roxy, a client of GLC transitional living.

And 11. Alma Morales, a parent with the Aviva program; 12. Terry Goddard, AFA; 13. Lori Karny, Women Helping Women; 14. Amber Ussin, WHW; 15. Florrie Schutzer, WHW; 16. Gilbert Morales; 17. Carlos Sosa, City Project; 18. Gabriel Tovar, Shanti; 19. Susan Holt, GLC partner abuse and domestic violence program; 20. David Zucker, City Project.

With 21. Rae Mitchell, LA Free Clinic; 22. Abbe Land, LA Free Clinic; 23. Anne Factor, WHEST; 24. Ricky Moress, NCJW afterschool homework program; 25. Rachel Bercovic, JFS Nutrition; 26. Anne Kellogg, Maple Counseling Center; 27. Mina Hakimi, Maple Counseling Center; 28. Dana Kagel, GLC Legal; 29. Collette Divine, GLC Legal; 30. Tony Delano, City Project.

Also 31. David Helie, DRS; 32. Suzanne Gage, DRS; 33. Leslie Kushner, DRS; 34. Kathy Watt, Van Ness; 35. Lee Klozinski, APLA; 36. Alfred Herrera; 37. Marc Hauptert, LA Shanti; 38. Jeff Bailey, GLC; 39. Trip Mills, GLC; 40. Janet Witkin, Alternative Living for the Aging.

Then 41. Christine Brant, Alternative Living for the Aging; 42. Joel Roberts, PATH; 43. Susan Mendlewitz, JFS Partners; 44. Susan Alexman, JFS Comprehensive Services Center; 45. Quentin O'Brien, new director of health and mental health services at GLC; 46. Casey McFall, CBD College; 47. Helen Levin, Russian Community Center; 48. Marie McAfee; 49. Jeanne Dobrin; 50. Tiffany Horton, GLC sexual health program; and 51. Dan Grundeman, a psychotherapist working with LA Shanti.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the commission was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. to a special meeting Thursday, October 10, 2002, at 6:00 p.m., at Plummer Park Community Center, Rooms 5 and 6.

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Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Steven L. Davis

Attest:

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