

**WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 9, 2008**  
**COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL**

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

The West Hollywood Human Services Commission was called to order by Chair Chuck Henry at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 9, 2008, 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 Sims.

B. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Steven L. Davis, Debra Farmer, Charles Henry,  
Shirley Roberts, Hywel Sims, Mark Zangrando.  
Not Present: Ruth Cislowski.

Commissioner Farmer joined the meeting in progress. A quorum was present at all times. Staff members present included Daphne Dennis, Social Services Administrator; Joyce Rooney; 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 August 5, 2008, meeting were approved on a motion by Commissioner Sims, seconded by Commissioner Roberts.

III. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were two speakers. Brad Leathers spoke first about his work with Twin Town Treatment Centers, and distributed information about their inpatient and outpatient services. Commissioner Farmer joined the meeting at this point. Brad Leathers then spoke about a 35-minute program on the effect of crystal meth addiction on the brain, and about a consultancy he is beginning at Glendale Memorial Hospital.

Cathy Berger Kaye, the consultant working with the Halloween Task Force, spoke about the work of that group. There will be a community meeting on ideas for improving the Carnival on Nov. 15. Ms. Kaye will speak with the Commission's representatives to the Task Force, and include input from the Commission in developing recommendations to the City Council.

#### IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

##### A. OVERVIEW OF TRANSIT PROGRAMS

Daphne Dennis introduced Joyce Rooney, an 18-year city employee whose work with transit programs has become part of the Social Services Division. Joyce spoke about the Taxi Coupon program, which provides discounted taxi rides to more than 3,000 persons who are 65 or older, or who have a qualifying condition; about the Dial-a-Ride program, which provides free transportation during weekday business hours to persons 60 or older, or who are disabled; and about the bus pass subsidy program, which provides discounted bus passes to persons who are 62 or older, or who are disabled. Staff will provide the Commission with periodic updates on these programs.

##### B. REVIEW OF 2008-2010 RFP PROCESS

The Commission's recommendations for 2008-2010 social services contracts will be going to the Council on Sept. 15.

Commissioner Farmer expressed appreciation for the process and said she liked using the reverse-alphabetical order for agency presentations. She asked about the policy of allowing unlimited number of persons per agency to speak.

Commissioner Henry asked about a way to have a meeting to identify which agencies there might be the most questions about, so that agencies that are not so identified would be aware of that. Daphne Dennis said new agencies and agencies about which there were more concerns could be separated from the other agencies, and put first on the agenda.

Commissioner Sims asked about the city's translation policy for persons not commenting in English. Daphne Dennis said that simultaneous translation is provided with advance notice, but otherwise it is ad hoc. Commissioner Henry said simultaneous translation should perhaps be planned for the meeting with testimony on agency funding.

#### V. NEW BUSINESS

##### A. WESTSIDE CITIES ADVOCACY EFFORTS ON HOMELESSNESS

Daphne Dennis provided a general update on efforts by the Westside Cities (Los Angeles, Beverly Hills, West Hollywood, Santa Monica, and Culver City) to respond to homelessness. A committee of the Westside Cities' consortium of governments is continuing to develop policies and recommendations.

#### VI. ITEMS FROM STAFF

The annual congress of boards and commissions will be held Saturday, Sept. 13.

#### VII. ITEMS FROM COMMISSION

Commissioner Sims said he will be visiting McIntyre House, which invites all commissioners to schedule visits also.

Commissioner Henry spoke about the Disability Service Awards, for which nominations are invited. The Gay Men's Chorus will be performing this year.

A forum on HIV, aging, and the brain will be held Sept. 24.

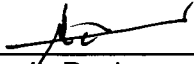
VIII. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no additional items.

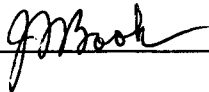
IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

The next regular meeting is at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 14, 2008, at West Hollywood City Hall.

Signed:   
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Steven L. Davis

Attest:

  
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