

WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES – JULY 12, 2000
COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. CALL TO ORDER

The West Hollywood Human Services Commission was called to order by Chairperson Shirley Roberts at 6:05 p.m., Wednesday, July 12, 2000, in the West Hollywood Park Auditorium, 647 N. San Vicente Blvd., West Hollywood.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Ruth Cislowski, John D'Amico, Steven Davis, Teresa DeCrescenzo, Dr. Bill Griffin, Shirley Roberts
Excused: Peter Mackler
Absent: none

A quorum was present at all times. Staff present included Lloyd R. Long, Director of Human Services; Daphne Dennis, Social Services Administrator; Tom West, Tamar Springer, Diane Kahn-Epstein, 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. SOCIAL SERVICES FUNDING 2000-2002

The Commission accepted public comment from two persons who were not able to speak at the July 11 meetings: Mike Racke of Rainbow Bridge, and David Lash of Bet Tzedek Legal Services. The public hearing on Social Services Funding 2000-2002 was then closed, on a motion by Commissioner Griffin, seconded by Commissioner Davis, and unanimously approved.

Daphne Dennis presented staff's recommendations regarding funding for social services programs in 2000-2002. She reviewed the founding and development of the city's commitment to social services, including working with large and small agencies, developing programs to fill gaps in other services, and creating in-house organizations which later became nonprofit agencies.

The staff recommendations for funding were: Aid for AIDS, \$74,000; AIDS Project Los Angeles, \$275,000; Alternative Living for the Aging, \$23,000; AVIVA, \$22,000; Being Alive, \$72,000; Bet Tzedek Legal Services, \$100,000; Child and Family Services, \$100,000; Children's Hospital CITY Project, \$40,000; Dispute Resolution Services, \$58,000; GLC Health Services, \$80,000; GLC Legal Services, \$18,000; GLC Mental Health Services, \$70,000; JFS Comprehensive Services, \$513,000; JFS Nutrition, \$255,000; JFS Partners ADHC, \$62,000, including \$10,000 in Prop A transportation funds; LA Free Clinic, \$150,000; PATH/Foundation House, \$300,000, including \$68,279 in CDBG funds; PAWS/LA, \$15,000; Project Angel Food, \$50,000; Russian Community Center, \$72,000; Shanti Foundation, \$72,000; Van Ness Recovery House substance abuse program, \$80,000; Van Ness Recovery House education/outreach, \$90,000; Van Ness Recovery House residential treatment, \$35,000; and Women Helping Women, \$15,000.

Staff did not recommend funding of GLC Senior Programs; JFS Family Violence Project; Rainbow/Alternatives; and Shanti's volunteer training program. The Alzheimer's Association was recommended for evaluation at mid-year, and Maple Counseling Center's trauma response proposal was recommended for referral to Public Safety.

Staff deferred to Commission discussion regarding three employment services (CBD College, currently receiving \$20,500; Project New Hope, currently receiving \$25,625; and WHEST, currently receiving \$138,375) as well as the GLC Youth program, currently receiving \$50,000; and GLC West Hollywood Cares, currently receiving \$92,675. In the case of GLC West Hollywood Cares, staff noted that county funding for prevention programs is expected to be clarified in the next few weeks, and that the City should consider waiting to see what the county does.

Staff recommended deferring to consideration at a later date six programs dealing with schools, children, and youth: Light Up a Library, currently receiving \$8,200; Psychological Trauma Center, currently receiving \$6,150; STAR Program, receiving \$10,000; West Hollywood Elementary, receiving \$10,000; two newly proposed programs, Russian Community Center youth program (requesting \$43,778); and DOD-Exceptional Children (requesting \$133,700); and Women Helping Women, for \$6,750.

Tamar Springer reviewed recommendations regarding Alternative Living for the Aging, the Alzheimer's Association, JFS Comprehensive Services Center, JFS Domestic Violence, JFS Senior Nutrition, Partners ADHC, GLC Senior Program, LA Free Clinic, Russian Community Center, and Sova Kosher Food Pantry. Tom West reviewed recommendations on agencies affecting people living with HIV/AIDS, including Aid for AIDS, Being Alive, Project Angel Food, Shanti, APLA, Van Ness, the proposed West Hollywood Life program at GLC. Diane Kahn-Epstein presented recommendations regarding AVIVA, Bet Tzedek, Child and Family Services, DRS, GLC Legal, and Women Helping Women. Daphne Dennis reviewed the recommendations for GLC Health, PATH/Foundation House, GLC Youth, PAWS, CBD College, Project New Hope, WHEST/Jewish Vocational Services.

There was a 10-minute break.

Commissioner Roberts asked if there were sentiment to do a “consent calendar,” to authorize funding for agencies on which all commissioners were likely to be in agreement. Commissioner Griffin said he concurred with staff recommendations for funding of ALA, Aviva, GLC Health, GLC Legal, JFS Comprehensive Services, RCC, Shanti, and Sova, and with non-funding of Rainbow Bridge, Shanti volunteer training, Maple Counseling Center, JFS Family Violence, and the Alzheimer’s Association. Commissioners Davis, DeCrescenzo, and Cislowski agreed, with the exception of Alzheimer’s Association and Maple Counseling Center.

Commissioner Cislowski moved, and Commissioner DeCrescenzo seconded, to approve staff recommendations regarding funding of ALA, Aviva, GLC Health, GLC Legal, JFS Comprehensive Services, RCC, Shanti, and SOVA, and non-funding of JFS Domestic Violence, Rainbow Bridge Alternatives, and Shanti’s volunteer training program. There was a roll-call vote, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Commissioner DeCrescenzo moved to recommend to Council that the Maple Counseling Center proposal be funded out of Public Safety funds, in the requested amount of \$23,878. This was seconded by Commissioner Cislowski. Commissioner Davis said he would favor funding Maple Counseling Center out of social services funds. After discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

Commissioner D’Amico moved, and Commissioner DeCrescenzo seconded, to approve all remaining staff recommendations. After discussion, Commissioner D’Amico moved, with Commissioner Cislowski seconding, to go into “committee of the whole” to discuss the main motion. This motion was approved.

In committee of the whole

Commissioner Griffin presented his recommendations for funding of the remaining agencies. These were: AFA, \$82,000 (increase of \$8,000 in comparison to staff recommendation); APLA, \$248,000 (decrease of \$27,000); Being Alive, \$71,750 (decrease of \$250); Bet Tzedek, zero (decrease of \$100,000); CFS, \$50,000 (decrease of \$50,000); City Project, \$50,000 (increase of \$10,000); DRS, \$50,000 (decrease of \$8,000); GLC Mental Health, \$77,000 (increase of \$7,000); GLC Senior Program, \$20,000 (increase of \$20,000); JFS Nutrion, \$263,800 (increase of \$8,800); JFS Partners, zero (decrease of \$62,000); LA Free Clinic, \$153,334 (increase of \$3,334); PATH, zero (decrease of \$300,000); PAWS, \$10,000 (decrease of \$5,000); Project Angel Food, \$50,737 (increase of \$737); Van Ness substance abuse, \$60,350 (decrease of \$19,650); Van Ness outreach, \$50,737 (decrease of \$39,263); Van Ness residential, \$30,442 (decrease of \$4,558), Women Helping Women, zero (decrease of \$15,500); CBD College, zero (decrease of \$20,500); Project New Hope, zero (decrease of \$25,625); WHEST, zero (decrease of

\$138,375); GLC Youth, \$55,000 (increase of \$5,000); and GLC Cares, \$101,942 (increase of \$9,267).

Commissioner DeCrescenzo moved to rise from the committee of the whole. This was seconded by Commissioner Davis, and approved.

As Commission

Commissioner DeCrescenzo then moved to approve all of Commissioner Griffin's recommendations as a substitute for the main motion. This was seconded by Commissioner Cislowski. The question was called, and the motion was defeated on a roll-call vote, 1 to 5, with Commissioner Griffin in favor.

Commissioner Cislowski then moved to return to the committee of the whole. This was seconded by Commissioner DeCrescenzo, and approved.

In committee of the whole

Commissioner Davis discussed increasing the City Project by \$6,000 to \$46,000; fund GLC Senior Programs at \$20,000; fund Maple Counseling Center at \$24,000; keep CBD College, Project New Hope, and GLC Youth at current funding; defer a decision on GLC West Hollywood Cares until the county is heard from; and reduce WHEST to \$88,375, which would provide the \$50,000 to cover the proposed increases. Commissioner DeCrescenzo spoke in favor of these changes.

Commissioner Davis also discussed funding the Alzheimer's Association at \$13,000, with funds transferred from WHEST or PAWS. Commissioner Cislowski agreed with funding GLC Senior Programs, but suggested \$10,000 instead of \$20,000, with the other \$10,000 remaining in WHEST. Commissioner Griffin said he agreed with these discussions regarding City Project, WHEST, GLC Youth, and Cares.

Commissioner Griffin said his premise in recommending zero-funding of PATH is that the homeless are in many cases mentally ill, and he would rather see funds used for treatment of that. Commissioner D'Amico noted that PATH is providing STD prevention and employment placement services also.

Commissioner Cislowski discussed rolling back funding numbers that had been rounded up for convenience. This would come to \$2,950. If PAWS were reduced \$5,000, and Van Ness substance abuse by \$2,050, this would, combined with the \$2,950 in rounding rollbacks, provide \$10,000 for GLC Senior Programs, and leave \$95,375 for WHEST.

Commissioner Davis moved to rise from the committee of the whole. Commissioner DeCrescenzo seconded, and this was approved.

As Commission

Commissioner Davis moved to amend the main motion by funding Alzheimer's Association at \$13,000; GLC Senior Program at \$10,000; City Project at \$46,000; and Maple Counseling Center at \$24,000; with funding for CBD College, Project New Hope, and GLC Youth continuing at current levels; deferring action on GLC Cares until the county is heard from; rolling back funding numbers that had been rounded for convenience (for \$2,950), reducing PAWS by \$5,000, reducing Van Ness substance abuse by \$2,050, and designating \$95,375 for WHEST.

The amendment was seconded by Commissioner DeCrescenzo, and approved on a 4-2 roll call vote, with Commissioners Griffin and Roberts dissenting.

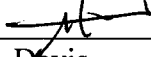
The question then occurred on the main motion as amended. It was approved on a 4-2 roll call vote, with Commissioners Griffin and Roberts dissenting.

III. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Cislowski asked that funding in the recreation division be included on the next regular agenda.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m. in memory of Calvin Willis, a resident of Van Ness Recovery House.

The next meeting is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 8, 2000, in the Community Conference Room at West Hollywood City Hall.

Signed: 
Steven L. Davis

Attest:

