

**WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES – JULY 15, 1999**  
**HALL A, PLUMMER PARK**

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. CALL TO ORDER

The West Hollywood Human Services Commission was called to order by Chairperson Steven Davis at 6:05 p.m., Thursday, July 15, 1999, in Hall A at Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Norman Chramoff, Ruth Cislowski, Steven Davis,  
Teresa DeCrescenzo, Bob Graney, Shirley Roberts  
Excused: John D'Amico  
Absent: none

A quorum was present at all times. Staff present included Lloyd Long, Director of Human Services; Daphne Dennis, Social Services Administrator; Tom West, Tamar Springer, and Jeff Book. Council Deputy Howard Jacobs 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 request form.

Without objection, the agenda was amended to add Item VI. A., a memorandum from public safety specialist Richard Ryan, as an urgency item.

II. MINUTES

The minutes of the June 15, 1999, meeting were approved on a motion by Commissioner DeCrescenzo, seconded by Commissioner Roberts.

### III. PUBLIC HEARING: SOCIAL SERVICES CONTRACT FUNDING

Commissioner Davis opened a public hearing on social services contract funding for 1999-2000. Daphne Dennis presented the staff report, noting that the City is approaching the beginning of the second year of a two-year funding cycle, and will be considering increases, decreases, changes in probationary and provisional status, and so forth.

Agencies should be at about 57% of annual goal at this time of the year. Ms. Dennis said that DRS, which was placed on probation at mid-year, has made improvements in performance, and staff will recommend ending its probationary status. Several programs that are in provisional status will be recommended to continue in that status.

Public comment was received from Terri Ford of Santa Monica (on behalf of AIDS Healthcare Foundation); Roger Doughty of Los Angeles (with the Gay & Lesbian Center); Roger Coggan of Los Angeles (Gay & Lesbian Center); Karen Mall of West Hollywood (AHF), seeking funding for an AIDS testing program; Sandy King of Los Angeles (Jewish Family Services); Joan Negash of West Hollywood (JFS Comprehensive Service Center), regarding persons 55 and older, and those with disabilities; Vivian Sauer of Los Angeles (JFS); and Etheen Stone of Los Angeles (AHF), regarding testing.

Commissioner Graney asked for a demonstration counseling session to be scheduled for a future Commission meeting, so that Commissioners could see what type of information and counseling are provided to persons tested for HIV. Mr. Stone said he was interested in arranging such a demonstration.

Comment was then received from Carol Henault of Los Angeles (NCJW Women Helping Women), seeking increased funding for Light Up a Library; Joni Lavick of Los Angeles (GLC Mental Health); Lorette Herman of Los Angeles (APLA); Lisa Buchwald of Los Angeles (Aviva Center); Anne Factor of West Hollywood (WHEST); DeeAnna Stone of West Hollywood (a client of WHEST); J. D. Baughman of Los Angeles (AHF); Janet Chapman of Los Angeles (principal of Rosewood Elementary School), in support of their psychological trauma center as well as Light Up a Library; and Suzanne Silverstein of Los Angeles (Rosewood Elementary School). Commissioner Davis asked for local schools to be scheduled for presentations.

Also, Helen Levin of West Hollywood (Russian Community Center); Daniel Millar of West Hollywood (Foundation House), introducing Tracy Woodbury, now project director there; Margaret Hennessy of Los Angeles (Bet Tzedek Legal Services); Julie Jaskol of Los Angeles (LA Free Clinic), on their dental program; Carrie Hornby of Los Angeles (JFS Senior Nutrition); Cindy Yancey of Los Angeles (CBD College); Juan Ledesma of West Hollywood (Being Alive); and Lori Karny of Los Angeles (Women Helping Women).

The Commission then discussed various aspects of funding. Commissioner Graney said he prefers targeting any funding increase to reward agencies for specific accomplishment, instead of an across-the-board increase. Commissioner Cislowski said the Commission needs to know more about why certain programs are below goal. Commissioner Davis said he hoped there would be a pointed message to the GLC Youth Program, and that he personally did not support additional funding for it.

Commissioner DeCrescenzo also said the progress toward goal by the GLC Youth Program was unacceptably low, and that based on information provided, there appear to be accessibility problems with the GLC Mental Health Services program, which is apparently open for walk-in only three and a half hours a week.

Commissioner Graney asked if funding for any recommendations from the drug and alcohol addiction task force was likely to come from social services funding, and Daphne Dennis said she thought any program emerging out of that task force would be funded separately. Commissioner Graney asked where funding for AHF's testing program would come from, if the Commission chose to recommend support for that, and Daphne Dennis said it would come from funds budgeted for increased AIDS education.

Staff and the Commission discussed asking the consortium of AIDS service providers how they would allocate funding for increased AIDS education. A consortium meeting is planned for July 21.

#### IV. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

#### V. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

##### A. CSW SCHEDULING

Commissioner Chramoff noted that a variety of problems had been encountered at this year's CSW Pride Festival, and asked for this to be scheduled for discussion. Lloyd Long said there is to be a meeting to review the festival shortly, and that staff can provide the report from that meeting to the Commission at its September meeting.

##### B. AIDS EDUCATION SCHEDULING

As determined in discussion after the public hearing, staff will return to the August meeting with specific proposals for social services funding in 1999-2000, and this process will include discussion of enhanced AIDS education options.

Commissioner Davis asked for appointments to committees and liaisons to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting, and discussed the possibility of calling one or more special meetings of the Commission to catch up on workload. An additional meeting or retreat may be held in the fall.

Commissioner Graney asked whether it is the case, as Jeanne Dobrin stated at the previous meeting, that the Cal. Fed. sign on Santa Monica Boulevard is supposed to carry public notices as part of its approval by the City. Daphne Dennis said Tom West was working on this.

Commissioner Graney asked if Council had directed a recreation needs assessment to be done. Lloyd Long said they had, and that a consultant will be hired to work with the Human Services Commission and the Public Facilities Commission in this regard. A request for proposals is being issued.

Commissioner Graney noted that Eric Bauman, president of Stonewall Democratic Club, has been named a special assistant to Governor Davis.

#### VI. ITEMS FROM STAFF

##### A. MEMO FROM RICH RYAN

The Commission received a memorandum from Rich Ryan, the former Council Deputy and new public safety specialist, regarding the possibility of holding an anger management seminar. The Commission endorsed this unanimously, on a motion by Commissioner Roberts, seconded by Commissioner DeCrescenzo.

##### B. OTHER

The Kings Road Park opening will be Saturday, July 17, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

#### VII. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no additional items from the public.

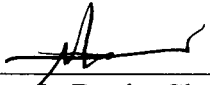
#### VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m. in memory of Bess Gardner, and of social service program specialist Diane Kahn-Epstein's mother.

The next regular meeting will be at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 10, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall, unless otherwise announced.

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MINUTES APPROVED AUGUST 10, 1999

  
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Steven L. Davis, Chair

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Date

  
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Jeff Book, Recording Secretary

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Date