

WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES – MAY 8, 2007
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, May 8, 2007, 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 Farmer.

B. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Gary Augeri, Ruth Cislowski, Steven L. Davis, Debra Farmer, Charles Henry, Shirley Roberts, Hywel Sims.

A quorum was present at all times. Staff members present included David Giugni, Craig Rhea, 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 April 10, 2007, meeting were approved on a motion by Commissioner Cislowski, seconded by Commissioner Augeri. Commissioner Farmer abstained due to absence from that meeting.

III. **ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no items.

IV. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A. **URGENT NEEDS FUND ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

David Giugni presented an overview of the recommendation regarding the urgent needs fund and how it was developed, including the work of a subcommittee including Commissioners Farmer and Cislowski, which worked with David Giugni.

The recommendation was moved by Commissioner Farmer, seconded by Commissioner Henry.

Commissioner Cislowski asked for the proposal to reflect as a criterion that services would not be available from other sources of funding. This was accepted as an amendment to the motion by the maker and seconder.

Commissioner Sims and David Giugni discussed the definition of urgent needs, as used in the recommendation.

Commissioner Henry thanked the subcommittee and staff for their work on the proposal. There was discussion of requiring agencies to demonstrate that they intend to expend their other sources of funding, and are capable of expending the urgent needs funding.

Commissioner Henry recommended that if the proposal is approved, that the process for naming the fund be initiated. This was accepted as amendment by the maker and seconder of the motion.

The proposal was then unanimously approved.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. WEST HOLLYWOOD SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Craig Rhea reported on this program, which is one of John Heilman's initiatives as mayor. The program requires 150 hours of community service, and provides \$1,500 to each recipient. Public funds are not used. The program hopes to raise \$50,000 to \$100,000 annually, and assist 60 to 70 recipients each year. The program is expected to start in the fall of 2007.

Commissioner Davis said that he and other members of the Commission could have provided valuable input into the program if they had been consulted.

B. CRYSTAL METH / HIV SOCIAL MARKETING CAMPAIGN

David Giugni reported on the new social marketing campaign, which is set for a June launch. Three images will be featured, and the campaign will run through November. A second phase is likely to coincide with World AIDS Day.

Commissioner Sims said he was glad to see the campaign is not just ads on billboards but a multi-faceted approach providing links to services and info.

Commissioner Roberts spoke about the importance of addressing the crystal meth issue among straight as well as gay people, and said that Ivy Bottini has been discussing this with the Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board as well.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Cislowski attended the Kids Fair at West Hollywood Park, which was well-attended. She noted that the Tiny Tot form needs improvements for clarity, and offered to assist in improving it.

Commissioner Farmer asked how to be sure that certain things are included in the next

RFP for social services. David Giugni said staff will consult on the RFP at the beginning of the next funding cycle.

Commissioner Farmer asked how it was decided that the crystal meth campaign would be in English only. David Giugni said it was on the basis of demographics, and that they are working on developing a substance abuse and care guide in English and Russian.

Commissioner Cislowski asked about receiving agency reports that are qualitative as well as quantitative, and David Giugni said that is expected in the next round of reports, scheduled for June.

Commissioner Augeri said that Councilmember Guarriello would like to appoint him to the Public Facilities Commission, so this is probably his last meeting as a member of the Human Services Commission.

Commissioner Davis spoke about the HIV prevention providers meeting, which he said is very helpful. He cannot attend the providers meeting in May or June.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

David Giugni provided a handout of an updated schedule of planning and coordination meetings.

Health Fair will be held next Wednesday, May 16, in Plummer Park.

June is HIV Prevention Month.

The City Manager has recommended a 2% cost-of-living adjustment for all social services contracts, and this funding is included in the second fiscal year of the contracts.

John Duran will be focusing on the crystal meth issue as a major initiative during his term as mayor.

VIII. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no additional items.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

The next regular meeting is at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 8, 2007, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall.

Signed: 
Steven L. Davis

Attest:


