

**WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES – APRIL 8, 2008**  
**PLUMMER PARK COMMUNITY CENTER**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The West Hollywood Human Services Commission was called to order by Chair Chuck Henry at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 8, 2008, in Rooms 5 and 6 of the Plummer Park Community Center, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Commissioner Cislowski.

B. ROLL CALL

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

Not Present: None.

A quorum was present at all times. Commissioner Cislowski joined the meeting in progress. Staff members present included Daphne Dennis, Social Services Administrator; David Giugni, Leslie Isenberg, 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.

E. MINUTES

Without objection the agenda was amended to include approval of minutes from the March 11, 2008, meeting. These minutes were approved on a motion by Commissioner Farmer, seconded by Commissioner Davis.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

Juanita Ellis and Angela Ellis of Huntley Day School, said that their school was in danger of closing due to smoke and noise coming from the construction of the Red Building at the Pacific Design Center. They asked if the city could provide an alternate facility for the next 8 to 10 weeks. Daphne Dennis said the city had no licensable spaces, and would work with Huntley Day School to explore options that may exist. Commissioner Henry asked the school representatives to work with staff, and said staff would check to make sure the construction site is in compliance with noise and construction rules.

III. PUBLIC HEARING

Commissioner Henry opened the public hearing on social services funding priorities for 2008-2010. The following persons spoke to the Commission, on behalf of the listed

agencies or programs.

1. Martha Ortega, West Hollywood Pre-School. 2. Sara Sibnatleab, West Hollywood Pre-School. 3. Calvin Howard, West Hollywood Pre-School. 4. Yulia Vantsanford, West Hollywood Pre-School. 5. Emily D. Ross, West Hollywood Pre-School. 6. Yuridia delCastillo, West Hollywood Pre-School. 7. Ruth Segovia, West Hollywood Pre-School. 8. Bryan Wilmoth, Rainbow Bridge. 9. Bart Stevens, Being Alive. 10. Kip Davis, Being Alive. 11. Ron Randall, JFS Senior Nutrition. 12. Alina Maldonado, JFS Senior Nutrition. 13. Ann Thorne, JFS Senior Nutrition. 14. Jeannette Bondurant, Aid for AIDS. 15. Miriam Hall, Alternative Living for the Aging. 16. Alla Chasnik, Bet Tzedek Legal Services. 17. Marilyn Joi, Bet Tzedek Legal Services. 18. Suzanne Dietrich, JFS. 19. Cipra Nemeth, NCJW Light Up a Library. 20. Christine Chouchanian, Aviva. 21. Vivian Sauer, JFS. 22. Marina Berkman, West Hollywood Comprehensive Services Center, JFS. 23. Jessica Olifson, NCJW Women Helping Women. 24. Barbara Krupa, PAWS L.A. 25. Sofia Gelman, homeless services. 26. David Kruskall, JVS WHEST. 27. Simon Costello, L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center, Youth Services. 28. Helen Levin, Russian Community Center. 29. Oleg Davidovich, Russian Community Center. 30. Victoria Ganskaya, Russian Community Center. 31. Olga Ivanova, Russian Community Center. 32. Karen Bhangoo, Dispute Resolution Services. 33. Kathryn Turk, Dispute Resolution Services. 34. Fr. Ian Davies, St. Thomas the Apostle Church. 35. Fr. Mark Stuart, St. Thomas the Apostle Church. 36. Yola Doré, St. Thomas the Apostle Church, Bet Tzedek Legal Services, and PAWS L.A. 37. Michael Arrigo, Being Alive, Aid for AIDS, and PAWS L.A. 38. Esther Baum, re: bereavement programs at social services agencies. 39. Rae Mitchell, Los Angeles Free Clinic. 40. Donzella Lee, Los Angeles Free Clinic. 41. Steven Raines, Los Angeles Free Clinic. 42. Joel H. Mark, Los Angeles Free Clinic. 43. Anson Snyder, West Hollywood Community Housing Corporation. 44. Mr. Lynn Edward Harris, Jewish Family Services. 45. Josh Riley, Friends Research Institute. A letter from Barbara Hamaker on behalf of Los Angeles Free Clinic was distributed to the Commission.

In a question to Donzella Lee, Commissioner Henry noted that the Free Clinic recently received a substantial endowment, and asked if it was the case that this did not alleviate the need for continued support for the agency. Donzella Lee said that was the case, especially in light of proposed cutbacks in state and other funding.

Commissioner Henry noted there will be a special meeting of the Commission next Tuesday, April 15, in West Hollywood Park Auditorium, and that commissioners should prepare for that discussion by reviewing materials in the packet. Staff had been asked to identify the impact on social services needs and programs of proposed cutbacks in state and other funding.

Daphne Dennis drew attention to the revised RFP memo, to the Kids Fair being held this weekend, to the Gay Men's Forum coming up this month, and the current Food Drive for SOVA Food Pantry. Commissioner Davis expressed appreciation to agency staff and leaders for the work they do on behalf of the community. Commissioner Cislowski commented on the Women's Leadership Forum.

## VII. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Henry declared the public hearing closed, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Steven L. Davis

Attest:

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