

WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES – FEBRUARY 9, 1999
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 Steven Davis at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 9, 1999, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Steven Davis, Teresa DeCrescenzo, Bob Graney, Pamela Komac,
John Nieto, Shirley Roberts
Excused: Renée Rosenfeld
Absent: none

A quorum was present at all times. Staff present included Lloyd Long, Director of Human Services; Daphne Dennis, Social Services Administrator; Curtis Brown, Jr., Recreation Services Administrator; Tom West, 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. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the January 5, 1999, meeting were approved on a motion by Commissioner Graney, seconded by Commissioner Roberts.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. PRESENTATION BY APLA / STORE

Latrice Dennis, Jim Williams, and Richard Levin of APLA / STORE gave a brief presentation on their program's activities, and distributed a handout to Commissioners. This is one of a series of agency presentations that have been scheduled.

B. REPORT ON LEGAL SERVICES

Matthew Scelza of DRS, Roger Coggan of the Gay & Lesbian Center, Rebecca Rubin of LA Free Clinic, and Margaret Hennessy of Bet Tzedek Legal Services Distributed a two-page handout on the various legal programs operated by these four agencies, and each spoke briefly about their activities. Although all four collaborated on the content, the memorandum was largely the work of Margaret Hennessy.

In discussion with Ms. Rubin, Commissioner Komac indicated it would be good to have Russian translation available, particularly with regard to immigration issues.

In response to a question from Commissioner Davis, Daphne Dennis clarified that the City does not fund APLA legal services at this time. Commissioner Davis asked for HALSA to speak to the Commission at a future meeting, perhaps April or May.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. 1997-98 SOCIAL SERVICES CONTRACTS: REPROGRAMMING

A number of agency representatives addressed the Commission regarding possible reprogramming of funds available at this time. Among those speaking were Teresa Dodson and Dara Resnick of the Alzheimer's Disease & Related Disorders Assoc. (ADRDA/LA); Steve Waylin of Paws L.A.; a representative of the dental clinic at APLA; Mark Hubbard of L.A. Shanti Foundation; Roger Daughtry of the Gay & Lesbian Center; and a program director from Los Angeles Free Clinic.

After discussion, Commissioner Roberts moved to allocate \$10,000 to ADRDA and \$4,650 to Paws. This was seconded by Commissioner DeCrescenzo.

Commissioners discussed the possibility of adjusting these figures in order to grant funding to the APLA dental program. Commissioner DeCrescenzo said that the desire to fund ADRDA and Paws had already been communicated to the Council at the time of the social services funding, and that there did not appear to be a compelling reason to change the recommendation at this time.

The motion was approved 4 to 0, with Commissioner Graney abstaining.

B. ANGELS AMIDST

Curtis Brown presented a memorandum outlining the revised procedures for the Angels Amidst program, which are intended to bring it back in line with the City's original intention of creating a honor for unsung heroes who were not

already being noted or recognized in other ways.

Commissioner Davis volunteered to be on the pre-selection panel when it is time for the next cycle of presentations.

V. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

Chairs Meeting: This meeting was cancelled this month.

California Alliance for Pride & Equity: Commissioner Graney distributed copies of the legislative report, and noted that Council has funded \$5,000 for this agency. CAPE will bill the City for these dues. A full-time lobbyist is at work for the alliance in Sacramento, and a website -- calcape.org -- is in progress.

Disabilities Advisory Board: No additional report.

Lesbian & Gay Advisory Board: No additional report.

Senior Advisory Board: No additional report. Commissioner Nieto said that he may not be able to continue as the liaison to the Senior Advisory Board, due to other commitments.

Commissioner Davis noted that he would like APLA / STORE to attend the Commission meeting in May for an update, and that perhaps they could bring a client or someone benefiting from their program.

VI. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Commissioners discussed whether to reorganize the Social Services Subcommittee, and Daphne Dennis noted that much of the work which the Subcommittee had been doing in previous years is now being done by the Commission itself, due to the prominence of Social Services on the Commission's agenda schedule. In light of this, it was decided to not extend the subcommittee at this time.

Daphne Dennis noted that Matthew Scelza has resigned from DRS to become head of a new literacy project, and that he will be highly missed. She said he will continue there part-time for six months as part of the transition.

The Commission requested a letter be sent to Margaret Hennessy of Bet Tzedek, thanking her for the very helpful memorandum on legal services.

Curtis Brown will become president of the California Parks & Recreation Society (CPRS) in two weeks, at their meeting in Santa Clara. Lloyd, Curtis, and several Recreation staff members will attend.

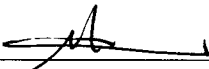
VII. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no additional comments.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVED MARCH 9, 1999



Steven L. Davis, Chair

Date



Jeff Book, Recording Secretary

Date