

WEST HOLLYWOOD HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES – JANUARY 14, 2003
COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. CALL TO ORDER

The West Hollywood Human Services Commission was called to order by Vice Chair John D'Amico at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 14, 2003, in the Community Conference Room at 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood.

B. ROLL CALL

The Pledge of Allegiance was repeated.

Present: Ruth Cislowski, John D'Amico, Steven Davis,
Teresa DeCrescenzo, Ponsella Gratton.

Excused: Dr. Bill Griffin, Peter Mackler.

A quorum was present at all times. Staff present included Lloyd R. Long, Director of Human Services; Daphne Dennis, Social Services Administrator; Tom West, Corey Roskin, 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

The minutes for December 10, 2002, were approved on a motion by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Gratton. The vote was 3 to 0, with Commissioner Cislowski abstaining.

III. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no items from the public.

By unanimous consent, Item V.A. was moved forward on the agenda.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. HIV PREVENTION SOCIAL MARKETING CAMPAIGNS

Dr. Matt Mutchler, director of evaluation at APLA, presented a multimedia report on the efficacy of recent HIV prevention social marketing campaigns in the city. The recent campaigns have varied by the number of people who were aware of them, and by their usefulness in persuading people to engage in safer behavior. Staff reviews this information in designing and conducting future campaigns.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. IMPACT OF RISING LIVING COSTS ON SENIORS

Daphne Dennis reported on the impact of rising living costs on seniors in West Hollywood. A relative absence of affordable grocery stores is a factor, along with the 'aging in place' of residents who face economic challenges both in staying in their longtime residences, and in relocating. Options that may be considered in the future are additional food programs and rental support.

Jeanne Dobrin spoke from the audience about the rise of boutique grocery stores and other stores in the city, and about how useful coupons can be in reducing costs.

Commissioner Davis recommended researching senior discount programs at any of the local grocery stores, and providing greater publicity to such programs.

The Commission also discussed ways of helping with transportation needs.

V. NEW BUSINESS

B. AGENCY PRESENTATION SCHEDULE

The Commission asked for presentations to begin with newly funded agencies. Once they have made presentations, the schedule for any presentations by long-time agencies will be reviewed.

C. SENIOR RESOURCE GUIDE AND DISCOUNT PROGRAM

The Commission reviewed the senior resource guide and discount program. Daphne Dennis said a shorter run of copies was made this time, so that updates can be more frequent.

Commissioner Gratton spoke about flyers, menus, and other items left at resident's homes. Lloyd Long said he would discuss this with code enforcement.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioner DeCrescenzo said that Morris Kight is residing at the Carl Bean Hospice, and may return home later. Donations for renovations of his apartment are being sought.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Tom West discussed condom distribution statistics.

Tom West reported that approximately 1,500 people enjoyed the Club Freedom event on New Year's Eve.

Staff provided a handout from the acting city clerk regarding a new ethics rule requiring a commissioner with a financial conflict of interest to leave the room during discussion of that item, unless intending to comment as a member of the public.

VIII. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Jeanne Dobrin reiterated the call for donations to Friends of Morris Kight.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 11, 2003, in the Community Conference Room at City Hall.

Signed: _____
Steven L. Davis 

Attest:

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