

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD

Minutes of the Disabilities Advisory Board August 23, 2017 Rooms 5 & 6, Plummer Park

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dore called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Meister led the pledge of allegiance.

B. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Yola Dore, Joy Freiberg, Anny Semonco, Louise Smith and Rick Watts

ABSENT: David Nash

STAFF PRESENT: David Giugni, Diane Kahn-Epstein, Derek Murray, Joan Mithers, Melissa Crowder, and Kim Patterson

C. SWEARING-IN OF NEW MEMBERS

Councilmember Meister swore in Mikie Friedman and Danny Hang.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda for the August 23, 2017 meeting was approved by the Board with Item 4A tabled until the following meeting

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the June 28, 2017 meeting were approved by the Board, with abstentions from Mikie Friedman and Danny Hang.

F. PUBLIC COMMENT

Michael Wojtkielewicz, resident, congratulated the two new members and suggested that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Jerry Lewis.

Stephanie Harker, resident, welcomed the new members and thanked the Board for their work. She also spoke about the need for Hart Park to be accessible.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

Staff mentioned that there were two items on the consent calendar for the Board's review, that included information about the newsletter and Council support of California SB 611.

Michael Wojtkielewicz, resident, spoke about 1) the on-line agenda packet that had no nomination forms attached to it, 2) the lack of pens available for Public Comment slips, and 3) his nomination of Danny's Farm.

3. SELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

Joy Freiberg was unanimously elected Chair and Anny Semonco was unanimously elected Vice-Chair.

4. NEW BUSINESS

B. BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

The Board unanimously approved the amended meeting schedule with an amendment to cancel the November 28, 2018 meeting and reschedule it for the first week of December.

C. SELECTION OF DISABILITY SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

The Board selected the following:

- Maria Shriver for the Individual Award;
- MV Transportation for the Business Award;
- Gold Pictures for the Media Award; and
- The Braille Institute for the Non-Profit Award.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Derek Murray read the minutes from the past two Subcommittee Meetings and the Board approved the subcommittee recommendations. Hilary Selvin, Executive Director of the National Council of Jewish Women, will be the keynote speaker. Mr. Gummeris, a blind singer, will provide entertainment during the pre-meeting reception.

6. EXCLUDED CONSENT

There was none.

7. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Staff announced the following:

- In response to the question raised at the previous meeting, housing codes are determined at the state level, and the City's legislation office works on legislative issues. A presentation can be made at a future meeting.

- At the September DAB meeting, a speaker from the Westside Center for Independent Living will speak on Universal design, in preparation for the Board's December study session with Diane Burbie.
- All Boardmembers are encouraged to participate in the training on September 5 from 6-8 PM and in the Annual Congress on October 30 from 6-9 PM. Both meetings will be held in the Council Chambers.
- DAB members were invited to volunteer to be liaisons to the various Boards and Commissions.
- Plans continue to be made for the summer outreach event. It was postponed due to staff turnover at the Westside Center for Independent Living.
- Melissa Crowder, Assistant City Clerk, thanked the Board for allowing her to participate in the meeting. She introduced a change of procedure and said that any articles or relevant material to agenda items should be brought to the meetings to be shared. Non-related items can be forwarded as a BCC to Board members by the Board members themselves or on social media.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

Stephanie Harker announced that a major fire west of Plummer Park is requiring a re-routing of traffic on Santa Monica Blvd. She also encouraged people to attend the City Arts Council-commissioned play about Señor Plummer on August 24-26 at 7 PM at Fiesta and Great Halls.

9. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Anny Semonco attended the Women's Equality Day event, and announced that the ERA still needs two more states to ratify it.

Louise Smith announced that she has recently become a member of the LA County Commission on Disabilities. She also invited the Board and staff to be her guests at a fundraiser on October 16 at 11:30 AM at the Omni Hotel. Former DAB member Jim Chud will be one of the honorees. Anny Semonco said that last year the City was able to provide transportation and staff said that could be arranged.

Rick Watts asked that in addition to adjourning in memory of Jerry Lewis, that it be adjourned in memory of Glen Campbell and everyone with Alzheimers, and Gemmel Moore and everyone dealing with substance dependence.

Danny Hang thanked staff for their presentations and the Board for their work.

Mikie Friedman also thanked staff and hoped that she can be of assistance as a Board member.

Joy thanked Tom Demille and Suzanne Dietrich for their service on the Board, and Yola Dore for chairing the Board for the past year. She congratulated Anny

Semonco for her election as Vice-Chair, and said she was surprised and honored to be elected Chair.

Yola Dore recognized incoming Board member Roderick Renfrew, and thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve as Chair.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The Disabilities Advisory Board adjourned at 7:36 PM in memory of Jerry Lewis, Glen Campbell and everyone with Alzheimers, and Gemmel Moore and everyone dealing with substance dependence to its next meeting, which will be held at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, September 27 2017, in Rooms 5&6 of Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood 90046.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD ON THIS 23rd DAY OF AUGUST 2017.



YOLA DORE,
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:


STAFF LIAISON

A copy of the audio recording of this meeting can be obtained from the City Clerk's office upon request.

(Disclaimer: Staff records the meetings for the sole purpose of composing the official meeting minutes; therefore the recordings are not of commercial quality.)