

**MINUTES**  
**HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION**  
**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD**

**OCTOBER 10, 2017**

**6:00 PM**

**FIRST FLOOR COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM**  
**8300 SANTA MONICA BLVD**  
**WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA 90069**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Barbara Meltzer called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

**A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Tim Harter, Senior Field Representative for Assemblymember Richard Bloom.

**B. ROLL CALL –**

**PRESENT:** Elizabeth Anderson, Sam Borelli, Nate Clark,  
Steven L. Davis, Barbara Meltzer, Patrick Shandrick.

**ABSENT:** Jimmy Palmieri.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Elizabeth Savage, Director of Human Services and Rent Stabilization; David Giugni, Social Services Manager; Corri Planck and Jeff Book.

**C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Commissioner Davis asked that Item 2.A., Agency Development Fund – Request for Proposals, be moved to Excluded Consent.

**ACTION:** With that change, approve the Agenda for October 10, 2017. Motion by Commissioner Borelli, seconded by Commissioner Clark, and approved.

**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**ACTION:** Approve the minutes of the September 12, 2017, meeting. Motion by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Shandrick, and approved, with Commissioner Borelli abstaining.

**E. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ronda Dixon of the JVS employment program introduced their new staff member, Andrew Sacher, and spoke about the entertainment industry workshop that the program is holding.

1. **CONSENT CALENDAR:**

Item A, Agency Development Fund, was moved to Excluded Consent.

2. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

A. **HOMELESS NEEDS ASSESSMENT DEMOGRAPHIC SURVEY RESULTS**

Staff introduced Abby Arnold, consultant, and spoke about the City Council's action to conduct this assessment as part of designing services to help people move from the streets to permanent housing.

Abby Arnold presented slides about the 2017 Homeless Demographic Survey. Items were compared to parallel information for the Continuum of Care area, and note differences, such as homeless persons in West Hollywood being younger, more likely to be white, more likely to be multiracial, and more likely to be gay or bisexual than those in the Continuum of Care area.

The study interviewed 44 of the estimated 92 homeless persons in the City, a very large share for a demographic survey. Others declined, were not available, or stopped part way through the survey. Abby Arnold said that the size of the sample allows important distinctions to be drawn between the homeless in West Hollywood and the county.

Commissioners said the information was very helpful, and will advance new perspectives on addressing the topic. Commissioner Shandrick suggested repeating the survey in a year or two.

**ACTION:** The report was received and filed.

B. **AGING IN PLACE / AGING IN COMMUNITY YEAR 1 EVALUATION REPORT DRAFT**

Elizabeth Savage said the report is a culmination of effort with regard to the first year of the Aging in Place / Aging in Community 5-Year Initiative. She introduced consultants John O'Connor and Marci Eads, with Ms. Eads joining the meeting by phone.

John O'Connor reviewed slides of the draft report, with Marci Eads commenting while reviewing the same information. John O'Connor said that implementation plans have been developed and are underway, with 55% being in the Active stage after 13 months of the initiative. He reviewed specific examples, such as policies on open spaces and buildings.

Marci Eads noted a 167% increase in the discussion of older adults and Aging in Place in key City meetings, as well as a new ability and intent to

incorporate the perspective of Aging in Place in work programs and services.

They said the program will continue to build awareness through Years 2 through 5, and that key evaluation activities will also continue.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

1. Rosaline George, Westside community liaison for Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, thanked the City for the excellent report. She said she had provided the 5-Year Plan to Supervisor Kuehl, and that West Hollywood has exceeded the County effort on this subject in some ways.

Commissioner Clark said the report was great work, and it was good to see how awareness had improved. He asked if the effort was leading to re-thinking anything about programs or policies. Elizabeth Savage said the report indicated an increased momentum for Aging in Place issues, as well as educating the community that in many cases it must step up and take care of itself in some regards.

John O'Connor said the depth of the data being acquired will enable the City to approach grant funders, which is potentially a great benefit of the effort.

Commissioner Davis noted a couple of areas in which awareness had declined during the year, rather than increased, and questioned whether "calming circles" actually calm traffic flow. He said he would like to see a firmer survey that also included non-seniors, especially those ages 20-30. He said he appreciates all the work that has gone into the project.

Commissioner Anderson said two things stood out to her: that it is difficult for the City to measure culture change, and that the evaluation plan was helping staff to better understand the "why" of the things we do, in pursuit of collective impact and resiliency.

Commissioner Borelli asked how we should be reaching people that are not reached by usual means of City outreach. He said perhaps the new Neighborhood Services Coordinator position will help, and said we could encourage those who usually attend to "bring a friend" to City events. He said he would like to see a one-page document on the many things we do through Social Services.

Commissioner Shandrick said it was not a quick thing to accomplish change. He would like more examples through stories of successes. He noted that two-thirds of responding seniors felt housing is affordable in the City, while less than one-third of the City's board members felt that way.

He said that West Hollywood is becoming known for this project, and that it was true that public funds could not meet every need, and that many solutions will have to be neighbors helping neighbors.

**3. NEW BUSINESS:**

There was no New Business.

**4. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR:**

**A. AGENCY DEVELOPMENT FUND – REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

Commissioner Davis asked if agencies self-select to apply for the Agency Development funds. Staff said they send out applications for the funds, but do not prompt agencies to apply. Commissioner Davis said he was interested in having a commissioner involved in reading or evaluating the proposals. Staff said they were open to making the applications available for Commissioners' to review. Commissioner Borelli asked about follow-up, including how we know the agencies have used these funds. Staff said they report this in the program report narratives.

**5. ITEMS FROM STAFF:**

Staff shared a report on the Pick-Up line. Commissioner Borelli noted there is a public safety component to this service, as well as a parking/transportation aspect, by reducing the number of cars circling for parking closest to their destinations.

Staff spoke about a Social Services pop-up to be held tomorrow at the Library, and about the Lesbian Speakers Series. October is Disabilities Awareness Month. Staff said they will be bringing the workplan and calendar to the next meeting, and that November is the time the bylaws set for electing the chair and vice chair.

Staff spoke about moving forward on a consultant to conduct the next community survey, and gave an update regarding the Public Relations subcommittee's plans for producing a video about the City's social services programs.

**6. PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. John Erickson, member of the Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board, said LGAB will be doing more programming this year.

**7. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS/BOARD MEMBERS:**

Commissioner Clark said that Councilmember Lindsey Horvath and LAUSD Board Member Nick Melvoin are pursuing a joint project between the City and the District for a community advisory board, to facilitate discussion.

Commissioner Shandrick attended an APLA meeting on HIV and aging, and said that 50 percent of those living with HIV today in Los Angeles County are 50 years

of age or older.

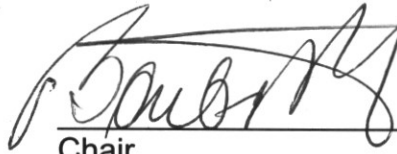
Commissioner Meltzer spoke about the November 8 forum, Matters of the Mind, addressing Alzheimer's and other dementias. She will be speaking to the Women's Advisory Board. She said the City should bring its terminology up to date, since national groups now use the term Older Adults instead of Seniors.

**9. ADJOURNMENT:**

The Human Services Commission adjourned at 8:55 pm to its next regular meeting, which is at 6 pm, Tuesday, November 14, 2017, in the First Floor Community Conference Room at West Hollywood City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood 90069.

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APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION ON THE  
14TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2017.



Chair

Attest:



Secretary