

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

**SEPTEMBER 08, 2020
6:00 PM**

TELECONFERENCE

1. CALL TO ORDER: Chair Reback called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Commission said the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. ROLL CALL: Human Services Commission Secretary Jenny Ivanova took roll call.

PRESENT: Sam Borelli, Barbara Meltzer, Jimmy Palmieri,
Marquita Thomas, Steven Davis, Andrew Reback

ABSENT: Patrick Shandrick

ALSO PRESENT: Corri Planck, Leslie Isenberg, Derek Murray, Katie Egan, Jenny Ivanova

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

ACTION: Approve the agenda of Tuesday, September 8, 2020. Motion by Commissioner Borelli, seconded by Commissioner Meltzer, and approved unanimously by roll call vote.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

ACTION: Approve the minutes of August 11, 2020. Motion by Vice Chair Davis, seconded by Commissioner Thomas, and approved by roll call vote with abstention by Commissioner Borelli.

E. PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR:

A. NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH

The Human Services Commission received a report on National Recovery Month, September 2020.

ACTION: Received and filed.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. SOCIAL SERVICES CONTRACT RENEWALS

Leslie Isenberg, Social Services Supervisor, provided context for contract renewals, stating that the first year of the three-year contract cycle was coming to a close and the second year begins October 1, 2020. She stated that the Commission is being asked to consider making a recommendation to the City Council to approve Social Services contract renewals for the 2020-21 contract year, which includes the re-programming of funds in the amount of \$18,112. The item will be on the City Council's September 21, 2020 agenda.

ACTION: A motion to recommend to the City Council that the 2020-21 Social Services contract renewals be approved was made by Commissioner Borelli, seconded by Commissioner Meltzer, and approved unanimously by roll call vote.

B. FOLLOW-UP TO THE YEAR 4 MIDYEAR REPORT ON THE HIV ZERO INITIATIVE

The Human Services Commission received an update to the HIV Zero Initiative's Year 4 Mid-Year Report. Derek Murray, Social Services Program Administrator, introduced Aaron Celious, Ph.D. who gave a PowerPoint presentation on the City's HIV Zero Initiative. The presentation included the Survey on Stigma, which had a total of 174 online participants.

Dustin Kerrone, Director of Health Services at the Los Angeles LGBT Center shared data on linkage to and retention in care for people living with HIV.

Rob Lester, Director of Public Programs at Men's Health Foundation, provided information about the Medical Care Coordination program, which offers a multi-disciplinary approach to service and linkage to care for people living with HIV.

The Human Services Commissioners discussed the Year 4 Mid-Year Report on the HIV Zero Initiative and asked questions of the presenters.

ACTION: Received and filed.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE HUMAN SERVICES AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSIONS TO REVIEW AREAS OF INTERSECTION BETWEEN PUBLIC SAFETY AND SOCIAL SERVICES IN ADDRESSING COMMUNITY NEED

Leslie Isenberg, Social Services Supervisor, gave an overview of the Public Safety Commission's request to establish a joint subcommittee with the Human Services Commission to discuss issues relevant to both commissions. Corri Planck, Acting Human Services Director, mentioned the previous joint efforts concerning

homelessness between the two commissions. Ms. Isenberg stated these efforts are typically issue-specific and time-limited.

Public Safety Commissioner Kerri Balbone requested the Human Services Commission consider forming the joint subcommittee to address areas of intersection, including but not limited to community policing, balancing public safety and community needs, and unhoused community members.

The Human Services Commission discussed the item and agreed that more detailed objectives would be beneficial before considering the formation of a subcommittee. Commissioner Balbone supported developing the scope with Commission liaisons and staff and returning to the Human Services Commission at a future date.

ACTION: Vice Chair Davis made a motion to table the discussion to a future date when more specific objectives are established. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Borelli and approved unanimously by roll call vote.

5. ITEMS FROM STAFF:

Derek Murray, Social Services Program Administrator, invited the Human Services Commission to attend the Cultural Diversity Certification Training presented by Drian Juarez with Trans Can Work. The training will be held on September 11 and 25. Mr. Murray stated that Trans Can Work will be releasing a tool kit that will be made available to West Hollywood employers. Lastly, Bet Tzedek Legal Services' Tenant Defense Program started an online system for residents to make an appointment with an attorney. Staff will be presenting an item to City Council at their September 21st meeting for Bet Tzedek Legal Services to continue the Eviction Prevention and Defense Program for an additional six months.

Leslie Isenberg, Social Services Supervisor, introduced Katie Egan as the new Program Administrator for the Social Services Division. Katie Egan spoke briefly, introducing herself to Commissioners. Ms. Isenberg shared updates on emergency support services provided to West Hollywood community members since the Safer-At-Home orders were put into place.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

7. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Meltzer spoke on a panel hosted by the City entitled, "How to Get Appointed to a West Hollywood Board or Commission" during the Women's Leadership Conference. Commissioner Meltzer shared information on an upcoming webinar on Social Isolation and Loneliness, stating that Maureen Feldman will be a keynote speaker. The webinar will take place on Tuesday, October 6th at 2:00pm.

Ms. Isenberg asked the Commission to approve Commissioner Meltzer as the Human Services Commission representative to support staff on the Social Isolation and Loneliness webinar. Chair Reback nominated Commissioner Meltzer to serve in that role, Vice-Chair Davis seconded, and the nomination was approved unanimously.

Commissioner Palmieri shared that he personally knew people participating in the City's rental assistance program as well as the CalFresh program during this time of need. He encouraged people to access these programs if they are having a difficult time and spoke highly of how much he appreciated everything the City is doing to help community members.

Commissioner Thomas participated on a panel for Women's Equality Day alongside Mayor Horvath and Councilmember Meister. She asked to adjourn this meeting in memory of Chadwick Boseman. Commissioner Thomas shared information on an event that is being hosted by LAGLCC on September 9th at 11am on Immigration Law Hot Topics.

Vice Chair Davis expressed gratitude on the work this Commission and the City of West Hollywood accomplishes for its community members. He inquired about getting Human Services meeting agenda packets printed for future meetings. Ms. Planck shared per the City Clerk's protocol that agenda packets can be printed and picked up from USA Printing. She suggested that anyone interested in receiving a printed packet should notify the Commission's staff liaison.

Commissioner Borelli agreed with Commissioner Thomas' adjournment of Chadwick Boseman. He asked to add firefighters, ambulance drivers, paramedics and other first responders who were putting their lives on the line for the state.

Chair Reback echoed the adjournment motions made by other Commissioners. He shared a message to everyone to be good to yourself and your neighbors in the hopes for a peaceful September.

8. ADJOURNMENT

In memory of Chadwick Boseman, and in honor of firefighters, ambulance drivers, paramedics and other first responders, the Human Services Commission meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m. to the next regular meeting on October 13, 2020 via Zoom teleconference.

ATTEST:



Chair



Secretary