

**SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD SPECIAL TELEVISED MEETING  
MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 26, 2021  
2 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair John Allendorfer at 2 PM.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Boardmember McNeeley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Members present: John Allendorfer, Esther Baum, Pat Dixon, David Eichman, Michael Hollingsworth, William McNeeley, Joy Nuell, Nadia Sutton, and Lee Walkup

Staff present: Francisco Gomez, Katie Egan, David Giugni, Francisco Gomez, Leslie Isenberg, and Kim Patterson

4. ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS

Vice-Chair Hollingsworth moved to adjourn in memory of the ten people killed in San Jose.

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was unanimously approved.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the April 28, 2021 meeting were approved with one abstention.

A. COMMENT BY SOCIAL SERVICES MANAGER

David Giugni, Social Services Manager, thanked the Board members for their dedication to the City and their able representation of the senior community. He also welcomed Boardmembers Sutton and Eichman. Lastly, he thanked the staff for their assistance with the Board's important work.

7. BOARDMEMBER INTRODUCTIONS AND COMMENTS

Boardmember Baum has served on the Board for over 25 years. She has valued the successful Senior Health Fairs that the Board organized, which provided information and lunch to hundreds of participants.

Boardmember Nuell has found being on the Board a positive experience, especially connecting with the community and staying active.

Boardmember Sutton has been a resident of West Hollywood for 30 years and was an activist with ACT UP, a founder of PAWS-LA, and a member of the Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board and the Women's Advisory Board. She, too, finds strength in community and looks forward to learning from and sharing with the other Advisory Boards.

Boardmember Walkup has been on the Board for ten years. He encouraged viewers to participate in activities in the City, including attending Advisory Board, Commission, and City Council meetings.

Boardmember Eichman, the newest member of the Board, has lived in West Hollywood since 1993. He served for 27 years on the Transportation Commission and considers the City to be one of the best places to be a senior.

Boardmember Dixon has served on the Board for 14 years. She moved from San Francisco years ago and has found living in West Hollywood to be wonderful. She appreciates having a voice in the Seniors in Action gatherings.

Boardmember McNeeley has served over five years on the Board. He has found it interesting to learn how the City works and to see how many programs are offered to older adults and people living with disabilities. He finds it rewarding to work with the Board and the other Advisory Boards and Commissions.

Vice-Chair Hollingsworth has served for several years on the Board. He enjoys the City's small-town feel, which has welcomed Russian-speaking immigrants and has been a center of the LGBT community. He enjoys using the City's transit programs, including the On-Call Transportation program that is operated by Ambiance. He has used the program to go to the Hollywood Bowl. He is also grateful to the City for providing a safe environment.

Chair Allendorfer joined the Board in 2015 and has lived here before it was a City. He appreciates that the City welcomes active participation and values his opinions. He was previously on the Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board and ran for mayor. He is proud of Seniors in Action, which he helped found with Boardmembers Dixon and Nuell.

## 8. PUBLIC COMMENT

Dan Morin, resident, suggested that the Board appeal to the City Council to repeal the Ellis Act so that older adults can truly Age in Place.

Eva Angeloff, Arts Grants Coordinator, announced arts grants available for a wide range of applicants. While Board members are not eligible to apply, they are encouraged to share the link at [weho.org/arts](http://weho.org/arts) throughout the community.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

10. NEW BUSINESS

A. PRESENTATION ON THE SOCIAL IMPACTS OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND THE RETURN TO IN-PERSON SOCIALIZING

Maureen Feldman, Director of the Social Isolation Impact Project at The Motion Picture & Television Fund, gave a presentation on the impacts of social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic and discussed some of the opportunities and challenges of returning to in-person activities and events. She emphasized the importance of social connectivity, particularly for older adults. However, she cautioned that returning to in-person activities can produce anxiety and gave pointers to help prepare for the future.

B. ITEMS FROM SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITY PROGRAM

Kimiko Kelly, the Director of Arts, Wellness and Engagement (AWE) Programming at Jewish Family Service, reported on May programming and announced that they continue with Zoom classes in June but are preparing for the future in-person transition. She also said that they are always looking for new class instructors.

C. OLDER ADULTS ON THE GO: A REPORT FROM METRO'S ON THE MOVE RIDERS PROGRAM

Carlos Hernandez, Community Relations Officer at Metro, gave an overview of the On the Move Riders Program and discussed activities planned to build strength within the older adult community. He announced upcoming meetings, including the Westside Regional Meeting (Thursday, June 24 @ 10AM) and the Older Adult Transportation Pop-Up (Tuesday, June 29, 9:30-11 AM).

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

12. ITEMS FROM THE BOARD

Boardmember Baum asked if there will be in-person Board meetings. Staff responded that Board meetings will continue via teleconference until further notice.

Boardmember Walkup announced the virtual June Pride concert of the Gay Men's Chorus-LA on Saturday, June 5 at 8 PM. Registration can be made at [GMCLA.org](http://GMCLA.org). He asked if National Night Out will be held this August. Staff

responded that they will let the Board know as soon as information becomes available.

Boardmember McNeeley asked for clarification regarding the Crenshaw Metro Line. Staff will inquire and share information with the Board.


Chair Allendorfer wished everyone a happy Gay Pride Month. He encouraged people to attend the next Seniors in Action meeting and to contact Alex Pagan-Mejia at [apagan-mejia@jfsla.org](mailto:apagan-mejia@jfsla.org) to register. He also thanked Kim Patterson for her service with the Board and wished her well on her retirement.

13. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Leslie Isenberg wished everyone a happy Senior/Older Adults Month. She thanked the Board for a lively, informative meeting and acknowledged Chair Allendorfer's meaningful and heartfelt statement as he accepted the Senior Month Commendation at the City Council meeting. She also addressed Boardmember Dixon's concern about the Senior Advisory Board not being included in the discussion regarding gender-neutral bathrooms. Ms. Isenberg will look into this issue and do her best to ensure that the Senior Advisory Board is included in future discussions.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The Senior Advisory Board adjourned at 3:40 PM in memory of the ten people killed in San Jose to its next teleconference meeting on Wednesday, June 23, 2021, beginning at 2 PM.

DocuSigned by:  
  
812A46AEDF6649A...  
JOHN ALLENDORFER,  
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.)***