

**SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD TELECONFERENCE MEETING
MINUTES
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 2022
2:00 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Walkup at 2:02 PM.

2. ROLL CALL

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

Members absent: None.

Staff present: Katie Egan, Francisco Gomez, Joyce Britton, and Becca Lubin.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Boardmember Eichman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. The Senior Advisory Board unanimously approved the minutes of the March 23, 2022, Senior Advisory Board meeting.

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Senior Advisory Board unanimously approved the meeting agenda for April 27, 2022.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Barbara Meltzer spoke about the aging conference that she attended in New Orleans, ageism, and noted that certain words aren't used anymore to describe people of a certain age.

Eugene Maysky, Tenant Outreach Organizer at the Coalition for Economic Survival, spoke about tenants rights. He mentioned that there are legal clinics on Wednesdays offering a free one-on-one consult with an attorney.

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. ITEMS FROM SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITY PROGRAM

The Senior Advisory Board received an update from Alex Pagan-Mejia of Jewish Family Service regarding programs and classes sponsored by the West Hollywood Comprehensive Services Center.

Action: Received and discussed.

B. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The Senior Advisory Board received an update from Hernan Molina, Governmental Affairs Liaison for the City of West Hollywood, regarding the City's legislative priorities and activities.

Boardmember Sutton inquired about ways that the Board could support the City's legislative priorities.

Mr. Molina responded that advocacy is always helpful when bills make it to the floor and are up for a vote. He stated that the City of West Hollywood has very progressive representatives that are often in line with the City's thinking, but that Boardmembers could also advocate by encouraging their networks who live elsewhere to contact their representatives. Mr. Molina let the Board know that a list of the City's main legislative priorities would be forthcoming.

Action: Received and discussed.

C. SENIOR MONTH ACTIVITIES UPDATE

The Senior Advisory Board received an update regarding upcoming activities for the month of May from Becca Lubin, Social Services Intern for the City of West Hollywood.

Action: Received and filed.

D. EXPANDING ON-DEMAND TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS IN WEST HOLLYWOOD

Francisco Gomez, Transportation Program Administrator for the City of West Hollywood, presented a report on MicroTransit and how this new transit service model could expand on-demand transportation options in the City.

Actions:

1. Received and discussed.
2. A motion was made by Vice Chair Walkup and seconded by Chair Nuell for the City to transition from Dial-A-Ride to a MicroTransit Program that prioritizes older adults and community members living with a disability while providing service to the general public. The motion was approved unanimously.

E. SENIOR MONTH MEETING AGENDA

The Senior Advisory Board discussed the agenda for the Senior Month televised meeting on Wednesday, May 25, 2021, and discussed bringing back the Senior Awards.

Actions:

1. Received and discussed.
2. Vice Chair Walkup requested a roll call vote on whether the Board should entertain nominations for the 2022 Senior Awards. The Board opposed moving forward with nominations due to the constrained timeframe for identifying nominees and selecting an awardee prior to the Senior Month meeting scheduled for May 25, 2022.

8. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Francisco Gomez spoke about the City's strategic planning process to develop a comprehensive community safety and well-being strategy. Mr. Gomez asked the Board to nominate an individual to represent the Board at a focus group with the City's contracted consultant on the project, Strategy Corp. Pat Dixon volunteered to represent the SAB.

Katie Egan spoke about in-person Board meetings and informed boardmembers that they will resume on June 22, 2022. Ms. Egan will provide the meeting location at a later date.

Katie Egan also reminded the Board that City Council will issue a proclamation at the May 2 meeting to declare May as Senior Month. Chair Nuell will be present to accept the proclamation.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

10. ITEMS FROM THE BOARD

Boardmember Allendorfer thanked and praised the Gay Men's Chorus and Vice Chair Walkup for a great performance at their Queen of the Night show. He praised City Council for approving a mixed commercial use and affordable housing building for the empty lot on Santa Monica and Crescent Heights. He motioned to adjourn in memory of the most recent victims of the Ukraine conflict. He mentioned the Seniors in Action event and said it was a good event.

Boardmember Dixon mentioned that Wallis Annenberg opened a new contemporary space called Genspace on Wilshire Blvd.

Boardmember Hollingsworth thanked everyone for doing work on their behalf. He asked Francisco about Ambience and Francisco is following up.

Boardmember McNeeley mentioned a problem he had with Ambience that was fixed very quickly. He spoke about ageism and how it affects gay men in particular. He requested that more items be brought to the Board for input prior to going to Council. He expressed disappointment about the City's dockless e-scooter program and Council's decision to change the painted intersection at Santa Monica and San Vicente from the Gay Pride flag to the Progress Pride flag.

Boardmember Eichman provided an update on the Transportation Commission meeting last week where the scooter program was discussed. He explained the guidelines of the on-going pilot program in further detail about deterring scooter riders from riding on the sidewalks.

Boardmember Sutton thanked the Board.

Vice-Chair Walkup spoke about discontinuing taking daily baby aspirin for those over 70 and encouraged the Board to check with their physician. He spoke about continuing usage of parking spaces in downtown West Hollywood for outdoor dining due to the COVID-19 pandemic and expressed his opinion that those spaces should be turned back into parking spots.

Chair Nuell thanked Vice-Chair Walkup for filling in as Chair.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The Senior Advisory Board adjourned at 3:51 p.m. to its next Senior Month meeting, which will be held on Wednesday, May 25, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. via teleconference.

DocuSigned by:

Joy Nuell

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JOY NUELLE,
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:

Leslie Iseberg

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STAFF LIAISON

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