

**DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD  
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD  
MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, 2024  
PLUMMER PARK COMMUNITY CENTER, ROOMS 5 & 6  
7377 SANTA MONICA BLVD.  
WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA 90046  
6:00 P.M. – REGULAR MEETING**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chair Dore called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Board Member Leathem led the Pledge.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: Board Member Green, Board Member Leathem, Board Member Mann, Board Member Nash, Board Member Semonco, Board Member Watts, Vice-Chair Smith, Chair Dore

Absent: Board Member Schwartz

Also Present: Maribel Ulloa, Social Services Program Administrator  
Dee Saunders, Social Services Specialist  
Joyce Britton, Administrative Specialist IV

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**ACTION:** *The Disabilities Advisory Board approved the agenda of the June 26, 2024, Disabilities Advisory Board meeting. Motioned by Vice-Chair Smith, seconded by Board Member Leathem and approved unanimously by roll call vote.*

**ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS:**

Chair Dore motioned to adjourn in honor of her cat Ms. Cee Cee, Board Member Nash's brother, James Nash, former Board Member Block's mother, Harriet Block, and all who have experienced loss. Board Member Watts motioned to adjourn in honor of Rev. James Lawson.

***\*Board Member Semonco arrived at 6:07 PM.***

## PRESENTATIONS:

### 1. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mikie Friedman, a 45-year disabled resident of West Hollywood, acknowledged Larry Block, former chair of the Disabilities Advisory Board, on the loss of his mother. She expressed gratitude to Jewish Family Services for their invaluable support. She emphasized her mission to protect and defend people with disabilities.

Wendy Goldman, a longtime resident of West Hollywood and gerontologist, invited Board members to join the Cynthia Sunset Neighborhood Watch for the upcoming National Night Out on August 6. She highlighted issues of pedestrian safety and concerns such as obstructed pathways and safety at bus stops. She advocated for collaborative efforts among city advisory boards and proposed streamlined discussions and improved neighborhood safety.

### 2. CONSENT CALENDAR:

#### 2.A. POSTING OF AGENDA:

*SUBJECT: The agenda for the meeting of Wednesday, June 26, 2024, was posted at City Hall, Plummer Park, the Sheriff's Station, and at the West Hollywood Library on June 20, 2024.*

*ACTION: Received and filed.*

#### 2.B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

*SUBJECT: The Disabilities Advisory Board is requested to approve the minutes of the June 6, 2024, meeting. **Motioned by Vice-Chair Smith, seconded by Board Member Green and approved by roll call vote.***

### 3. NEW BUSINESS:

#### 3.A. JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES COMPREHENSIVE SERVICE CENTER PRESENTATION

*SUBJECT: The Disabilities Advisory Board received a presentation from Jewish Family Services Comprehensive Service Center on services available to community members living with a disability.*

*ACTION: Received and filed.*

**4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**4.A. REVIEW RULES AND PROCEDURES GOVERNING THE DISABILITY SERVICE AWARDS**

**SUBJECT:** The Disabilities Advisory Board reviewed the Rules and Procedures Governing the Disabilities Awareness Services Awards. Revised to add a consideration for an individual posthumous nomination within two years of a person's death and clarification on Board member or Commissioner eligibility for a nomination until at least 12-months after service.

**ACTION:** **Motioned by Vice-Chair Smith, seconded by Board Member Leathem and approved unanimously by roll call vote.**

**4.B. UPDATE FROM BOARD LIAISONS AND DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH SUBCOMMITTEE**

**SUBJECT:** The Disabilities Advisory Board received an update from the Board Liaisons and the Disabilities Awareness Month planning subcommittee.

**ACTION:** Received and discussed.

**5. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR:**

None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Skylar Taylor, a resident of West Hollywood, commended the Board for its community engagement and representation efforts. Skylar emphasized the need for inclusive practices and education to support the disability community effectively.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:**

Board Member Watts expressed condolences Larry Block on the recent loss of his mother, and to Chair Dore for the loss of her companion pet. He congratulated Board Member Mann for graduating from UCLA and Board Member Leathem for earning a PhD.

Board Member Mann expressed appreciation for meeting twice in one month, as a productive and enjoyable time to connect with everyone present.

Board Member Leathem expressed excitement about community involvement this month and endorsed the punch card idea. He raised concerns about the need for approvals and how it might affect individual engagement.

Vice-Chair Smith discussed previous events where attendees participated in a contest visiting different vendors who stamped their cards. This approach successfully attracted attendees to explore various vendors' offerings and boosted business engagement at their tables.

Board Member Green reiterated "nothing about us without us" and emphasized the importance of considering absent voices in discussions. He extended condolences to Larry Block and Chair Dore, thanked staff and fellow subcommittee members for their collaborative work.

Board Member Nash began by bidding farewell to his brother who recently passed away from cancer. He shared appreciation for pets in aiding those with disabilities and provided a personal update on upcoming knee surgery. He expressed frustration over the City's delayed response to the water issue on the sidewalk.

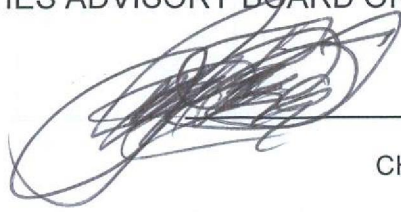
Chair Dore extended sympathies to Board Member Nash for his brother and to Larry Block for the passing of his mother. She also acknowledged anyone else affected by recent serious illness or death. Chair Dore shared her personal journey with cancer, and emotionally reflected on the loss of her beloved cat. She thanked Board Member Watts, the staff, and Jewish Family Services for their support during this challenging time.

**STAFF COMMENTS:**

Staff announced the Human Services Manager, Wendy Barreno, who will be joining them for the next Disabilities Advisory Board meeting in July.

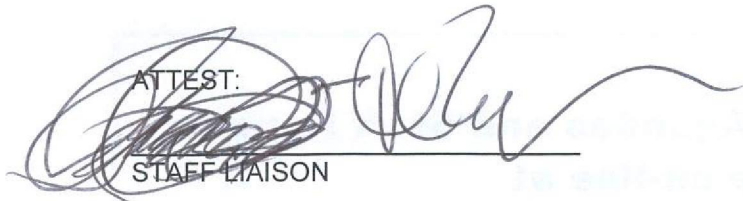
**ADJOURNMENT:** The Disabilities Advisory Board adjourned at 7:50 PM to its next regular meeting, which will be on Wednesday, July 24, 2024, at 6:00 P.M. at Plummer Park Community Center – Rooms 5 & 6.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD ON THIS 24<sup>th</sup>  
DAY OF JULY, 2024.



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.)*

<b>UPCOMING MEETING SCHEDULE</b>				
<b>Date</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Meeting Type</b>	<b>Location</b>
July 24, 2024	Wednesday	6:00 PM	Regular Meeting	Plummer Park Community Center, Rooms 5 & 6
August 28, 2024	Wednesday	6:00 PM	Regular Meeting	Plummer Park Community Center, Rooms 5 & 6
September 25, 2024	Wednesday	6:00 PM	Regular Meeting	Plummer Park Community Center, Rooms 5 & 6
				City Council

October 23, 2024	Wednesday	6:00 PM	Special Televised Meeting	Chambers
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**Disabilities Advisory Board Agendas and Staff Reports  
are available on-line at  
[www.who.org](http://www.who.org)**