

**HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2024
PLUMMER PARK - ROOMS 5 & 6
7377 SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD
6:00 PM**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Eyres called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and read the Land Acknowledgment.

A. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Commissioner Borelli
Commissioner Davis
Commissioner Palmieri
Commissioner Williams
Commissioner Wyville
Vice-Chair Adolphson
Chair Eyres

Absent: None

ALSO PRESENT: Wendy Barreno, Human Services Manager
Derek Murray, Social Services Supervisor
Francisco Gomez, Acting Strategic Initiatives Supervisor
Isaac Arredondo, Social Services Program Administrator
Maribel Ulloa, Social Services Program Administrator
Joyce Britton, Commission Secretary, Administrative Specialist IV

- B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Chair Eyres led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Human Services Commission is requested to approve the meeting agenda for October 8, 2024.

ACTION: Approved the Agenda of Tuesday, October 8, 2024.
Motion by Commissioner Borelli, seconded by Commissioner Palmieri and approved by roll call vote. Noting the absence of Commissioner Davis who briefly stepped out.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Human Services Commission is requested to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2024, Human Services Commission meeting.

ACTION: The minutes of September 10, 2024. **Motion by Commissioner Borelli** to approve, **seconded by Commissioner Davis, and approved by roll call vote.**

E. PUBLIC COMMENT

YOLA DORE, CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD - Yola Dore reminded everyone that October is Disabilities Awareness Month. She highlighted the upcoming televised meeting on October 23, starting with a reception at 5:30 PM in the Council Chambers. Ms. Dore thanked the Commission for their continued support of the disability community.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR: None

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. LOS ANGELES COUNTY LGBTQ+ COMMISSION PRESENTATION

The Human Services Commission received a presentation from the Los Angeles County LGBTQ+ Commission about its formation, structure, and workplan.

ACTION: Received and discussed.

B. AGENCY DEVELOPMENT FUNDS RFP

The Human Services Commission received a report on the Agency Development Grant Request for Proposal.

ACTION: Received and discussed.

C. HOLLOWAY INTERIM HOUSING PROJECT UPDATE

The Human Services Commission received an update on a recent media event and current talking points for community information-sharing on the Holloway Interim Housing Project.

ACTION: Received and discussed.

5. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Staff provided updates on several items. The City's leadership is currently discussing broadcasting meetings, and an item will be brought to the City Council for discussion. James Zenner from the Los Angeles County Department of Military Affairs is unavailable to present at the November 2024 meeting but may be rescheduled for the December 2024 meeting.

Regarding the Log Cabin relocation, staff is awaiting final details from the facilities team. A citywide mailing for social services is planned, with another large-scale mailing next year as part of the regular three-year cycle.

West Hollywood Day will be held on November 21, 2024, at the Pacific Design Center, marking the City's 40th anniversary. RSVPs are not yet available, but information can be found at weho.org/wehoday. Several community-based organizations, including Disability Community Resource Center and Care Team, are slated to table at the event.

World AIDS Day is December 1, 2024, with the Warrior Awards taking place on December 4, 2024, at 6:30 PM in City Council Chambers. The theme this year is "Put People First," and the awards will honor staff and volunteers from the HIV prevention and care field. A formal presentation on the event will be made in November 2024.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

VICTOR OMELCZENKO, CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD – Attended the ribbon-cutting for the Being Alive facility, now with a permanent storefront. He highlighted the City's past commitment of \$2,000 to \$3,000 in 2019 for harm reduction initiatives, which have since expanded.

Mr. Omelczenko noted the City's newly released preliminary draft strategic plan for the next 15 years, emphasizing its section on Human Services. He noted that 6,000 residents participated in the public engagement process. He encouraged Commissioners to review the plan and provide feedback prior to the next City Council item on the plan on October 21.

7. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Wyville - Expressed that he missed the previous meeting and noted how attending the meetings had become a meaningful routine. He highlighted that October is LGBTQ History Month and mentioned the ONE Institute's month-long history festival with events across the county. Commissioner Wyville attended a conversation with the LA Times about their queer history edition, which he found impressive and recommended checking out. He also encouraged visiting an exhibit at the LGBT Center as part of the History Month celebration, located at the McDonald/Wright Health Center. Lastly, Commissioner Wyville mentioned that the next meeting will take place after the election.

Commissioner Williams - Expressed gratitude for the marketing efforts, emphasizing its importance. She also shared the news of the passing of Assessor Jeff Prang's mother, Rita Jean Thompson Prang, on September 29, 2024. Commissioner Williams requested that the meeting be closed in her honor, noting that her passing had a significant impact on their office. Commissioner Williams concluded

by wishing her peace.

Commissioner Borelli - Emphasized that crime and drug issues in West Hollywood are not limited to the homeless community, sharing personal experiences of crime within his own building. Commissioner Borelli also expressed approval that the City is taking the issue of televising Commission and Advisory Board meetings seriously, highlighting the importance of televised meetings for sharing helpful information. He attended a City Council meeting to speak on Disabilities Awareness Month and stressed the need for better decorum during Council meetings. Commissioner Borelli also encouraged fellow Commissioners to focus on key talking points when addressing the Council, particularly regarding the availability of services like case management, mental health care, and rental assistance. He concluded by reminding everyone of the Disability Service Awards on Wednesday, October 23, at the City Council Chambers.

Commissioner Davis - Expressed reluctance to attend Council meetings due to a perceived lack of decorum and the chaos that sometimes occurs, which makes him uncomfortable. He voiced concerns about the consequences for disruptive behavior, suggesting that problematic individuals should be escorted out. Although he values the importance of HIV services, he is hesitant to speak for just two minutes at the upcoming meeting in December.

Commissioner Davis acknowledged the significance of World AIDS Day, emphasizing its importance to the City and the Commission, and expressed gratitude for the event's ongoing impact. He encouraged fellow commissioners to participate in the Warrior Awards, assuring them that the experience is rewarding.

Commissioner Palmieri - Acknowledged the importance of advocacy despite the lack of televised meetings, urging others to communicate directly with Council members about how constituent funds are being spent. He expressed frustration with the limited speaking time allowed at Council meetings and noted ongoing issues with public discourse.

Commissioner Palmieri wished everyone a happy Halloween and lamented missing an invitation to a significant event. He reflected on World AIDS Day, describing it as a bittersweet occasion to honor those lost, including his first husband, while also celebrating their memories. He highlighted the emotional impact of the Warrior Awards, emphasizing the significance of recognizing individuals in recovery and the rewarding nature of the Commission's work.

Vice Chair Adolphson - Acknowledged Indigenous Peoples' Day on Monday and expressed gratitude for the "Get Involved in the City of West Hollywood" pamphlets. She mentioned that no one discarded the pamphlets in her building and that she had placed them in the lobby, where they were quickly taken, hoping to encourage community involvement from residents.

Chair Eyres - Discussed the recent City Council meeting, where quorum issues for

some Commissions were highlighted. They expressed pride in the commitment of the current Commission members, noting that quorum has not been a problem for them. Reflecting on their long service on boards and commissions, Chair Eyres mentioned the past practice of providing business cards and name tags to members, which helped promote professionalism. They suggested that the city could consider offering e-business cards or name tags to enhance the visibility and importance of their roles.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The Human Services Commission adjourned in memory of Rita Jean Thompson Prang at 7:57 pm to its next Regular Meeting on Tuesday, November 12, 2024, at 6:00 pm at the Plummer Park Community Center, Rooms 5 & 6.

Notice: Written materials distributed to the Human Services Commission within 72 hours of this meeting are available for public inspection immediately upon distribution at the Department of Human Services and Rent Stabilization, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood, California, 90069, during normal business hours. They will also be available for inspection at the staff liaison’s table during the Commission meeting.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION ON THIS 12th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2024.

Signed by:
Sarah Adolphson
9FFE53E1DA202401
SARAH ADOLPHSON,
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:
DocuSigned by:
Derek Murray
FD080900EDF4#FC
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.)

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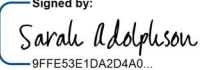
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Witness Events	Signature	Timestamp
Notary Events	Signature	Timestamp
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