

**MINUTES
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
SOCIAL JUSTICE ADVISORY BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2024
6:00 P.M.**

**West Hollywood City Hall
1st Floor - Community Meeting Room
8300 Santa Monica Boulevard
West Hollywood, CA 90069**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Washington called the meeting to order at 6:07pm

2. **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:** Read by Board Member Wilson

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Led by Board Member Jones

4. **ROLL CALL:**

PRESENT: Kenneth L. Jones, Eden Luna, Tiondrae Pier, Justin Powell, Jorge S. Seperak, Giselle Washington, and Jonathan Wilson

ABSENT: Karim D. Abay, Queen Chela Demuir, Justin Powell

ALSO PRESENT: Community Services Director, Yvonne Quarker
Community and Legislative Affairs Manager, Andi Lovano
Community and Legislative Affairs Coordinator, Jasmine Duckworth

5. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

ACTION: Motion to approve the Meeting Agenda of August 27, 2024, by Chair Washington, seconded by Board Member Wilson, and approved.

6. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

ACTION: Motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of July 23, 2024, by Board Member Wilson, seconded by Board Member Jones, and approved.

7. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. DEBRIEF ON DEPARTMENT AND DIVISION UPDATES

The Board reviewed the updates received from the City's Economic Development Department, Community Safety Department, and Human Services Division, and provided feedback on the updates received thus far.

Corrections for April 9th Updates

Economic Development

The Board provided feedback on the drop-down options on the Business License form and suggested that staff implement an educational component to their work. Additionally, the Board suggested hosting business tax workshops, or sessions on marketing, sales, strategic planning, financial acumen, and grant writing training on how to incorporate or use AI to improve one's business, as well as educating people on the City's RFP's process.

Public Safety

The Board expressed frustration with staff and their implementation process related to the public safety recommendations. The Board recommended creating a grading system to analyze and grade how staff is incorporating the Advisory Board's feedback into their existing workplans. Additionally, the Board suggested empathy or leadership training for Sheriff's personnel and City staff.

During this item, the Board also expressed frustration with the City Council's recent direction to maintain their quarterly meeting schedule. Staff notified the Board that Council directed staff to return with an update in January 2025 to re-evaluate the Board's meeting frequency.

B. SOCIAL JUSTICE ADVISORY BOARD WORKPLAN

The Social Justice Advisory Board reviewed their draft workplan, discussed additional goals and objectives, and voted by consensus to finalize the workplan at the October 22, 2024, meeting. During this item, the Board re-emphasized their interest in creating a score card or performance metric to evaluate how staff is implementing the Advisory Board's feedback. Additionally, the Board suggested creating a summary of the Advisory Board's successes and achievements.

ACTION: Motion to extend meeting by additional 15 minutes by Board Member Luna, seconded by Board Member Washington, and approved.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. LIAISON APPOINTMENTS

The Social Justice Advisory Board received a schedule of the City's Advisory Board and Commission meetings and discussed which bodies the Social Justice Advisory Board was interested in appointing liaisons to.

The Board appointed Board Member Luna as the liaison to the Human Services Commission and Board Member Seperak as the liaison to the Public Safety Commission.

B. JUNETEENTH 2025 PROGRAMMING

The Social Justice Advisory Board discussed Juneteenth 2025 programming and created a Juneteenth subcommittee.

ACTION: Motion to appoint Board Member Jones, Board Member Wilson, and Chair Washington to the Juneteenth subcommittee by Board Member Washington, seconded by Board Member Seperak, and approved.

10. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Staff liaison, Jasmine Duckworth shared details about the City's new resource called *Get Involved: A Guide to Civic Involvement*. This resource includes information about how to stay informed, new ways to get involved, and information about how to participate in public meetings, including all of West Hollywood's Commissions and Advisory Boards.

Jasmine also notified the Board that Metro released the draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the K Line Northern Extension as they study three routes for underground rail through Mid-City and West Hollywood. The City is encouraging community members to submit public comments supporting the San Vicente-Fairfax route.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

12. ITEMS FROM ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

Vice Chair Pier reemphasized the need to create a performance metric available for the October 2024 meeting.

Board Member Luna thanked staff and the Board for their work during the meeting.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The Social Justice Advisory Board adjourned at 8:31pm to its regular meeting scheduled for Tuesday, October 22, 2024, at 6:00pm at West Hollywood City Hall.

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Jasmine Duckworth – Staff Liaison

Signed by:

Giselle Washington

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Giselle Washington - Chair