

**MINUTES
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
SOCIAL JUSTICE ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 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 6:00pm

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

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

4. **ROLL CALL:**

PRESENT: Queen Chela Demuir, Kenneth L. Jones, Justin Powell, Giselle Washington, and Jonathan Wilson

ABSENT: Karim D. Abay, Eden Luna, Tiondrae Pier, and Jorge Seperak

ALSO PRESENT: Community & Legislative Affairs Manager, Andi Lovano
Community Programs Coordinator, Jasmine Duckworth (staff liaison)

5. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

ACTION: Motion to approve the Meeting Agenda of October 22, 2024, by Chair Washington, seconded by Board Member Powell, and approved.

6. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

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

7. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

AJ Delgadillo – introduced himself to the Board and expressed interest in joining the Social Justice Advisory Board.

8. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. UPDATE REGARDING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES WITHIN THE SOCIAL JUSTICE TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Social Justice Advisory Board received an update regarding the Economic Development initiatives within the Social Justice Task Force recommendations.

Board Member Wilson asked if the Advisory Board could receive a list of BIPOC-owned businesses in West Hollywood. Laura, the City's Economic Development Director, notified the Board that she would confirm with City Attorney, Lauren Langer and provide an update to the Board.

Board Member Wilson asked if/how the City is tracking which certifications exist for West Hollywood businesses.

Laura notified the Board that the best way to contact staff in her Department is to reach out to business@weho.org.

B. GREEN BUSINESS PROGRAM

The Social Justice Advisory Board received an update from Paige Portwood, Associate Planner in the City's Long-Range Planning Division, and Susy Borlido Co-Executive Director from Sustainable Works on the City's Green Business Program and provided feedback on strategies for outreaching and engaging BIPOC businesses in West Hollywood.

Board Member Wilson asked how the program is administered for businesses that share space and suggested collaborating with the City's Economic Development Department to get the list of BIPOC-owned businesses in West Hollywood.

Board Member Jones asked about the challenges that businesses may be experiencing.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. SOCIAL JUSTICE ADVISORY BOARD WORKPLAN AND YEAR-END REPORT

The Social Justice Advisory Board reviewed and finalized their workplan and provided feedback on the Year-End Summary – Summary of Accomplishments report.

Board Member Wilson's suggested implementing a performance metric to analyze and evaluate the updates provided by City staff at Advisory Board meetings. Board Member Wilson emphasized the importance of this metric assessing staff's effectiveness in incorporating the Advisory Board's feedback and recommendations into their division/department workplans.

Staff liaison, Jasmine Duckworth, explained staff's concerns regarding this proposal and suggested that if the Advisory Board Members have concerns with a particular staff person, they should be relayed to her and she will share those concerns with the appropriate Supervisor/Manager/Director.

After this discussion, Board Member Jones recommended the Board incorporate a Social Equity Impact Report into their policy recommendations report for City Council review. This report would capture the Advisory's Board's goals and recommendations, impact to the community, and implementation status of each recommendation.

Board Member Demuir suggested that the Board use alternative language to a performance metric.

B. JUNETEENTH PROGRAMMING

The Social Justice Advisory Board discussed programming for Juneteenth 2025.

Board Member Jones suggested the following as possible location suggestions:

The Playhouse Theater
Long Hall
Arts Residency
WeHo Gateway Community Room
HartBeat Studios
The Lot

Board Member Jones also suggested the following programming:

- Black Musical Panel Discussion
- HBCU Step Show w/Charles Drew University

Board Member Demuir recommended vetting all event participants.

Board Member Wilson notified the Board that the subcommittee will continue to meet and update the Board accordingly.

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

C. 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.

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 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

Board Member Wilson commented on the language for the Public Comment section of the Social Justice Advisory Board’s agenda.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The Social Justice Advisory Board adjourned at 7:30pm to its regular meeting on Tuesday, January 28, 2025, at 6:00pm to be held at West Hollywood City Hall – 1st Floor Community Meeting Room at 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood, CA 90069

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Jasmine Duckworth
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Jasmine Duckworth – Staff Liaison

Signed by:
Giselle Washington
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Giselle Washington – Chair