

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES**

SPECIAL MEETING

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 2025
PLUMMER PARK - ROOMS 5 & 6
7377 SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD
6:00 PM**

1. **CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL:** Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

PRESENT: Board Member Dore
Board Member Green
Board Member Nash
Board Member Semonco
Board Member Watts
Chair Smith

ABSENT: Board Member Leathem

ALSO Isaac Arredondo, Social Services Program Administrator
PRESENT: Michelle Liberman, Social Services Program Administrator
Joyce Britton, Administrative Specialist IV

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Board Member Watts led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The Disabilities Advisory Board approved the meeting agenda for May 28, 2025, unanimously, by roll call vote noting Board member Leathem absence

***** Board Member Green arrived at 6:08 PM**

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Disabilities Advisory Board approved the minutes of the April 23, 2025, meeting, by roll call vote, noting Board member Leathem's absence (Board member Green was not at the April meeting and should have abstained). This needs to be noted.

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Karen Eyres, CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke on behalf of the Human Services Commission, noting that the City is launching its RFP process to determine future social service providers and funding allocations.

6. **CONSENT CALENDAR:** None.

7. **NEW BUSINESS:**

A. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The Disabilities Advisory Board received a presentation from Hernán Molina, the City's Governmental Affairs Liaison, who provided an update on the current legislative session and ongoing state budget discussions and highlighted Medical/Medicare. During the discussion, board members expressed concerns about the potential impact of budget cuts on homeless services and the disability community. They emphasized the importance of preserving support for rental protections, income assistance, and food and nutrition programs for people with disabilities.

B. PRESENTATION BY THE DISABILITY COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER (DCRC) ON PROGRAMS AND SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS LIVING WITH DISABILITIES

The Disabilities Advisory Board received an update from the Disability Community Resource Center (DCRC), which highlighted the organization's core services, including access to assistive devices and the Home Secure Program, which improves home safety and accessibility for community members living with disabilities. Board members expressed appreciation for the available programming and voiced support for additional funding to expand the Home Secure Program.

C. LIAISON ASSIGNMENTS TO CITY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

This item was tabled until the next meeting and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Board Member Leatham noted as absent.

8. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None.

9. **ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

Board Member Dore shared that she had fully settled into her new downstairs apartment and wished everyone a happy and healthy Pride.

Board Member Green attended meetings of the Social Justice Advisory Board, Transgender Advisory Board, and LGBTQ+ Commission, as well as events including the Town Hall and Harvey Milk Day observance. He highlighted the upcoming Juneteenth event hosted by the Social Justice Advisory Board in the park and emphasized the importance of using the digital sign outside Plummer Park Community Center to promote public engagement in Board and Commission meetings.

Boardmember Semonco attended the Women's Advisory Board, which is

planning Women's Equality Day activities focused on women's empowerment.

Board Member Nash thanked staff for ending the meeting on time so members could attend the WeHo Pride Kickoff Party and expressed interest in having DAB representation on the Pride float, even though some members will be walking with other organizations.

Boardmember Watts shared that he attended the Older Adults Health and Wellness event.

Chair Smith attended the County Commission meeting, where topics included service cuts impacting people with disabilities and older adults. She also participated in a Neighborhood Watch outreach meeting, highlighting ongoing safety concerns and delays in the implementation of drones and intersection cameras.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

11. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Staff shared an update from the DAB Subcommittee on Disabilities Awareness Month. The annual health and wellness event is confirmed for Thursday, October 9, 2025, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., with Cedars-Sinai participating. The theme will be "Wellness Without Limits."

The Board was informed that the City Booth is seeking optional volunteer support for the Pride Festival on Saturday, May 31, and Sunday, June 1, with two-hour shift opportunities available.

Staff noted that the Disability Service Award nomination forms and governing procedures will return to the DAB next meeting for review and approval.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The Disabilities Advisory Board adjourned at 7:51 pm to its next Regular Meeting on Wednesday, June 25, 2025, at 6:00 pm at the Plummer Park Community Center, Rooms 5 & 6.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD ON THIS 25th DAY OF JUNE, 2025.

Signed by:



LOUISE SMITH,
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:

Michelle Liberman

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.)