

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2025**

**WEST HOLLYWOOD LIBRARY
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
625 N. SAN VICENTE BLVD.
WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA 90069
6:00 PM**

1. **CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL:** Chair Nash called the meeting to order at 6:08 pm.

PRESENT: Board Member Dore
Board Member Green
Board Member Semonco
Board Member Watts
Vice Chair Leathem
Chair Nash

ABSENT: Board Member Smith

ALSO Isaac Arredondo, Social Services Program Administrator
PRESENT: Michelle Liberman, Social Services Program Administrator
Joyce Britton, Recording Secretary

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Larry Block led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The Disabilities Advisory Board is requested to approve the meeting agenda for October 22, 2025. **Motioned by** Board Member Dore, **seconded by** Board Member Green.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Disabilities Advisory Board is requested to approve the minutes of the September 24, 2025, meeting. **Motioned by** Board Member Dore, **seconded by** Board Member Green.

Mayor Chelsea Byers and Councilmember Danny Hang provided opening remarks. Councilmember Hang read a remark from Councilmember Meister.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ashlee Branyan (*Senior Lifeguard, City of West Hollywood*) – Highlighted the benefits and accessibility of the City’s aquatics and recreation facility, emphasizing the City’s core values.

Zane Swift (*West Hollywood*) – Spoke about his connection with Chair Nash and how Mr. Nash helped him access City services.

Gilbert Bazan (*West Hollywood*) – Shared information about the Disability Community Resource Center and its available programs.

Michael Brodie (*West Hollywood*) – Reflected on his relationship with awardee Adrienne Omansky and her advocacy against scams targeted at seniors.

David Eichman (*West Hollywood*) – Thanked the Board for their service, discussed mobility issues with scooters on sidewalks, and offered his assistance in addressing those concerns.

Genevieve Morrel (*West Hollywood*) – Encouraged the Board to reach out to the West Hollywood Chamber of Commerce regarding exploitation of people with disabilities and congratulated past award recipients.

Stephanie Harker (*West Hollywood*) – Spoke about safety concerns related to scooters and delivery robots, urging the Board to petition Council to remove them.

Sherry McCoy (*West Hollywood*) – Honored posthumous awardee Adrienne Omansky and shared how Mrs. Omansky inspired her to help seniors avoid scams.

Bobby DeVilla (*West Hollywood*) – Spoke about his connection to Adrienne Omansky and her positive impact on his life.

Cathy Blivas (*West Hollywood*) – Expressed concerns about

scooters and delivery robots creating challenges for individuals with disabilities.

Helen Krieger (*West Hollywood*) – Thanked the Board for their continued service to the community.

6. **CONSENT CALENDAR:** None.

City Manager, David Wilson, and Mayor Pro-tem, John Heilman, provided remarks.

7. **NEW BUSINESS:**

A. 2025 DISABILITY SERVICE AWARDS PRESENTATIONS

The Disabilities Advisory Board presented the 2025 Disability Service Awards:

Board Member Dore and **Mayor Chelsea Byers** presented the Lovedy Brydon Differently Abled Individual Award to: Stephen David Simon.

Board Member Watts and **Mayor Chelsea Byers** presented the award to Adrienne Omansky (Posthumous)

Board Member Semonco and **Board Member Green** presented the Nonprofit Award to: The Vance North Necessities of Life Program (NOLP) at APLA Health

Chair Nash and **Councilmember Danny Hang** presented the Media Award to WehoOnline.

ACTION: The Board presented the awards to the honorees.

Mikie Friedman (*West Hollywood*) – Spoke about Adrienne Omansky and how she profoundly impacted her life by helping her overcome her disability.

B. 2026 SACRAMENTO LEGISLATIVE ACTION DAY FOR APPOINTED OFFICIALS

The Disabilities Advisory Board appointed one delegate and one alternate to represent the Disabilities Advisory Board during the

Legislative Action Day in Sacramento to take place on February 5, 2026 (Year 2 of the 2025-2026 Legislative Session).

ACTIONS:

The Board appointed Chair Nash as the delegate and Board Member Green as the alternate unanimously by roll call vote.

8. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None.

9. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Karen Eyres (*West Hollywood*) – Thanked the Board for their service to the disabled community, acknowledged their input in the 3-year RFP cycle, and invited everyone to the AIDS Monument opening ceremony on Sunday, November 16.

Helen Henson (*West Hollywood*) – Expressed gratitude to Chair Nash and the Board.

10. **ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

Board Member Dore – Spoke about the support she received from Jewish Family Services Comprehensive Service Center, highlighting their food programs and encouraging those in need to reach out for assistance.

Board Member Green – Discussed APLA Health and Being Alive, noting their wide range of programs that enhance physical, mental, and emotional well-being.

Board Member Semonco – Highlighted programs offered by JVS SoCal WeHo Works, the Los Angeles LGBT Center's *Aging with Pride* program, and the Maple Counseling Center.

Board Member Watts – Spoke about the legal and eviction defense services provided by Bet Tzedek, the Coalition for Economic Survival, and the National Council of Jewish Women.

Vice Chair Leathem – Emphasized access to healthy food and recognized the support offered by Project Angel Food, Seeds of Hope, and World Harvest.

Chair Nash – Highlighted the work of the Disability Community Resource Center in supporting people with disabilities and thanked Francisco Gomez and Christy Hendrix of Ambiance Transportation for their contributions.

11. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Staff thanked the Board for their role in helping to shape programs for the success of the most vulnerable community members.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The Disabilities Advisory Board adjourned at 7:53 pm to its next Regular Meeting on Wednesday, January 28, 2026, at 6:00 pm at Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd., Rooms 5 & 6, West Hollywood, CA 90069.

DRAFT