

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

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 2024
6:00 PM**

**PLUMMER PARK, ROOMS 5&6
7377 SANTA MONICA BLVD.
WEST HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA 90046**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dore called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

David Nash led the Pledge.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Board Member Green, Board Member Nash,
Board Member Schwartz, Board Member
Semonco, Board Member Watts, Vice-Chair
Smith, Chair Dore

Also Present: Dee Saunders, Social Services Specialist
Joyce Britton, Administrative Specialist

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ACTION: *The Disabilities Advisory Board approved the agenda of the March 27, 2024, Disabilities Advisory Board meeting. Motioned by Vice-Chair Smith, seconded by Board Member Green and approved unanimously by roll call vote.*

D. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION: *The Disabilities Advisory Board approved minutes of the February 28, 2024, meeting. Motioned by Vice-Chair Smith,*

AGENDA ITEM 2.A.

seconded by Board Member Watts and approved by roll call vote, noting an abstention by Chair Dore.

3. NEW BUSINESS

A. BOARD MEMBER LIAISON ASSIGNMENTS

The Disabilities Advisory Board discussed liaison assignments for the City of West Hollywood's Boards and Commissions.

ACTION: The liaison assignments are as follows:

Board Member Green: LGBTQ+ Commission, Transgender Advisory Board, and serving as the alternate for the Women's Advisory Board.

Board Member Nash: Planning Commission

Board Member Schwartz: Transportation & Mobility Commission and Rent Stabilization Commission

Board Member Semonco: Women's Advisory Board

Board Member Watts: Older Adults Advisory Board and serving as the alternate for the Human Services Commission

Vice-Chair Smith: Russian-Speaking Advisory Board, Public Safety Commission

Chair Dore: Human Services Commission, and serving as the alternate for Public Safety Commission

*****Board Member Schwartz arrived at 6:16 pm.**

B. UPDATE FROM DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH SUBCOMMITTEE

The Disabilities Advisory Board received an update on Disabilities Awareness Month planning from the subcommittee.

ACTION: Received and discussed.

The Disabilities Advisory Board determined having the Health and Wellness event on a weekend would not be the best option and

supported the exploration of providing food and incentives to increase attendance.

4. EXCLUDED CONSENT

None.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

6. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Vice-Chair Smith attended the Abilities Expo and recognized March as National Cerebral Palsy Awareness month. She brought attention to the lack of services and resources available to adults ages 21 and older who are living with cerebral palsy. She mentioned the importance of building accessibility for persons living with a disability, especially those with mobility difficulties.

Board Member Nash discussed his recent involvement City affordable housing projects. He expressed continued interest in affordable housing issues, particularly those affecting people living with disabilities.

Board Member Green attended the LGBTQ+ Commission and the Transgender Advisory Board. He mentioned a City Council meeting where parking changes on Gardner Street were discussed, expressing concern about the impact on people with disabilities and seniors. He suggested having a standing item on public policy or legislation to address issues such as cerebral palsy. He emphasized the need for a two-year and five-year work plan.

Board Member Semonco attended the Abilities Expo and highlighted the array of different service providers. She noted the lack of comprehensive services for adults with cerebral palsy and the challenges in accessing appropriate care.

Board Member Watts shared City events he has attended since the last meeting. He attended the Abilities Expo and thanked staff for their assistance. He raised concerns about AB 2449. He mentioned a City Council meeting where he advocated for tightening regulations on short-term rentals to preserve permanent housing. He attended the Older Adults Advisory Board meeting and announced the senior

healthcare event on May 21. He expressed condolences for the passing of an acquaintance due to substance abuse.

Board Member Schwartz shared his excitement in representing the Board on the Fountain Avenue Streetscape Project's steering committee. Board Member Schwartz encouraged everyone to visit engage.weho.org to stay updated on the project's progress.

Chair Dore expressed her gratitude for the board's work and wished everyone a happy holiday.

7. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Staff announced that the next agenda will include an item regarding Pride. Staff informed the Board of the upcoming Senior Health Fair hosted by the Older Adults Advisory Board on Tuesday, May 21, 2024.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The Disabilities Advisory Board adjourned at 7:37 pm to its next meeting which will be held at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, April 24, 2024, at Plummer Park Rooms 5 & 6, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood, CA 90046.