

**MINUTES
OLDER ADULTS ADVISORY BOARD
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
REGULAR MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2024
2:00 PM**

**WEST HOLLYWOOD CITY HALL
COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM
8300 SANTA MONICA BLVD.
WEST HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA 90069**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Allendorfer called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM.

A. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Board Member Carrel
Board Member Dixon
Board Member Leroy
Board Member Schemanski
Board Member Sutton
Board Member Walkup
Vice Chair Holguin
Chair Allendorfer

Absent: Board Member Hollingsworth

ALSO Becca Lubin, Strategic Initiatives Program Administrator
PRESENT: Joyce Britton, Recording Secretary, Administrative Specialist IV

- B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** Arpine Eloyan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Older Adults Advisory Board is requested to approve the agenda for the meeting on October 23, 2024.

ACTION: Approved the agenda of Wednesday, October 23, 2024.
Motion by Board Member Walkup, seconded by Board Member Carrel and approved by roll call vote.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Older Adults Advisory Board is requested to approve the minutes of the August 28, 2024, and September 24, 2024, Older Adult Advisory Board meetings.

ACTION: Approved the minutes of Wednesday, Wednesday August 28,

2024 and Wednesday, September 25, 2024. **Motion by Vice Chair Holguin, seconded by Board Member Carrel and approved by roll call vote.** Noting the abstention of Board Member Dixon.

E. PUBLIC COMMENT

Rick Watts, City of West Hollywood, invited the Older Adults Advisory Board to the Disabilities Advisory Board's annual televised meeting and Disability Service Awards that evening, celebrating honorees including Myra "Mikie" Friedman, the Disability Community Resource Center, California Rehabilitation Institute, and Brandon Ross Garcia. He reminded everyone that October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, encouraging early screening to improve treatment outcomes. Finally, he urged unity and civility in the upcoming election, emphasizing shared values and the importance of working together.

Jesse Harris, Vice Chair of the Transportation and Mobility Commission and a 10-year West Hollywood resident, noted the strong connection between transportation issues and older adult concerns, inviting board members to attend the commission's meetings on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Harris expressed appreciation for the board's work and interest in building collaborative relationships.

David Eichman, a West Hollywood business owner, introduced himself as the liaison to the Older Adults Advisory Board. He discussed driverless vehicle testing, noting its popularity and potential challenges. Eichman invited the board to share any feedback on transportation issues with him or Commissioner Harris. He also requested the meeting be adjourned in memory of Imogene Prang, mother of County Assessor and former City Council member Jeff Prang.

2. NEW BUSINESS

A. JFS COMPREHENSIVE SERVICE CENTER ACTIVITIES UPDATE

Jewish Family Service Staff provided information about recent and upcoming programs sponsored by the West Hollywood Comprehensive Services Center.

ACTION: Received presentation.

B. PROGRAMMING UPDATE FROM THE WEST HOLLYWOOD LIBRARY

Arpine Eloyan, West Hollywood Library Manager, provided a programming update on the library's services and programs.

ACTION: Received presentation. This item was moved up from Item 2C to accommodate the speaker's schedule.

C. CITY AQUATICS PROGRAMMING UPDATE

Cortez Jordan, Aquatics Supervisor, provided an update on aquatic

programming at the City's Aquatic and Recreation Center (ARC).

ACTION: Received presentation.

D. SPECIAL OLDER ADULT ADVISORY BOARD MEETINGS FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER

The Older Adults Advisory Board considered moving its November and December meeting dates to accommodate the holiday schedule.

ACTION: The Board approved the motion to move the November meeting to Wednesday, November 20. **Motion by Vice Chair Holguin, seconded by Board Member Carrel and approved by roll call vote.** Noting the abstention of Board Member Hollingsworth.

The Board approved the motion to move the December meeting to Wednesday, December 18. **Motion by Vice Chair Holguin, seconded by Board Member Dixon and approved by roll call vote.** Noting the abstention of Board Member Hollingsworth.

3. ITEMS FROM STAFF

None.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Rick Watts addressed concerns about the Fountain Avenue project, specifically its impact on public safety. He raised issues around accessibility, limited parking, and restricted driveway access.

5. ITEMS FROM THE BOARD

Board Member Carrel expressed appreciation for recent presentations, including one on Medicare preparation and another from the Coalition for Economic Solutions. Board Member Carrel spoke about attending a CERT training, learning about local emergency coordination efforts, and recommended the program to others. She shared insights from a CERT alumni gathering, highlighting the value of West Hollywood's Block by Block security ambassadors, who provide assistance at night. Board Member Carrel also noted her attendance at the Disability Fair and Mobility Fair, which included demonstrations on mobility options like Tesla and robot vehicles, as well as discussions with Metro representatives. Lastly, she mentioned a meeting on sustainable practices, noting the city's shift toward electric options.

Board Member Leroy reported that he attended a facilities meeting broadcast from Council Chambers, where active transportation items, including bike lanes, was discussed. Leroy reiterated interest in a future presentation on pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure in West Hollywood. He shared concerns about the proposal to reduce Fountain Avenue to one lane for bike lanes. As a cyclist, he felt Fountain Avenue was unsafe for bikes and suggested Beverly Boulevard as a more suitable option for bike lanes.

Board Member Dixon highlighted the importance of earthquake awareness after participating in the CERT program, noting it focused heavily on preparedness. She emphasized the need for all to stay aware and ready for potential quakes. Board Member Dixon also shared a positive experience with Block by Block security ambassadors for safe transit late at night, recommending their services for anyone needing assistance.

Board Member Walkup encouraged everyone to vote, noting that mail-in ballots should have arrived. He cautioned against political donation solicitations targeting seniors with dementia, citing cases where individuals donated large sums unknowingly. He also announced a beginner Spanish class he will teach at Plummer Park in November.

Board Member Schemanski reported that he completed California's Voter Protection training and will monitor local polling sites, including Plummer Park, to help address any instances of potential voter fraud. He encouraged vigilance, urging voters to report suspicious activities to the on-site judge, who will handle any issues.

Vice Chair Holguin noted his attendance at the Transportation Commission meeting. He shared details on the Fountain Avenue project and his experience with autonomous vehicles.

Chair Allendorfer attended the recent City Council meeting, noting two key items: First, Councilmembers Heilman and Meister highlighted the need to increase public awareness of Human Services programs. In response, the City plans to launch an outreach campaign better inform the community. Second, the Council approved a six-month pilot to videotape commission meetings, making them more accessible. However, board meetings like the Older Adults Advisory Board are not yet included in this pilot, meaning only audio recordings remain available for now.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The Older Adults Advisory Board adjourned in memory of Mitzy Gaynor and Imogene Prang at 3:45 pm to its next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, November 20, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. at the Community Meeting Room at West Hollywood City Hall, located at 8300 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood, CA 90069.