



MINUTES

HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION

SPECIAL MEETING

SMI TRAINING ROOM

330 Olympic Drive, Santa Monica, CA 90401

Tuesday, September 3, 2024

3:00 PM

Call to Order

Chair Leddy called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm

Roll Call

Present: Commissioner Yilmazer, Commissioner Nguyen, Commissioner Marvel, Commissioner Koza, Commissioner Einbinder, Commissioner Wells, Vice Chair Castanon, Chair Leddy

Absent: Commissioner Tamara Kagel (excused)

Also Present: Richard Diaz (Senior Administrative Analyst), Ivette Gomez (Staff Assistant III)

1. Public Input (Non-Agenda Items):

None

2. Public Input (Agenda Items Under SPECIAL AGENDA ITEMS and CONSENT CALENDAR Only):

None

3. Special Agenda Items

- a. Presentation on recommendations for right to counsel and flexible financial assistance programs by Richard Diaz, Senior Administrative Analyst. Discussion and possible action on recommendations following the presentation (Attachment: [Presentation slides](#))

Commissioner Einbinder moved and Commissioner Castanon seconded a motion to submit a letter of support on the Renters' Protections Recommendations, if needed. Voice vote; motion passes unanimously.

- b. Presentation by Rachel Evans Behl on Santa Monica's Aging & Disability Action Plan and spreading awareness to the community about the opportunity to apply for the Action Plan Advisory Committee (Attachment: [Presentation slides](#))
- c. Swearing-in of Commissioners Tamara Kagel, Bruce Leddy, and Maxine Koza

Commissioners Koza and Leddy were sworn in on September 3, 2024. Commissioner Kagel's oath/affirmation was continued to the next meeting.

- d. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Chair Election

Chair Leddy was nominated to continue as Chair of the Human Services Commission. No other nominations.

Commissioner Einbinder moved and Commissioner Nguyen seconded a motion to re-appoint Chair Leddy as Chair of the Human Services Commission. Voice vote; motion passes unanimously.

Vice Chair Election

Vice Chair Castanon was nominated to continue as Vice Chair of the Human Services Commission. No other nominations.

Chair Leddy moved and Commissioner Nguyen seconded a motion to re-appoint Vice Chair Castanon as Vice Chair of the Human Services Commission. Voice vote; motion passes unanimously.

5. Consent Calendar:

- a. [July 10, 2024 Minutes](#)



Commissioner Einbinder moved and Commissioner Nguyen seconded a motion to approve the July 10, 2024 Minutes. Voice vote; motion passes unanimously.

6. Public Input On Remaining Agenda Items

None

9. Staff Administrative Items

- a. Discussion and possible action to nominate a commissioner to represent the commission on the Westside Cities Council of Governments Regional Behavioral Health Facility Implementation Strategy Advisory Committee (Attachment: [Memo](#))

Chair Leddy moved and Commissioner Marvel seconded a motion to recommend Commissioner Einbinder to represent the Human Services Commission on the Westside Cities Council of Governments Regional Behavioral Health Facility Implementation Strategy Advisory Committee. Voice vote; motion passes unanimously.

- b. Discussion and possible action regarding the Human Services Commission Annual Evaluation and possible creation of ad hoc (Attachment: [Annual Evaluation template, 2024-25 Human Services Workplan](#))

Notes on SWOT Analysis:

- Strengths
 - New, energetic, knowledgeable members
 - 'Blank slate' being new
 - Human Services Department support – presentations
 - Possibility to reframe views of people in need
- Weaknesses
 - 'Blank slate' being new
 - Lack of culture/direction from city
- Opportunities
 - More need for human services in Santa Monica
 - Network potential; collab w/other commissions; city departments; non-governmental organizations, etc.
 - Mayor's cabinet encouraging us
 - Humanize and center assisting people in need with compassion and empathy



- Threats
 - Visibility
 - Don't yet have authority
- c. Discussion/reports from existing ad hoc committees and possible action on their recommendations

Willa Wells to join the Aging and Disability Strategic Planning Ad-Hoc

Adjournment

Chair Leddy adjourned the meeting at 4:52 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

Secretary

Chair

