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WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

JOINT BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE/BOARD ONLINE AND TELEPHONIC MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, June 23, 2020 @ 6:00 PM

Approved July 28, 2020

Numbers refer to agenda items:

1. Committee Co-Chair Brad Vanderhoof called the meeting to order at 6:07 PM. Those in attendance: Faye Barta, Dan Brin, Anthony Brosamle (arrived at 7:00 PM), Jessica Fuentes, Kian Gholibiek, Heidi Manning, Olivia Naturman, Steve Randall, Tony Scearce, Joan Trent, and Brad Vanderhoof. Absent were Thomas Booth, Myrl Schreiber and Ron Sobel. Council member Bonnie Klea also attended. A quorum was established. Stakeholder Reeyan Reynes also was present.
2. The February 28, 2020 minutes were approved.
3. Comments from the Chairs: Co-Chair Brad V. welcomed everyone back to this first online and telephonic meeting. Brad spoke of how trying these times are and how in all probability Beautification will not be holding any community cleanups for quite some time. Brad also said Beautification will keep having meetings through this period of time. Faye B. joined Brad's sentiments and thanked everyone for their attendance at this meeting.
4. Public Comment: none
5. Discussion and Possible Action on the Future of Community clean-ups: Brad indicated there is no way to ascertain when our cleanups might resume, given current conditions and the fact that LA City will have to advise that cleanups can be resumed BEFORE we do any cleanups with the public.
6. Discussion and Possible Action on Other Beautification Projects: Brad said that Beautification could hold small get-togethers of committee members and stakeholders, to clean up areas which need cleanup, but Beautification cannot publicize or invite any stakeholders or members of the public. Joan T. said Beautification can "branch out" and consider other matters dealing with cleaning up and beautifying West Hills. Heidi M. suggested that if we see anyone cleaning up anywhere, we should talk to them, thank them, and encourage them to continue to do so in addition to reporting to 311 any serious issues. Bonnie K. reported that Bobbi Trantafello's yard was cleaned up by whoever is caring for her property. Reeyan R. suggested members can individually "adopt a corner or area" to clean up themselves, or work with other groups such as TSA, Conservation Corps, or Clean and Green. Bonnie reported the burned-out property at 8368 Sausalito was still full of overgrown weeds and trees and a stagnating pool and there is no fence or other barrier to stop trespassers (or children) from entering onto the property and doing harm or being injured. Brad said this is also a problem for Zoning and Planning. Tony S. reported he had already reported this property to Building and Safety. Heidi said she will contact Vector Control concerning the stagnating pool. Olivia N. suggested announcing to social media that residents can clean up areas of overgrowth and trash themselves in their spare time to help beautify their neighborhoods. Olivia made a motion that the WHNC make a public service announcement for a social media campaign on the WHNC website, including a picture or pictures of stakeholders cleaning up areas of West Hills. Steve R. seconded. The committee voted unanimously to do so. Brad will post the announcement and pictures on the WHNC website. Heidi said she will contribute pictures.
7. Discussion and possible action on Heidi's suggestion to contact developers/HOAs of new developments regarding future cleaning up of common and private areas in and outside of the developments: Much discussion was had concerning how to reach out to the homeowners and/or developers of these new developments, including speaking directly to the developers and after construction to the HOAs. Brad suggested passing out the WHNC parkway responsibility and general council brochures. Heidi stressed that the trees and other plantings being installed at these developments will sooner or later grow and need more attention than at present.

8. Discussion and Possible Action on R.O.W. letters: Jessica F. reported that the block on the south side of Sherman Way across from West Hills Hospital between Royer Avenue and the Nelson's Nursery is nearly impassible to pedestrians and/or bike riders. Brad suggested the WHNC maintenance brochures be distributed to all homeowners on Vose and Enadia Way (homes behind the block wall). Heidi will also call 311 to try to get some cleanup by the City.
9. Discussion and possible action regarding progress with removing abandoned newspaper vending machines on sidewalks: Brad reported the machines he reported were still in place, but he will notify 311 again. Reeyan will check the old 311 records on this issue and Heidi will also check her 311 report. This item is tabled to check on the 311 progress.
10. Strike Team Reports: Dan is still removing signs. Heidi, Jessica and Dan are picking up trash. Olivia reports neighbors are also picking up trash and cutting weeds.

Committee Co-chair Brad Vanderhoof adjourned the meeting at 7:07 PM.

The next meeting of this committee will be held Tuesday, July 28, 2020 at 6:00 PM, Online and Telephonically.