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#### WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

# JOINT BOARD AND BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE ONLINE AND TELEPHONIC MEETING AGENDA

Monday, November 14, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m.

In conformity with the September 16, 2021 enactment of California Assembly Bill 361 (Rivas) and due to concerns over Covid-19, the West Hills Neighborhood Council meeting will be conducted entirely with a call-in option or internet based service option. All are invited to attend and participate.

This meeting of the West Hills Neighborhood Council Beautification Committee will be conducted online via Zoom Webinar and telephonically. All are invited to attend and participate.

To attend online via Zoom Webinar, click or paste the following link into your browser: https://zoom.us/j/99272551544

To call in by phone, dial toll-free 833-548-0276, then punch in this Webinar code when prompted: 992 7255 1544#.

This meeting is open to the public. Comments on matters not on the agenda will be heard during the Public Comment period. Those who wish to speak on an agenda item will be heard when the item is considered.

**AB 361 Updates:** Public Comment cannot be required to be submitted in advance of the meeting, only real-time public comment is required. If there are any broadcasting interruptions that prevent the public from observing or hearing the meeting, the meeting must be recessed or adjourned. If members of the public are unable to provide public comment or be heard due to issues within the Neighborhood Council's control, the meeting must be recessed or adjourned.

- 1. Call to Order and Establish Quorum
- 2. Approval of Minutes of the October 18, 2022 Meeting
- 3. Comments and Announcements from the Chairs
- 4. Public Comment
- 5. Discussion and comments regarding the October 2022 cleanup event at the West Hills Post Office.
- 6. Discussion regarding future cleanup events for 2022: November 19, 2022, on the EAST side of Valley Circle between Strathern and Roscoe and December 3, 2022, on the north side of Saticoy east of Woodlake to Fallbrook.
- 7. Discussion and possible action on "cleanup" events for 2023, and "Beautification" events for 2023.
- 8. Discussion and possible action on Creating a Community Garden
- 9. Discussion and possible action on Right-of-Way (ROW) letters.
- 10. Strike Team Reports

### The next meeting of this committee will be held on Tuesday, December 20, 2022, at 6:00 PM.

<u>Public input at Neighborhood Council meetings:</u> When prompted by the presiding officer, members of the public may address the committee on any agenda item before the committee takes an action on the item by punching in \*9 (if calling in by phone) or by clicking on the "raise hand" button (if participating online through Zoom) and waiting to be recognized. Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the committee's jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Ralph M. Brown Act, the committee is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future committee meeting. Public comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of said committee.

Notice to Paid Representatives - If you are compensated to monitor, attend, or speak at this meeting, city law may require you to register as a lobbyist and report your activity. See Los Angeles Municipal Code §§ 48.01 et seq. More information is available at <a href="ethics@lacity.org/lobbying">ethics@lacity.org/lobbying</a> For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at {213} 978-1960 or ethics.commission@lacity.org

<u>Public Posting of Agendas:</u> WHNC agendas are posted for public review at Shadow Ranch Park, 22633 Vanowen St., West Hills, CA 91307 or at our website, <u>www.westhillsnc.org</u>. You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to the City of Los Angeles Early Notification System at <u>www.lacity.org/government/Subscriptions/NeighborhoodCouncils/index</u>.

The Americans With Disabilities Act: As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices and other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least three business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting via email <a href="MCSupport@lacity.org">MCSupport@lacity.org</a> or calling (213) 978-1551. If you are hearing impaired please call 711.

<u>Public Access of Records:</u> In compliance with Government Code Section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting may be viewed at the meeting where such writing was considered or by contacting the WHNC's executive director via email at <u>Michelle.Ritchie@westhillsnc.org</u> Requests can be made for a copy of a record related to an item on the agenda.

**Reconsideration and Grievance Process:** For information on the WHNC's process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the WHNC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our website, <a href="https://www.WestHillsNC.org">www.WestHillsNC.org</a>.

<u>Servicios De Traduccion</u>: Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Por favor contacte <u>Michelle.Ritchie@westhillsnc.org</u>





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#### WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

## JOINT BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE/BOARD ONLINE AND TELEPHONIC DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, October 18, 2022 @ 6:00 PM

The Committee shall take official action by a simple majority of yes and no votes cast by the committee members present at a duly noticed regular or special Beautification Committee meeting, not to include abstentions. There shall be no proxy voting.

#### Numbers refer to agenda items:

Committee Co-Chair Brad Vanderhoof called the meeting to order at 6:08 PM. The meeting was recorded.
Those in attendance: Faye Barta, Vinura Kotuwelle, Heidi Manning, Rosi Mariconda, Steve Randall, Joan Trent and Brad
Vanderhoof. Vinura Kotuwelle had requested to be a member of this committee and his request was granted. Also present
was Christina Walsh. Absent were Dan Brin, Glenn Jennings, Anthony Scearce and Myrl Schreibman.

A quorum was established.

- 2. The minutes of the September 20, 2022, meeting were unanimously approved as amended.
- 3. Comments from the Chairs: Brad had none. Faye reported that the turnout of committee members for last week's cleanup was only 6 (5 Board members and Heidi) out of 10 members, and only 5 out of 24 Board members were present. Faye added that only two Board committees, Beautification and Special Events, hold ongoing events with the public outside of the meetings and we need to attract more Board members' attendance at our cleanups. Faye reminded all that we need to attend both meetings and events to support our committee. If someone is not physically able to help, we understand, but every committee member should be present at events to give the rest of us support. Faye also mentioned that the vacant lot at the corner of Keswick and Saticoy has been cleaned off.
- 4. Public Comment: None.
- 5. Discussion and Comments regarding the September, 2022, cleanup, held at Orcutt Ranch Park to distribute seeding for the Monarch butterflies and of the October, 2022, cleanup. Faye and Brad agreed that the September event was well-attended and many seeds were distributed. For the October 15, 2022 event, Faye said that the 10 students who attended worked diligently. Heidi thought the students were great. Steve said the ROTC at El Camino Real High School puts our events on a bulletin board for credit. Brad said the event is circulated also by "word of mouth" in addition to the bulletin board. Brad also commented that the October cleanup was promoted in the CD 12 newsletter, but said he did not believe anyone from CD 12 showed up at the cleanup.
- 6. Discussion regarding future cleanup events for 2022: Faye advised that prior minutes showed that we have already chosen November 19, 2022, to clean up Valley Circle between Strathern and Roscoe and we added \$50 for snacks for that clean up. Faye also advised that we have already chosen to clean up the north side of Saticoy east of Woodlake to Fallbrook on December 3, 2022, and we added \$50 for snacks for that cleanup.

7. Discussion and Possible Action on "cleanup" events for 2023, and "beautification" events for 2023:

Faye advised that dividing the Beautification events into two parts, one to just "clean" an area and one to "beautify" an area, will open more opportunities for the committee's activities.

The discussion for the January cleanup began with Heidi's suggestion to move the cleanup to late in the month so the school kids who help us will have already returned to classes. Christina suggested El Escorpion Park, entrance to which is at the end of Vanowen. Steve inquired if that park is part of West Hills. The committee agreed it is. Steve moved to have a cleanup of El Escorpion Park on January 28, 2023, from 9 AM to noon. ????? seconded the motion. Without further discussion, the motion passed with 7 Yes and 4 Absent.

The committee then went on to discuss the "beautification" events. All those who were in attendance were very interested in this kind of event. Many suggestions ... garden contest, garden tours, floral spreads, best parkway, most improved, multicategories, titling this as a showcase rather than a contest, and other ideas were expressed and discussed at length. Brad said this is do-able but will involve a lot of planning. Therefore, this matter was tabled to the November meeting, where a more specific initial plan will be discussed and chosen.

8. Discussion and Possible Action on Creating a Community Garden:

This item also received many comments and suggestions, such as getting mulch and irrigation to areas to keep plants alive, choosing a great variety of plants and trees, getting stakeholders interested in assisting and preparing a community garden, choosing a location, and costs. Members requested more time to think about this topic also, so this matter was also tabled.

9. Discussion and Possible Action on Right-of-Way (ROW) letters:

Brad and Heidi advised that they have not yet issued ROW letters to the houses east of Woodlake, as suggested at the prior meeting. Steve asked that four houses on the north side of Roscoe, east of Fallbrook, should also be considered for ROW letters. Brad, Heidi, and Steve agreed that the areas surrounding the sidewalk and items hanging over sidewalks and low-lying branches must be given ROW letters and probably a call to 311 to report them.

#### 10. Strike Team Reports:

Steve advised he cut low-hanging branches at three houses. Heidi suggested several members should get together and address the south side of Platt along Sherman Way or Platt from Candlewood down. Steve suggested parkway trees which block stop signs, particularly on Eccles east of Fallbrook, and perhaps a ROW letter should be sent first, especially those places where the foliage blocks stop signs. Brad agreed. Heidi offered that if there are trees, etc. blocking stop signs and traffic lights, the City will clean those places up. Heidi said that if we take pictures of the blockages and send them to her, she will do the 311 calling.

The meeting was adjourned by Brad at 7:12 PM.