

IT'S OUR NEIGHBORHOOD. LET'S BUILD A COMMUNITY.



West Hills Neighborhood Council
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**FINAL
MEETING MINUTES
May 7, 2015**

New Community Jewish High School
22622 Vanowen Street, West Hills, CA 91304

ATTENDANCE:

Present: Aida Abkarians, Eric Agusztiny, Sandi Bell, Dan Brin, Margery Brown, Bob Brostoff, Michael Castro, Nicole Flessati, Carolyn Greenwood, Bonnie Klea, Elliot Maggin, Steve Randall, Bill Rose, Charlene Rothstein, Barry Seybert, Ron Sobel, Bobbi Trantafello, Alec Uzemeck, Ed Young, Jacquie Young, Joanne Yvanek-Garb, Esperanza Butler

Absent:

Left Early: Margery Brown (9:55 pm), Joanne Yvanek-Garb (9:50 pm)

Opening Business

President Dan Brin called the meeting to order.

Secretary Nicole Flessati read the Roll Call and established a quorum

Vice President Charlene Rothstein led the Pledge of Allegiance

Meeting Minutes of April 2, 2015, were approved.

Comments From the Chair – skipped to allow for more time

Announcements

Council District 12 Field Deputy Ron Rubine reported LADWP is moving toward the next step on water restrictions like two-days-a-week watering, mandatory pool covers, etc. Interfaith Council Breakfast is set for June 4th, with breakfast at 9-9:30 and panels to help veterans deal with issues on the federal and local/city levels at 9:30-11. West Hills' Wings Over Wendy's will be there.

LAPD Senior Lead Officer Janet Zumstein (southern West Hills) said Capt. Hamilton is the new Patrol Captain at Topanga Station. There are three current openings for SLOs at Topanga. Crime

report: Keeping lights on and windows shut and installing cameras all help prevent home burglaries. Lock your cars, someone is roaming around checking car doors.

Guest Presentation

“Filming in West Hills for Movies and Television” – Guy Langlin from Film L.A.

Presentation

Certificates were presented to New Community Jewish High School student Edan Evanheim, for his community service, and to Key Club leader Mattin Devalar, along with the Chatsworth High Key Club, the El Camino Real Key Club and the Taft High Key Club, for their services at the Eggstravaganza Heath and Safety Fair.

New Business

Agenda Item 15-0019 — Discussion and possible action regarding reopening a pedestrian bridge connecting Gross and Lederer Avenues

Several stakeholders addressed the board. A discussion followed amongst the Board members. President Dan Brin then called for a vote. **The resolution as written was approved unanimously by all present with 22 yes votes and 0 “no” votes.**

Agenda Item 15-0018 — Discussion and possible action regarding reconsideration of a Conditional Use Permit (ENV-2009-982-MND-REC1) to allow an existing 30-student preschool at 22566 Vanowen St. to accommodate 45 students in the RS-1 zone with hours of operation 7 a.m.- 6 p.m., Monday through Friday

The Zoning and Planning committee recommendation was to NOT approve/support the request to change the existing CUP.

The Board voted to recommend denial, with the exception of board member Carolyn Greenwood – 21:1 in favor of denying the increase.

Agenda Item 15-0016 - Discussion and possible actions regarding an appointment to fill a vacancy on the West Hills Neighborhood Council Board

The vacancy was left by Ed Crowe, with a term expiring in 2018. Charlene Rothstein and Steve Randall of the Ad Hoc Board Vacancy Committee presented the recommendation that Simone Best be appointed to the Council. Another candidate, Reeyan Raynes, withdrew his candidacy.

A vote was taken by the Board, which unanimously voted for the appointment of Simone Best. Ms. Best then took her place on the board.

Agenda Item 15-0017 — Discussion of facts pertaining to board member Todd Marks’ absences, leading to possible announcement of a vacancy.

Charlene Rothstein and Steve Randall of the Ad Hoc Board Vacancy Committee reported that the attendance record demonstrates that Mr. Marks exceeded the allowable number of absences

under the WHNC bylaws.

No further action being needed, President Dan Brin announced that the board positions previously occupied by Todd Marks and Ruwan Kotuwelle, who had resigned, have been vacated and applications for candidates to fill those seats are being accepted over the next 30 days.

Old Business

Agenda Item 14-0060 – Discussion and possible action regarding approval of a new WHNC logo.

President Dan Brin called for a vote. **The board voted unanimously to approve the logo that reflects the medallions already on the streets in West Hills, with the exception of Mr. Brin, who voted for another choice.**

New Business

Agenda Item 15-0014 — Discussion and possible action on a community impact statement endorsing the 2015 Budget Advocates' White Paper.

Discussion took place, with Elliot Maggin stating that it is inadequate with “vague goals and no pathways.” Vice President Charlene Rothstein called for more details as well.

Dan Brin called for a vote by hand. **The motion passed with 18 “yes” votes and one “no” vote from board member Michael Castro and one abstention from board member Jacquie Young. Board members Barry Seybert and new board member Simone Best were ineligible to vote, as was board member Joanne Yvanek-Garb.**

Agenda Item 15-0015 — Discussion and possible action on a community impact statement supporting a City Council motion instructing the City Administrative Officer to review the 2015 Budget Advocates White Paper and to provide additional feedback for consideration in the budget process for the 2015-2016 Fiscal Year

President Dan Brin called for a vote; item was approved with 19 “yes” votes and one “no” vote from board member Michael Castro. Board members Barry Seybert, Simone Best and Joanne Yvanek-Garb were ineligible to vote.

(Joanne Yvanek-Garb left the room at 9:50 pm; Margery Brown left at 9:55 pm)

Agenda Item 15-0020 — Discussion and possible action regarding approval of the WHNC's April 2015 spending reports

Dan Brin called for a roll call vote, a vote was taken and the spending report for April was approved with 18 yes votes, 1 abstention, 3 absent and 1 ineligible.

Agenda Item 15-0021 – Discussion and possible action regarding the allocation of up to and including \$1,700. (Details attached.)

A motion was made by Bob Brostoff to amend the motion to read as follows:

Discussion and possible action regarding the allocation of up to and including \$1,800.

Dan Brin called for a vote. **Motion approved with 19 yes votes and 1 no vote by Nicole Flessati, 1 ineligible board member (Seybert), with 3 board members absent. Item is approved.**

Agenda Item 15-0022 — Discussion and possible action regarding approval of the WHNC Elections Stipulation Worksheet

A motion was made by Bob Brostoff to amend the stipulation sheet to state that the board approves online voting with voter self-affirmation. A vote was called by Dan Brin. **With 6 opposed, the motion passes.**

Dan Brin called for a vote on the stipulation sheet in total – to adopt the election sheet as amended. **Vote passes with 1 member opposed (Sandi Bell) and 1 abstention.**

Agenda Item 15-0023 — Discussion and possible action regarding the appointment of two WHNC board members as Budget Advocates

President Dan Brin appointed Joanne Yvanek-Garb to represent West Hills on the Budget Advocates.

Agenda Item 15-0024 – Discussion and possible action regarding the appointment of a delegate and alternate delegate to represent West Hills on the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance

President Dan Brin appointed Alec Uzemeck and Simone Best to the NCSA.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 PM.