



CITY OF
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CALIFORNIA



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WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

BOARD ONLINE AND TELEPHONIC DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, July 1, 2021

Revised July 4, 2021

PRESENT: Aida Abkarians, Faye Barta, Sandi Bell, Dan Brin, Bob Brostoff, Esperanza Butler, Clarice Chavira, Tariq El-Atrache, Glenn Jennings, Carolyn Greenwood, Bonnie Klea, Vinura Kotuwelle, Saif Mogri, Mark Neudorff (arrived 9:00 PM est.), Steve Randall, Jason Romanello, Bill Rose, Char Rothstein, Anthony Scarce, Myrl Schreibman, Joan Trent, Alec Uzemeck, and Brad Vanderhoof.

ABSENT: Kent Mariconda, and Joanne Yvanek-Garb

President Charlene Rothstein called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

Secretary Brad Vanderhoof called roll and established quorum.

Vice President Faye Barta led the Pledge of Allegiance.

LA City Councilmember John Lee made a special presentation to outgoing WHNC President Dan Brin recognizing his 18 years of service to the community as a Board member and 8 years and 7 months serving as president.

Atziri Camerena, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, administered the Neighborhood Council Oath of Office to Jason Romanello.

Mr. Eric Moody, District Director CD12: Please visit the CD12 website for news. Community cleanups are ongoing – contact Mathew Vallecilla for assistance. Council Member Lee has been working on the anti-tenant harassment ordinance and trying to make it equitable to small business landlords. The sit/lay/sleep in public places ordinance did not receive the required unanimous vote to pass on a first reading Yes -- 13, No – 2. The second reading is scheduled for July 28 and a majority will be required to pass the motion.

LAPD SLO McNamee; Acting SLO Salter: SLO McNamee said there were 10 reported crimes in south West Hills the previous week. Four were violent crimes including one rape. An aggravated assault in the 23000 block of Calvert/ 6400 block of Ponce resulted in a use of force. The suspect has a history of mental illness and substance abuse and was still in custody at the time of officer McNamee's report. There were two robberies; one at CVS resulting from a shoplifting incident and the other at an apartment resulting from a marijuana deal gone bad. Grand theft auto is up 32% in the area and is mainly cars left unlocked or with the key fob to start the ignition left in the car. Contact SLO Kari at 36881@lapd.online

Bob Brostoff said he sent photos of illegal fireworks activity at Sean Brown Park. SLO Solter committed to having extra patrols in the evenings to try and catch the perpetrators.

SLO Solter said there were 6 reported crimes in the northern part of West Hills last week; 2 aggravated assaults, 2 residential burglaries, and 2 thefts from Lowe's. There were also 2 accidents caused by excessive speed of motorcycles; one of which resulted in a fatality. "Theft by trickery" is an ongoing problem. Do not respond to online requests to purchase gift cards or provide personal financial information. Contact SLO Solter at 32514@LAPD.online

Blake Clayton, West Valley/Mt. Communities Field Deputy & Caseworker, LA County Supervisorial District 3: Masks are still important. Covid cases have double from last week. New guidelines will be forthcoming. The County moratorium on rental evictions has been extended until September 30.

Atziri Camarena, Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE): All Board members are encouraged to take the NC on-boarding training. The City Clerk will have a Fiscal Admin Packet workshop on July 8, 2021 from 2-3:30 and July 22 from 6-7:30. Advanced funding training for treasurers and second signers will be offered in July. The Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (BONC) approved a motion to extend the protocol of virtual meetings for NCs to December 31, 2021. This is dependent on possible changes to CA state law.

Christine Rowe asked if stakeholders who are not Board members but serve on committees need to take DONE training. Ms. Camarena said she would investigate and respond.

Controller's Report: Controller Saif Mogri said as of June 30 the invoices match what is reported by the City Clerk. The WHNC has spent \$33079.14 and there are two outstanding invoices.

Chair Comments: None.

Public Comment: Zach Volet said the WHNC has not posted minutes since February and has failed to file 12 approved community impact statements. He said this has not changed since he brought up the subject at the June Operations Committee meeting. Zach also asked why the reconsideration of the appointment of Bob Brostoff as Co-chair of the Streets and Transportation Committee is not on the agenda. Chris Rowe spoke about the night's redistricting meeting and her desire to have West Hills in Council District 3. Christina Walsh said she hopes the statement about disparaging remarks read at the start of the meeting will be uniformly applied. Bernard Feinstein expressed interest in the small business eviction moratorium and landlord protection.

Certificate presentation was postponed to August as no honorees were in attendance.

Dan Brin said he met with Jesse Gabriel, Member California State Assembly District 45, to discuss problems neighborhood councils have and difficulties complying with the Ralph M. Brown Act.

Old Business:

21-0058 - DCIS/CF 21-0002-S121 Electric Vehicle Charging Station / Installation Application / Vehicle Emissions Reduction / AB 970 (McCarthy and Chiu): The proposed CIS is to support the council file if amended. Change the 5 day requirement for application approval to 15 days and the 20 day automatic approval to 45 days.

Yes – 20, No – 0, Abstain – 0, Absent – 3, Ineligible 2
The CIS is approved.

21-0059 - CIS/CF 21-0002-S77 Speed Safety System Pilot Programs / California Vehicle Code Amendment / Street Safety Tool / Speed-Related Fatalities / AB 550 (Chiu): Aida Abkarians asked to remove the name of Colleen Wong out of respect for her family. Anthony agreed. The signatures on the document will be of the

current WHNC President and Vice President. Myrl moved to amend the motion to read, “Many tragic deaths have occurred because of drivers travelling at high rates of speed on surface streets.” Joan seconded.

Yes – 20, No – 0, Abstain – 0, Absent – 3, Ineligible – 2
The CIS is amended.

Approval of the CIS

Yes – 20, No – 0, Abstain – 0, Absent – 3, Ineligible – 2
The CIS is approved and will be filed with the City Clerk.

21-0060 - CIS regarding City Council File 21-0407, City Clerk be directed to report on the costs associated with administering the existing non-standardized Neighborhood Council election systems, and provide recommendations for streamlining a Neighborhood Council elections, and potential cost savings that could result from standardizing Neighborhood Council election rules.

CIS in Opposition

Yes – 18, No – 2, Abstain – 1, Absent – 3, Ineligible – 2

21-0061 - Letter to Councilmember John Lee with copies to Sen. Henry Stern and Assembly Member Jesse Gabriel regarding the hidden intricacies of SB50: This item was sent back to the Government Relations Committee for further review. Item tabled to August.

New Business:

21-0062 - Appointment of board member Saif Mogri as Co-chair to the WHNC Budget Committee:

Yes – 20, No – 0, Abstain – 0, Absent – 2, Ineligible – 3
The appointment of Saif Magri is confirmed.

21-0063 - WHNC’s May Monthly Expenditure Report (MER):

Yes – 20, No – 0 Abstain – 0, Absent – 2, Ineligible – 3

21-0064 - Approval of 2021-2022 Administrative Package: Treasurer Greenwood explained the current budget package does not include rollover funds.

Yes – 20, No – 0, Abstain – 0, Absent – 2, Ineligible – 3

21-0065 - Appointment of board members Esperanza Butler and Myrl Schreibman as co-chairs to the WHNC Homelessness Committee:

Confirmation of Esperanza Butler as Co-chair of the Homelessness Committee

Yes – 19, No – 0, Abstain – 1, Absent – 2, Ineligible – 3

Confirmation of Myrl Schreibman as Co-chaair of theWHNC Homelessness Committee

Yes – 16, No – 1 Abstain – 3, Absent – 2, Ineligible – 3

21-0066 - Medians on Fallbrook (north of Roscoe) at Schoenborn Street and Eccles Street. The proposed plan is regarding the fulfillment of T condition (g) from CPC-2007-237: Dave Curtis presented a plan and explained the DOT will not approve the design incorporating bollards submitted to and approved by the WHNC Zoning and Planning Committee. The new design does not incorporate bollards.

Approval of a letter in support

Yes – 19, No – 0, Abstain – 1, Absent – 2, Ineligible – 3

21-0067 - Neighborhood council event approval form for a Beautification Clean-Up Event to be held on July 31, 2021:

Yes – 20, No – 0, Abstain – 0, Absent – 2 Ineligible – 3

Treasurer Greenwood will submit the approved form.

21-0068 – Neighborhood council event approval form for a Special Events event to be held on July 24:

Yes – 20, No – 0, Abstain – 0, Absent – 2, Ineligible – 3

21-0069 - WHNC New Member Handbook:

Anthony Scarce moved to require DONE approval before the document is published. Tariq seconded.

Yes – 3, No – 12, Abstain – 4, Absent – 3, Ineligible – 3

The amendment does not pass.

Approval of the handbook;

Yes – 16, No – 1, Abstain – 2, Absent – 3, Ineligible – 3

21-0073 - Sidewalk and Transit Amenities Program (STAP) Digital Displays in West Hills:

Yes -- 18, No – 1, Abstain – 0, Absent – 3, Ineligible -- 3

21-0070 - Letter to Councilmember John Lee regarding designation of the Orcutt Ranch Monarch Butterfly Habitat:

Yes -- 19, No – 0, Abstain – 0, Absent – 3, Ineligible -- 3

21-0071 - Letter to Mayor Eric Garcetti regarding signing the National Wildlife Federation's Mayors' Pledge on Dec. 1, 2021:

21-0072 - Resolution regarding passive infrared sensor-controlled traffic signals: Item tabled to August.

President Rothstein adjourned the meeting at 10:50 PM