

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



## West Hills Neighborhood Council

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### HOMELESSNESS SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

**January 16, 2017**

**West Hills Hospital, West Hills**

**Revised January 19, 2017**

Those in attendance were: Simone Best, Tom Booth, Aida Abkarians, Anthony Brosamle, Debi Brown – community stakeholder, Olivia Naturman, Joan Trent, Alec Uzemeck, and Brad Vanderhoof.

Committee Co-Chair Simone Best called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM. A quorum was established.

Numbers refer to agenda items:

2. The December 2016 meeting minutes were approved as amended.
3. Chair Comments: Tom reviewed the homeless liaison meeting he attended in Reseda. Tom also gave a status report on the preparations for the Homeless Count stating the process is progressing well. West Hills has significantly more volunteers signed up than the neighboring communities. The only other participating neighborhood council in SPA-2 is Sylmar. The chairs introduced Olivia as the new WHNC animal services liaison and asked her to say a few words. Olivia discussed the services available for animals owned by homeless individuals and mentioned there is an effort to establish a service center in North Hollywood. Having a mobile clinic service West Hills would be possible if a suitable location was found. Simone said she would ask LAPD senior lead officers for West Hills to attend the next committee meeting.
4. Public Comments: Debi spoke about animal therapy and how animals can be very important to homeless individuals.
5. San Fernando Rescue Mission shower project: Fiona's report, "Shower Report from Fiona Kilner rcvd 1/16/17" was distributed to the group. Tom stated the two mobile shower facilities operated by Council District 12 do not come to West Hills and the committee should try to find a location the units could use. Simone proposed having the committee meet with Councilmember Mitchell Englander, and a workgroup composed of Aida, Olivia, Tony, Tom, and Simone was formed to draft a proposal.
6. West Hills faith community tracking: Simone reported that pastor Morehead asked that The Church at Rocky Peak be included. Tony mentioned he gets lots of questions concerning homelessness from parishioners at St. Bernadine of Siena. Olivia volunteered to contact all the faith communities and will add a field for contact date to the tracking list. Tom will investigate the shower schedule for Living Praise Christian Center in Chatsworth. Alec will contact Eddie Sanders to find out when the next Connect Day is scheduled. He will also contact Corrine Ho to coordinate a joint Connect Day with the Canoga Park Neighborhood Council. Aida asked Olivia to add Prince of Peace Church in Woodland Hills to the list. Brad asked that Shepard of the Valley Lutheran Church be added.
8. Operating rules: tabled to February

9. NPG status: Alec reported on NPG status and stated that the food pantry will be on the agendas for the next Operations Committee meeting and the February Board meeting. The Lutheran Social Services NPG has not been paid yet. Tony asked that the committee request that the WHNC treasurer and controller provide a summary and status of correspondence with DONE concerning NPGs.
10. Local family support: tabled to February
11. Speaking engagement: Tom reported on a presentation about homelessness he and Simone gave at a Unitarian Church.
12. Parking issues report from Streets and Transportation Committee: tabled to February as the December Streets and Transportation Committee meeting was cancelled.
13. Operating rules: duplicate item, see item 8
14. Homeless Connect Day: see item 6
15. New business: Tony asked the committee members to begin thinking about possible projects for the November 2017 Church at Rocky Peak service day.
7. 2017 Homeless Count: Tom stated that 34 people had signed up to volunteer including Dennis Zine. He has been promoting the event on Twitter, Facebook, and Crimestoppers social media sites. Simone said all counting will be done from vehicles and each vehicle will contain a driver, navigator, and one or two counters. Tom said he sent out an email with a training video. Tom reported the West Hills count team is half way to its goal of 70 volunteers, which is farther than any other team in the area.

Simone adjourned the meeting at 7:33 PM.

The next meeting of this committee will be held: February 20, 2017, 6:00 PM, West Hills Hospital, first floor conference room