

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



West Hills Neighborhood Council

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FINAL MEETING MINUTES

August 6, 2015

De Toledo High School
22622 Vanowen Street, West Hills, CA 91304

ATTENDANCE

Present: Aida Abkarians, Eric Augusztiny, Sandi Bell, Simone Best, Dan Brin, Bob Brostoff, Esperanza Butler, Anthony Brosamle, Michael Castro, Nicole Flessati, Carolyn Greenwood, Bonnie Klea, Elliot Maggin, Steve Randall, Reeyan Raynes, Bill Rose, Charlene Rothstein, Barry Seybert, Ron Sobel, Bobbi Trantafello, Alec Uzemec, Ed Young, Jacquie Young and Joanne Yvanek-Garb

Absent: Eric Augusztiny and Carolyn Greenwood

Excused: Margery Brown

OPENING BUSINESS

President and Co-Chair Dan Brin called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. Secretary Nicole Flessati called roll and announced an initial attendance of 22 board members, establishing a quorum. Vice President and Co-Chair Charlene Rothstein led the Pledge of Allegiance. July 2015 meeting minutes were approved.

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

President Dan Brin mentioned that the agenda item regarding the Circle S ranch is off the agenda as it has become a dead issue and agenda item 15-030 as well is being pulled from the agenda due to late developments. The subject of agenda item 15-030 will be on the agenda of the Tuesday night Zoning and Planning meeting next week. On Monday morning, the Glenn V. Smith in West Hills Helispot was dedicated, the the culmination of years of work. Plaques are mounted at the helispot honoring the late LAFD pilot Glenn V. Smith.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CD 12 Deputy Field Representative Ron Rubine talked about the Chatsworth Ecology Pond and the complex dynamic there. CD12 is looking into long-term solutions and cares about the issue. Dan Brin will be speaking at Lazy J Ranch Park on Aug. 7 during the dedication of new playground equipment there. A Coyote Town Hall is coming up on Aug. 16 at Mason Park. The Restricted Overnight Parking signs that were requested are in the works, they are approved and they are just waiting to be installed. The reopening of the Haynes Street Bridge is working its

way through the process; there have been orders to comply. The city's law to make the possession of ammunition magazines 10 rounds or over is in the works as well. "Conversations with Councils" is coming up on Sept. 9 at the San Fernando Valley Mission to discuss the issue of homelessness in the valley. Mr. Rubine thanked the WHNC for co-sponsoring CD12's Movie under the Stars event at Shadow Ranch Park, even if it was rained out.

Law Enforcement: West Hills North has a new Senior Lead Officer (SLO), Sean Brown. He will be at the September Board Meeting. SLO Janet Zumstein (West Hills South) announced the Golf Tournament coming up that supports local children. She is requesting that the council sponsor a "tee sign." Individual golf play is \$150. Event is Oct. 26, 2015. She is looking for sponsors.

Lastly, the current quarterly Neighborhood Watch newsletter has a lot of tips on avoiding a home burglary. Her goal is to have one month with ZERO crime.

Recently elected School Board Member Scott Schmerelson said his office is staffed every day and is located in Granada Hills in the Birmingham High School complex. Ankar Patel and Sara Bradshaw are his staff members and his email address is Scott.Schmerelson@lausd.net. He is working on the LAUSD superintendent search.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Govt. Relations Chair Joanne Yvanek-Garb said the City Council is looking into short-term rental issues. The City Council has approved the new city Mobility Plan.

Barry Seybert, Streets and Transportation: A SAR (Small Asphalt Repair) truck is coming to make small asphalt repairs on West Hills streets. Dan Brin will revisit the locations in advance but there are no guarantees as to what locations are actually going to be repaired.

Bill Rose, Zoning and Planning: The development on Sherman way is being downsized. Go to this month's meeting as it will be discussed.

Bob Brostoff, Emergency Preparedness: Meeting next Thursday.

Alec Uzemec, Environment : Meeting is Wednesday, Aug. 12, at the Hidden Lake clubhouse.

Sandi Bell, Public Health: WHNC website has health tips.

Michael Castro, Beautification Committee: Aug. 15 is the Bell Canyon Trail cleanup. Bring long attire as you'll be working in a brush area. Wear sunscreen! Also, in November the Church at Rocky Peak will send out another 1000 volunteers to work on projects throughout the area.

PRESENTATION

Timothy Lippman, Senior Field Deputy for Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, Third District County of Los Angeles, spoke of services provided by the county. He said he is available to work with the WHNC on projects. CONTACT INFO: lippman@bos.lacounty.gov .

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Charlene Rothstein led public comments. Speakers were asked to keep comments limited to two minutes.

Ara Grigorian, West Hills resident: A neighbor at 8420 Melba Ave/ is using his house as a center of operation for his business. It includes employee vehicles. The front yard is a dump site and they are not maintaining their house or the safety around the house. He would like some action taken to resolve these issues promptly. Neighbors are also present to complain about these neighbors. Mr. Grigotian said he has reached out to various government officials to no response. Various members of the board referred him to Building and Safety. Beverly Lazor and Tomas Herrera are also stakeholders and neighbors who attended to complain about the same house.

NEW BUSINESS

Agenda Item 15-0030 – Discussion and possible action regarding development of property located at 22650 Sherman Way, West Hills – **REMOVED FROM AGENDA**

Agenda Item 15-0031 - Discussion and possible action on amending the WHNC stipulation sheet to require documentation to confirm stakeholder status for both online and in-person voting in the 2016 elections. Simone Best made motion to amend West Hills' voter stipulation sheet to require documentation to confirm stakeholder status both in-person and online. After discussion, a vote was taken. Barry Seybert seconded the motion. **Motion passed with fourteen (14) YES, five (5) NO and one (1) abstention.**

Agenda Item 15-0032 – Discussion and possible action regarding proposed Historic Cultural Monument status for Circle S Ranch at Woodlake Avenue and Saticoy Street – **REMOVED FROM AGENDA**

Agenda Item 15-0033 – Discussion and possible action regarding approval of the WHNC's July 2015 spending reports.

The July spending reports were approved with 17 yes votes, 1 abstention and 1 Ineligible vote.

Agenda Item 15-0034 – Discussion and possible action on six proposed community impact statements concerning: 2) an app for reports to the LAPD, 4) allowing pets in rental units, 1) additional funding for Neighborhood Councils, ~~city review of the Budget Advocates' 2015 White Paper~~, 5) watershed and water conservation, and 3) street vending.

Votes were taken on each item after a discussion took place.

- 1) Unanimously approved (20 yes votes with no opposing votes or abstentions).**
- 2) Approved with a friendly amendment to remove the first paragraph (20 yes votes, no opposing votes or abstentions).**
- 3) Approved with 18 yes votes, 4 no votes, 0 abstentions.**
- 4) Approved with 10 yes votes and 8 no votes.**
- 5) Tabled**

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

CASH Status Analysis							
Category Identifier	Budget Category	Budget (A)	Cash Deposited to Date (B)	Undeposited Funds (C) = A - B	Cash Spent to Date (D)	Cash In-Bank Remaining Balance (E) = B - D	Uncommitted Budget Balance (F) = A - D
100	Operations	\$17,588.00	\$3,904.33	\$13,683.67	\$0.00	\$3,904.33	\$17,588.00
200	Outreach	\$8,295.00	\$1,841.68	\$6,453.32	\$0.00	\$1,841.68	\$8,295.00
300	Community Improvement	\$150.00	\$33.68	\$116.32	\$0.00	\$33.68	\$150.00
400	NPG	\$8,967.00	\$1,991.18	\$6,975.82	\$0.00	\$1,991.18	\$8,967.00
500	Elections	\$2,000.00	\$443.58	\$1,556.42	\$0.00	\$443.58	\$2,000.00
	TOTAL	\$37,000.00	\$8,214.45	\$28,785.55	\$0.00	\$8,214.45	\$37,000.00

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL DECLARATION			
<p>We, <u>Bobbi Trantafello</u> (Treasurer Name) and <u>Dan Brin</u> (Signer Name), declare that we are the Treasurer and Signer, respectively of the <u>West Hills</u> Neighborhood Council (NC) and that on <u>Aug. 6, 2015</u> (date adopted), a Brown Act noticed public meeting was held by the <u>West Hills</u> NC with a quorum of <u> </u> board members present and that by a vote of <u> </u> (number) yes, <u> </u> (number) no, and <u> </u> (number) abstentions the <u>West Hills</u> NC adopted the Monthly Expenditure Report for the month of <u>April</u> (month), 2014-2015 (year).</p>			
Treasurer Signature		Signer's Signature	
Print Name	Bobbi Trantafello	Print Name	Dan Brin
jDate	August 6, 2015	Date	August 6, 2015
NC Additional Comments			

Revision Date 9-18-14

WHNC Controller's Expense Report
July, 2015

Budget 2014-2015	Category	Budgeted Amount	Previous Balance	Previously Spent	Spent This Month	Total Spent to Date	Accrued Balance
Operations							
Admin Staff	Operations	16,988.00	16,988.00		0.00	0.00	16,988.00
Meeting Rent	Operations	600.00	600.00		0.00	0.00	600.00
Sub Total		17,588.00	17,588.00		0.00	0.00	17,588.00
Outreach and all other							
Admin Misc	Outreach	1,300.00	1,300.00		0.00	0.00	1,300.00
Elections	Outreach	2,000.00	2,000.00		0.00	0.00	2,000.00
VANC	Outreach	200.00	200.00		0.00	0.00	200.00
Icontact	Outreach	300.00	300.00		0.00	0.00	300.00
Congress	Outreach	100.00	100.00		0.00	0.00	100.00
Fall Fest	Outreach	2,400.00	2,400.00		0.00	0.00	2,400.00
WHNC Emerg Forum	Outreach	500.00	500.00		0.00	0.00	500.00
Advertising - CP/WH Chamber	Outreach	520.00	520.00		0.00	0.00	520.00
Budget Advocates	Outreach	100.00	100.00		0.00	0.00	100.00
General Communications	Outreach	500.00	500.00		0.00	0.00	500.00
Gnrl Communications Bus Benches	Outreach	600.00	600.00		0.00	0.00	600.00
Outreach - Badges		275.00	275.00		0.00	0.00	275.00
Memorial Day Parade	Outreach	500.00	500.00		0.00	0.00	500.00
Sponsorship 5k10k	Outreach	1,000.00	1,000.00		0.00	0.00	1,000.00
Sub total		10,295.00	10,295.00		0.00	0.00	10,295.00
EP	NPG	4,000.00	4,000.00		0.00	0.00	4,000.00
Education	NPG	4,717.00	4,717.00		0.00	0.00	4,717.00
YMCA	NPG	250.00	250.00		0.00	0.00	250.00
Sub Total		8,967.00	8,967.00		0.00	0.00	8,967.00
Beautification	Community Improvement	150.00	150.00		0.00	0.00	150.00
Sub Total		150.00	150.00		0.00	0.00	150.00
Total		37,000.00	37,000.00		0.00	0.00	37,000.00

* \$750 to be used for NPG For 8th Annual Vlley Disaster Prep Fair

**Community Impact Statement
West Hills Neighborhood Council
Council File 15-0600 S72
Additional Funding for the Neighborhood Councils**

The West Hills Neighborhood Council supports Motion 15-0600 S72 made by Herb Wesson, Jr. and seconded by Paul Krekorian that the City Council, subject to the approval of the Mayor, appropriate \$480,000 from the line in the Unappropriated Balance, Fund 100-58, entitled "Neighborhood Councils" to the Neighborhood Empowerment Fund No. 44B-47, Account No. 47M238 for subsequent allocation in the First Financial Status Report, if not sooner, to increase individual Neighborhood Councils' funding.

Submitted by:

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**Community Impact Statement
West Hills Neighborhood Council
Council File 15-066 S72**

The West Hills Neighborhood Council supports the City Council File 15-0273 as motioned by Paul Krekorian and Herb J. Wesson, Jr. and seconded by Nury Martinez. This motion instructs the City Administrative Officer to review the recommendations in the Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates 2015 White Paper and to provide additional feedback for consideration in the budget process for the 2015-2016 Fiscal Year.

**Community Impact Statement
West Hills Neighborhood Council
Council File 13-0154 S1
Mobil App for the Los Angeles Police Department**

The use of a mobile app would not only create efficiencies in police reporting, but would also allow police departments to keep more officers out in the field by reducing the time needed to complete the required paper forms. This is crucial for departments who may be facing issues with their staffing and who struggle to maintain a consistent level of deployment coverage.

The West Hills Neighborhood Council supports the motion made by Mitch Englander and seconded by Bob Blumenfield that the City Council instruct the Los Angeles Police Department to examine the benefits and report on the feasibility of using a mobile app to expedite and automate police reporting, similar to the one being utilized by the Palm Springs Police Department, and the costs to pilot the use of a mobile app for police reporting in the City of Los Angeles.

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**Community Impact Statement
West Hills Neighborhood Council
Council File 13-1493 S2
Sidewalk/Street Vending – LA City Parks and Recreational Facilities**

Given that the City is currently undergoing efforts to develop a street vending program, there should be a similar effort in regards to City parks, as well as outreach to the public in regards to the recently proposed changes governing vending at City parks and recreational facilities.

The West Hills Neighborhood Council therefore moves and supports the motion made by Curren D. Price and seconded by Jose Huizar that the City Council instruct the Department of Recreation and Parks to work with the CLA on the citywide effort to address the regulation of street vending, per CF 13-1493, and to made by develop a compatible permit process for vending in City parks and recreational facilities.

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**Community Impact Statement
West Hills Neighborhood Council
Council File 15-0843
Allow Pets in Rental Units**

More than 2 million L.A. residents (approximately 62%) are tenants and estimates are that more than half the housing stock consists of rental units that do not accept companion animals. Such non-acceptance of companion pets are cause for eviction, moving to new housing and the relinquishing of much loved pets to animal shelters. As a result, many animals are euthanized and pet owners are devastated by their loss.

West Hills Neighborhood Council supports motion 15-0843 as made by Paul Koretz and seconded by Mitch O'Farrell that the Los Angeles Department of Animal Services (LAAS) and the Housing and Community Investment Department (HCID) solicit input from organizations representing tenants (such as the Coalition for Economic Survival, Inner City Law Center, Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles, Housing Rights Center and BetTzekek Legal Services) and organizations representing landlords (such as the Apartment Association of Greater Los Angeles and the California Apartment Association) and make recommendations within 180 days to the City Council on programs and/or regulations that could facilitate the expansion of animal adoptions by tenants in residential rental properties, including programs to better inform tenants of their rights in regards to animal ownership, while taking into consideration the welfare of the animals and the concerns, both financial and for the physical property, that landlords and other tenants may have; and they further move that applicable laws in other cities be reviewed to determine if their provisions should be considered as a basis for developing regulations or incentives for the City of Los Angeles.

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**Community Impact Statement
West Hills Neighborhood Council
Council File 15-0768
Water Shed and Water Conservation**

There is growing consensus around the value of parcel-based stormwater management, a "watershed approach" that synergistically treats each site as a mini-watershed where water is Captured, Conserved, and Reused, as follows:

- Capturing at least the first 1" of rainwater with rain tanks, permeable surfaces, and grading strategies like bioswales, berms and basins to help manage stormwater onsite, improve water quality, reduce local flooding, and recharge local groundwater.
- Conserving outdoor water use by installing landscaping with at least 60% SoCal native, climate-appropriate plants and trees that support wildlife habitat and preserve our region's biodiversity, and with the use of mulch and organic ground covers that mitigate heat island impacts, build healthy soils, and help sequester carbon.
- Minimize use of water and utilize more water reuse to help maintain our urban forest and support landscape and ecosystem needs without additional potable supplies.

West Hills Neighborhood Council supports the motion made by Paul Koretz and Paul Krekorian and seconded by Jose Huizar that the Department of Water and Power and the Bureau of Sanitation, and with the consultation of stakeholders, be requested/directed to evaluate and present the City Council within 60 days options to incentivize applicants to meet this multi-benefit "watershed approach." Such options should include tiered rebate levels, on-bill financing, and measures to ensure fair geographic and economic distribution of rebate funds. Additionally, the options should describe their potential to accelerate or diminish expected water savings from turf removals and encourage direct groundwater recharge and infiltration where applicable. The Department of Water and Power and the Bureau of Sanitation shall be directed to report back to City Council in 60 days on potential funding sources to help incentivize residents to adopt the "watershed approach."

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