

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



## West Hills Neighborhood Council

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### **JOINT BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE/BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday March 28, 2017**

**Chaminade High School, West Hills**

**Revised March 31, 2017**

Those in attendance were: Reeyan Raynes, Faye Barta, Tom Booth, Carolyn Greenwood, Heidi Manning, Olivia Naturman, Steve Randall, Ron Sobel, Michael Teitelbaum (left 6:45 est.), Joan Trent, Brad Vanderhoof, Barry Seybert (arrived 6:50), Myrl Schreiber (arrived 7:45), and Aida Abkarians (arrived 7:54).

Committee Co-Chair Reeyan Raynes called the meeting to order at 6:36 PM. A quorum was established.

The February 2017 Joint Beautification Committee/Board Meeting Minutes were approved as amended.

Numbers refer to agenda items:

3. Chair Comment: Reeyan reported Jessie Strobel from the CD12 office stated the city is still accepting bids for fencing at Lazy J Ranch Park and no decision has been made concerning fence type. Reeyan commented he is still researching the damaged fence along Bell Canyon Road residents are complaining about.
4. Public Comment: Faye stated there is a semi-vacant plot of land at Highlander and Platt that has become an eyesore with vegetation blocking the sidewalk. She also stated a similar situation exists on Highlander near Valley Circle. In response Heidi informed the group there is a My311 option for reporting overgrown vegetation on private parcels and requesting weed abatement.
5. Next Two Months' Cleanup Projects: Reeyan announced the next event is scheduled for Saturday, April 8, 2017 from 8:30 to 11:30 AM at Platt Ave. and Haynes St. Meeting place is the southwest corner of Platt and Haynes.  
Heidi mentioned Western Bagel might be willing to donate day-old baked goods for the clean-up events. Heidi asked if something similar to 'adopt-a-block' could be implemented along Platt and Sherman Way and Reeyan described the application process. Olivia asked if the asphalt islands could be replaced with permeable surfaces and native plants, and if grants for this are available. Olivia will investigate grant possibilities. Carolyn mentioned that with decomposed granite weeds still are still a problem but maintenance is much easier. Reeyan asked the group for suggestions for the May clean-up event: Faye; Highlander and Platt, Heidi; north side of Roscoe from Jason to Valley Circle, Reeyan; Valley Circle and Kittridge median, Barry; near the West Hills sign at Victory and Valley Circle, south side of Saticoy/Ingomar, Ron; a vacant property on Woodlake.  
The group set May 20, 2017 from 8:30 to 11:30 AM as the date and time for the May cleanup event. Meeting place is the southeast corner of Victory and Valley Circle.
6. Committee Letters to the Community: Tom reported there is one house on Saticoy that needs a follow-up letter referencing municipal ordinances and possible fines for violations. Barry suggested copying the

Bureau of Street Services on the letter and Reeyan will provide contact information to Tom. Heidi suggested putting information concerning code enforcement and fines on the WHNC website and Reeyan will investigate. Ron suggested using door hangers and will provide information and pricing. Tom will work with Dan Brin to write a draft letter based on the Northridge sample letter, approved in February for use as a template by the committee, for the May meeting.

7. Funding Request of \$27.23 for a Tree Pruner: Reeyan explained this request is for a pole trimmer to cut branches beyond the reach of loppers. Brad opposed this purchase stating that; during clean-ups it is common to have difficulty bagging the amount of vegetation cut down with the loppers, a pole trimmer would increase the risk of injury or property damage, a pole trimmer is not necessary to accomplish the main clean-up goal of removing overgrown vegetation that encroaches on sidewalks and could lead to issues with privately owned trees being trimmed beyond the extent justifiable as necessary for the public good. Barry and Reeyan expressed agreement. Reeyan made a motion to approve the funding request. Ayes – 0, Noes – 9, Abstain – 0  
The motion was defeated.
8. Allocation of remaining Beautification Budget: Reeyan explained the committee has about \$500 remaining in the budget for fiscal year 2016/2017. Heidi described her idea for a mural on a blank wall near Valley Circle and Roscoe. Reeyan explained the process of requesting a grant from the Office of Cultural Affairs. Steve questioned if there is time for the grant request before the end of the current fiscal year. Reeyan distributed a draft brochure, titled ‘Keep West Hills Clean and Beautiful,’ he designed based on an example used by the Chatsworth NC. Barry suggested using some of the budget money to pre-print a door hanger version of the notification letter. After discussion and a debate on the relative merits of tri-fold brochures and door hangers, Reeyan made a motion to allocate \$350 of the Beautification Committee budget for brochures for outreach and Beautification events, and to approve a funding request for an amount not to exceed \$350 for purchase of tri-fold color brochures. Joan seconded.  
The motion passed unanimously pending approval of a final version of the brochure at the May committee meeting.  
Reeyan will prepare a revised draft brochure for the May meeting.
9. Additional Trash Bins: Brad reviewed a spreadsheet of bin locations at transit stops in West Hills. Reeyan reviewed the ‘CLEANSTAT Litter Bin Deployment Criteria.’ Reeyan made a motion to study locations at; Platt Village, the Fallbrook Mall, and along Medical Center Drive, for possible bin locations.  
The motion passed unanimously.
10. Mulch Location in West Hills: Item tabled until April.
11. MYLA311 Walks: Item tabled until April.
12. Vacant Public Parcel: Item tabled until April.

Committee Co-Chair Reeyan Raynes adjourned the meeting at 8:00 PM.

The next cleanup event is scheduled for Saturday, April 8, 2017 from 8:30 to 11:30 AM at Platt Ave. and Haynes St. Meeting place is the SW corner of Platt and Haynes.

The next meeting of this committee will be held: Tuesday, April 25, 2017 at 6:30 PM, Chaminade High School Condon Center, second floor conference room.