

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



West Hills Neighborhood Council

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JOINT GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE/BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**Monday February 20, 2017
Chaminade High School, West Hills
Revised February 22, 2017**

Those in attendance were: Simone Best, Joanne Yvanek-Garb, Aida Abkarians, Efren Lopez, Gisua Tarifn, Joan Trent, and Brad Vanderhoof.

Committee Co-Chair Simone Best called the meeting to order at 7:42 PM. A quorum was established.

The January meeting minutes were approved.

Numbers refer to agenda items:

6. The Committee Operating Rules were approved by unanimous consent.
4. Chair Comments: Joanne stated she would like committee members to attend the VANC mixer on March 9th, as it is a high profile event and a chance to meet with city officials.
5. Public Comments: None
7. CF15-1022-S2 Online Voting and Neighborhood Council Elections: Joanne expressed her desire to have the WHNC file a CIS as this would enable her to speak for five minutes on this item at a city council meeting. Joanne reviewed the amendments proposed by the VANC Executive Committee. Simone reviewed a letter from Grayce Liu, DONE General Manager, regarding NC elections. After discussion, the committee agreed on the following: Online voting is acceptable if the problems from the 2016 elections are resolved and the process is simplified for stakeholders, NC elections must include three components of voting 1. in person at a polling place, 2. online, 3. vote by mail. The minimum age to vote in WHNC elections should be 16. The proposed maximum of three ballot types is acceptable as WHNC has never used more than one ballot in past elections. Polling locations should offer the option to use either a tablet or a paper ballot. Self-affirmation of stakeholder qualification for voter registration is acceptable. Stakeholders should be able to register online and vote at a polling place without the need to re-register, and that registration should remain valid for future elections. EmpowerLA needs to provide receipts to stakeholders for both, registering to vote, and voting in an election. Committee members also expressed support for EmpowerLA expanding election outreach efforts so existing board members will not be expected to do extensive outreach to find candidates to run against them. The Committee unanimously approved Simone writing a CIS for CF15-1022 incorporating the agreed points, and submitting it to the Board.
8. Sanctuary Status Council Files and Resolutions: Simone gave background on motion 17-0080.

The 'Resolution to support maintaining Los Angeles as a Sanctuary City submitted by Myrl Scheibman' was amended to read:

Whereas, West Hills is a community made up of many ethnicities, and

Whereas, West Hills is a community of all faiths, and

Whereas, the West Hills Neighborhood Council represents the stakeholders in West Hills, and

Whereas, stakeholders in West Hills look to their council representatives to maintain an environment that nurtures life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness;

Therefore be it resolved that the West Hills Neighborhood Council supports the city in its efforts to maintain Los Angeles as a sanctuary city for all immigrants who seek a better life.

Joanne made a motion to submit the amended resolution to the Board.

Ayes -- 3, Noes -- 2, Abstain -- 0

The motion passed.

The Committee unanimously approved issuing a CIS for CF17-0080 in support of the motion made by Councilmember Paul Krekorian. Simone will prepare the CIS.

9. CF16-1456, Limiting Access to Children's Playgrounds: Item tabled until March.

10. VANC List of Council Files: Item tabled until March.

Simone adjourned the meeting at 9:42 PM.

The next meeting of this committee will be: March 20, 2016, 7:30 PM, Chaminade High School Condon Center, second floor conference room