



CITY OF
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CALIFORNIA



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WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

JOINT BOARD AND BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE ONLINE AND TELEPHONIC MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, December 21, 2021 @ 6:00 PM

In conformity with the September 16, 2021 enactment of California Assembly Bill 361 (Rivas) and due to concerns over Covid-19, the West Hills Neighborhood Council meeting will be conducted entirely with a call-in option or internet based service option. All are invited to attend and participate.

This meeting of the West Hills Neighborhood Council Beautification Committee will be conducted online via Zoom Webinar and telephonically. All are invited to attend and participate.

To attend online via Zoom Webinar, click or paste the following link into your browser: <https://zoom.us/j/99272551544>

To call in by phone, dial toll-free **833-548-0276**, then punch in this Webinar code when prompted: **992 7255 1544#**.

This meeting is open to the public. Comments on matters not on the agenda will be heard during the Public Comment period. Those who wish to speak on an agenda item will be heard when the item is considered.

AB 361 Updates: Public Comment cannot be required to be submitted in advance of the meeting, only real-time public comment is required. If there are any broadcasting interruptions that prevent the public from observing or hearing the meeting, the meeting must be recessed or adjourned. If members of the public are unable to provide public comment or be heard due to issues within the Neighborhood Council's control, the meeting must be recessed or adjourned.

Call to Order and Establish Quorum

1. Approval of Minutes of the November 2021 Meeting
2. Comments and Announcements from the Chairs
3. Public Comment
4. Discussion and Comments regarding the Environmental Awareness Day.
5. Discussion and Possible Action on Future Cleanup Events for January, February, March, April, May, June, and July; 2022 (six months' planning as was done before the pandemic).
6. LA City Park Maintenance Updates -- including reports from members regarding conditions of our local parks
7. Discussion and Possible Action on ROW Letters
8. Strike team Reports
9. Discussion and Possible Action on other Beautification Projects and prior Suggested Projects:
 - a. Attracting nurseries/garden shops to beautify an area and then get "free publicity" for the cleanup
 - b. Spring Plantings – locations and sponsors –
 - c. Suggestions for dog poop left by careless neighbors
 - d. Any new ideas???
10. Planning and Suggestions for Committee Direction and Activity in 2022.
11. Adjournment

The next meeting of this committee will be held on Tuesday, January 18, 2022 at 6:00 PM.

Public input at Neighborhood Council meetings: When prompted by the presiding officer, members of the public may address the committee on any agenda item before the committee takes an action on the item by punching in *9 (if calling in by phone) or by clicking on the “raise hand” button (if participating online through Zoom) and waiting to be recognized. Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the committee’s jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Ralph M. Brown Act, the committee is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future committee meeting. Public comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of said committee.

Notice to Paid Representatives - If you are compensated to monitor, attend, or speak at this meeting, city law may require you to register as a lobbyist and report your activity. See Los Angeles Municipal Code §§ 48.01 et seq. More information is available at ethics@lacity.org For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or ethics.commission@lacity.org

Public Posting of Agendas: WHNC agendas are posted for public review at Shadow Ranch Park, 22633 Vanowen St., West Hills, CA 91307 or at our website, www.westhillsnc.org. You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to the City of Los Angeles Early Notification System at www.lacity.org/government/Subscriptions/NeighborhoodCouncils/index.

The Americans With Disabilities Act: As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices and other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least three business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting via email NCsupport@lacity.org or calling (213) 978-1551. If you are hearing impaired please call 711.

Public Access of Records: In compliance with Government Code Section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting may be viewed at the meeting where such writing was considered or by contacting the WHNC’s executive director via email at Michelle.Ritchie@westhillsnc.org Requests can be made for a copy of a record related to an item on the agenda.

Reconsideration and Grievance Process: For information on the WHNC’s process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the WHNC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our website, www.WestHillsNC.org.

Servicios De Traducción: Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Por favor contacte Michelle.Ritchie@westhillsnc.org



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WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

JOINT BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE/BOARD ONLINE AND TELEPHONIC DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, November 16, 2021 @ 6:00 PM

Revised December 9, 2021

The Committee shall take official action by a simple majority of yes and no votes cast by the committee members present at a duly noticed regular or special Beautification Committee meeting, not to include abstentions. There shall be no proxy voting.

Numbers refer to agenda items:

1. Committee Co-Chair Brad Vanderhoof called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM. The meeting was recorded. Those in attendance: Faye Barta, Dan Brin, Tariq El-Atrache, Glenn Jennings, Heidi Manning, Steve Randall, Anthony Scarce, Myrl Schreiberman, Joan Trent, and Brad Vanderhoof. No committee members were absent. Also present was Board member Kent Mariconda.

Members of the public present were Reeyan Raynes, Christina Walsh, Annemarie Donkin, and 1-818-.....263.

A quorum was established.

2. The October 19, 2021 minutes were approved as amended.
3. Comments from the Chairs: None.
4. Public Comment: Reeyan Raynes said he plans to reach out to Councilmember John Lee's office for formal recognition of the trees on March Avenue. Christina Walsh said she will host a monarch butterfly booth at the Environmental Awareness Day event on Nov. 20, 2021.
5. Discussion and Comments Regarding the October 30, 2021 Cleanup Event at Orcutt Ranch Park.

Faye advised that Edgar Fuentes, Acting Park Maintenance Supervisor, texted her after our cleanup at Orcutt Ranch Park to thank us for what we had accomplished at the 10/30/2021 cleanup along March Avenue. Faye texted him back that in the future we will return to complete the rest of March Avenue and Justice Street. Dan stated that he thought the cleanup went very well and we should return to finish.

6. Discussion and Planning Action on the Event Scheduled for Nov. 20, 2021 (Environmental Awareness Day):

Faye advised that our committee and the Environment Committee will be co-hosting a table at the event and we will be giving out WHNC souvenirs like our logo bags, pens, info booklets, bag clips and bike flashers. Heidi asked what she should or can do to help. Brad said everyone volunteers to do whatever they want to do and there are no requirements. Brad also said no coffee cups will be given out because the Communications and Outreach Committee did not approve distribution. Anthony showed a map of the area and where our booth will be. Dan said he will be attending but not until later in the afternoon. Kent said he thinks this is a great outreach opportunity and he plans to be there. Christina advised that she and Heidi should take pictures and post them on social media.

7. Discussion and Possible Action on Future Cleanup Events for December, 2021, and January and February, 2022:

For the December cleanup, Faye reminded everyone that originally we had voted to paint hydrants in December, but that kind of event needs to be planned well in advance because of all the materials which need to be purchased and the outreach required. Faye suggested that instead we finish up the Orcutt Park cleanup. Heidi and Dan suggested that we finish up Fallbrook between Ingomar and Saticoy, which was left undone from a prior cleanup. Anthony moved to finish the Orcutt project. Faye seconded.

The vote was taken: Yes: Faye Barta, Tariq El-Atrache, Glenn Jennings, Heidi Manning, and Anthony Scarce.

No: Dan Brin, Joan Trent, and Brad Vanderhoof.

Abstain: Steve Randall and Myrl Schreiberman.

Yes – 5, No – 3, Abstain -- 2

The motion passed.

Christina mentioned that there are people who always go to Justice Street to enter the park, and there should be signs placed to direct people to the Roscoe entrance. Dan advised that the problem occurs because there has not been any progress on a sign for the correct entrance gate, and that the signs should be requested from Rec. and Parks by giving the request to Edgar.

For the January, 2022 cleanup, Dan moved to finish the Fallbrook project on January 22, 2022. Faye seconded.

The vote was taken: Yes: Faye Barta, Dan Brin, Tariq El-Atrache, Glenn Jennings, Heidi Manning, Steve Randall, Anthony Searce, Myrl Schreiberman, Joan Trent and Brad Vanderhoof.

Yes – 10, No: 0; Abstain: 0

The motion passed.

Faye said that we need to vote for food for the January cleanup. Anthony moved to spend \$50 for food for the event. Faye seconded.

The vote was taken: Unanimous for \$50 for food.

The motion passed.

8. Discussion and Possible Action on Creating a Community Garden; report on progress on “paper street” with Lee’s office by Brad and Steve; possibility of other locations.

Steve advised that he and Ron Rubine and the owner of the property next to the paper street have not yet heard back from the person at Councilman Lee’s office who was supposed to be investigating this. Steve said he will check and report back. Christina advised that using a mulch/chip drop would be the best option, and then hold an event to spread it out on the lot, and then give the remainder to the neighborhood. The mulch attracts worms and is free. Myrl advised the property is still owned by the City and there is also sewer access, which is a problem for planting. Brad said the paper street is part of a right-of-way, not a “real” property. He agreed free mulch is good but sometimes it contains detritus. Brad believes it would be best to work with LA Sanitation to acquire mulch. Steve reminded us that we can’t do anything regarding the paper street until the City makes a decision and he will follow up on that. Heidi reminded us that CSUN and CD 12 are interested in a pollinator park on the paper street and Chaminade is also interested in planting the paper street. Christina agreed with Heidi.

This item is tabled.

9. Discussion and Possible Action on Creation of a Pocket Park or Parklet – Related to LADOT Livable Streets Projects:

Heidi said there is no new information regarding this project. This matter is tabled.

10. Discussion and Possible Action on a West Hills’s Stakeholder’s Request to Plant Trees or Shrubs on the Empty Dividers on Valley Circle between Victory and Vanowen:

Brad, Heidi, Joan, and Christina expressed different problems related to undertaking this request, including needing to remove the asphalt presently on the dividers, making holes for trees, watering when no water sources are presently available, cleanups and watering would be required for these areas into perpetuity, even a community garden made up of box containers would require volunteers and/or a committee to keep clean and watered, homeowners nearby might have opposition to such plantings. Brad also stated that the entire project would be quite complicated and even the watering would be a huge project.

Based on this discussion this item was tabled.

11. Discussion and Possible Action on a West Hills Best Garden or Landscaping Contest, or Possibly a Photo Contest:

Myrl said he did not understand this item, and, in addition, there are many variables and problems. Heidi said with a photo contest, entrees could submit a picture of their landscaping, and one category could be most improved or unique garden or parkway. Steve said the only positive would be that such a contest could encourage some homeowners to improve their landscaping. And the photo aspect could possibly be done as we did with the Halloween decorations. However, Steve believes the wealthier people might have an advantage, but that is with anything we do, but it might be worth it, since it could encourage homeowners to improve their homesteads. Joan said it could also make others feel bad because of the economic differences. Myrl said hand-me-downs could be used but there are many problems with this topic. This matter is also tabled.

The following items were also tabled to December due to time constraints:

12. LA City Park Maintenance Updates, Including Reports from Members Regarding Conditions of our Local Parks:

13. ROW Letters:

14. Strike Team Reports:

15. Discussion and Possible Action on other Beautification Projects and Prior Suggested Projects:

16. Suggestions for the December Agenda:

Faye adjourned the meeting at 7:22 PM.

The next Beautification committee meeting will be held on December 21, 2021 at 6:00 PM on ZOOM.