



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, January 18, 2022 @ 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.

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 December 2021 Meeting:
2. Comments and Announcements from the Chairs:
3. Public Comment:
4. Discussion and Possible Action on Future Cleanup Events for March, April, May, and June; 2022
5. LA City Park Maintenance Updates -- including reports from members regarding conditions of our local parks
6. Discussion and Possible Action on Possible Upgrades to Lazy J. Ranch Park:
 - a. Additional picnic tables
 - b. Shade for existing picnic tables near playground equipment
 - c. Gates in fence along Valley Circle
7. Discussion and Possible Action on Landscaping for Dividers along Valley Circle and Platt:
8. Discussion and Possible Action on Creating a Community Garden:
9. Discussion and Possible Action on Right-of-Way (ROW) Letters:
10. Strike team Reports:
11. 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???
12. Planning and Suggestions for Committee Direction and Activity in 2022:

Adjournment

The next meeting of this committee will be held on Tuesday, February 15, 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/lobbying 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 requieres servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes de 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, December 21, 2021 @ 6:00 PM

Revised December 23, 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:

Committee Co-Chair Brad Vanderhoof called the meeting to order at 6:18 PM. The meeting was recorded. Those in attendance: Faye Barta, Glenn Jennings, Heidi Manning, Steve Randall, Myrl Schreiber, Joan Trent, and Brad Vanderhoof. Absent were Dan Brin, Tariq El-Atrache and Anthony Scarce.

Members of the public present were Lisa Davis and Rina Queller. A quorum was established.

1. The November 16, 2021 minutes were approved as amended.
2. Comments from the Chairs: None.
3. Public Comment: Attendee Lisa Davis from Tarzana said she wanted to join a Beautification Committee. Faye obtained her email and will be in touch with her.
4. Discussion and Comments regarding the November Environmental Awareness Day event at the Chatsworth Train Station:
Brad and Faye commented that it was a good event, but not as many people attended as they expected would attend. Steve said most of the booths were "display" booths. Heidi felt that since this was an "inaugural" event, next year's event would be better.
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):

For the January, 2022, cleanup, Faye reminded everyone that Dan suggested and we voted to finish up Fallbrook between Ingomar and Saticoy, which was left undone from a prior cleanup.

For the February cleanup, the date of 2/26/2022, as suggested by Glenn, was agreeable to all. Myrl suggested we clean Sherman Way west of the housing project towards Highlander. Heidi and Myrl suggested we clean Platt north of the condos at Sherman Way and Platt. Brad suggested that it would be better to get street services to do those areas because the lay of the land and the hills would be too dangerous and difficult for us to undertake. Heidi then suggested the Deveron Ridge Circle between the school and the park. Faye advised that the park does an adequate job cleaning its half of that cul-de-sac, but LAUSD has not touched its side of the street and its sidewalk, but the job was really too small to waste a whole event to do. Heidi then suggested the overgrown trees on the south side of Roscoe west of the firehouse, and necessary pruning above the sidewalk. Heidi then suggested Platt south of Ingomar near Taxco Park and the weeds between Ingomar and Pomelo/Keswick. Myrl advised that

the area needs street cleaners and is not a good candidate for us to clean. Heidi moved to do the Roscoe trees and Steve seconded. The vote was unanimous in favor of the Roscoe trees for February cleanup.

Although we wanted to choose areas to clean for March, April, May, June and July, there were no further suggestions. Steve suggested that we table the remaining areas (March through July) and look around to see areas which could use cleanup. Brad asked us to consider areas where we don't live. Steve said the neglected, needy areas should be first choice. The choosing of cleanup areas for March through July, 2022, was tabled to the January meeting.

6. LA City Park Maintenance Updates, Including Reports from members regarding conditions of our local parks:
This matter was tabled to our next meeting.
7. ROW Letters:
There were no ROW reports. Brad indicated we should all go out and look for areas and advise at our January meeting.
8. Strike Team Reports:
None. Joan asked if we can ask the City to take care of some projects. Steve said it is difficult to get the City to do so, even though it is the City's liability. Heidi said a 311 request can be made, especially if there is some danger or emergency to take care of. Heidi also commented that even if the City cuts down an offending tree, it does NOT remove the stump. That stump goes to another department which has a very long list of stumps to remove.
9. Discussion and Possible Action on other Beautification Projects and Prior Suggested Projects:
 - a. Attracting nurseries/garden shops to beautify an area and then receive "free" publicity for the cleanup
 - b. Post office Update
 - c. Spring plantings – locations and sponsors
 - d. Suggestions for dog poop left by careless neighbors
 - e. Any new ideas???

Joan complained that when people pick up their dogs' poop, they deposit it in the next available trash can they see. Faye said it seemed better to pick up and dispose of poop in any available trash can than to not pick it up. Rina asked what we concluded in our discussion of November's item #10, planting trees or shrubs on empty dividers on Valley Circle between Victory and Vanowen. Faye read to her the paragraph from the November minutes regarding the discussion. There were suggestions from the committee: Heidi suggested sending letters to nearby residents to determine if they will help; Brad suggested digging up the asphalt and adding dirt and planting plants. He advised it was a BIG project, but suggested we do it. Steve suggested we ask CD12 to help. Brad said he will email Colin Crews to get some answers.

10. Planning and Suggestions for Committee Direction and Activity in 2022:
Brad said we are called "community gardeners" and we should plan to do more and when our members ask why we are doing this, we should advise that we are "community gardeners." Brad also suggested we could paint our fire hydrants. Myrl said he is angry and insulted that people suggest we should "do more" and requests specifics. Steve said maybe there is misunderstanding regarding what we do. As committee members, we want to be more than "cleaners," but what can we do beyond community cleanups? Myrl agreed, but says other committees can't and shouldn't do beautification. Steve said no committees are doing anything right now, but we should all be more vigilant going forward. Myrl said we should follow Beautification's "Mission Statement." Brad feels we need to make a REAL difference and do something different. Steve suggested we should look to what other NC's are doing and "google" beautification projects. Myrl advised that this committee's history began as part of Streets and Transportation and we should ALL read our mission statement. Brad agreed. This matter is tabled for further discussion.

Faye adjourned the meeting at 7:13 PM.

The next Beautification committee meeting will be held on January 18, 2022 at 6:00 PM on ZOOM.