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## West Hills Neighborhood Council

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## JOINT GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE/BOARD MEETING MINUTES

### Telephonic and Online

Thursday October 25, 2021

Approved November 22, 2021

Attendance: Faye Barta, Clarice Chavira, Saif Mogri, Mark Neudorff, Steve Randall, Joan Trent, Brad Vanderhoof, and Joanne Yvanek-Garb

Committee Members Absent: Aida Abkarians, and Myrl Schreiberman

Other Board members in attendance: None

Guests: Reeyan Raynes, and Christina Walsh. Brown Act Violation and Call\_In\_User1 joined at the adjournment of the meeting.

- Co-chair Joanne Yvanek-Garb called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.
- Review minutes from September 2021: The minutes were approved as amended.
- Comments from the Co-chairs: Joanne explained the reason for this special meeting is that technical difficulties during the regular October committee meeting denied public access. The Co-chairs appointed Clarice Chavira and Mark Neudorff to the committee.
- Public Comment: None

### OLD BUSINESS

• Wording of the Language for the Code of Conduct: Christina Walsh said she supports the Code of Conduct as written by the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) and feels it is important for accountability. Reeyan Raynes said there should be a due process requirement instead of a removal at will policy. Mark Neudorff said he would like to see a letter drafted by the co-chairs stating concerns with the policy for the committee to vote on. Clarice Chavira said the DONE General Manager is appointed by the Mayor and should not have power over volunteers elected by the public. She said the suspension for not signing of the Code of Conduct within 30 days is a new requirement and she finds the whole policy offensive. Christina Walsh said the policy is necessary because the grievance process does not work. Reeyan Raynes said the appeal should be handled by the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners and a Neighborhood Council Grievance Panel should be one of the first steps in due process.

Steve Randall moved to write a letter with the following rewrite for section 6 of the draft policy. Joan seconded.

*6. If a Board Member or Committee Member is **alleged found through due process** to have violated either the City's Workplace Equity Policy or the Commission's Code of Conduct, the Department, with written approval from the General Manager, may immediately suspend the Board Member or Committee Member for a period of up to ~~90~~ **30** days. Said Board Member or Committee Member shall not be eligible to act on any matter that comes before their Neighborhood Council Board or Committee and shall not be counted for the purpose of establishing a quorum of the Neighborhood Council Board or Committee.*

*b. The Department shall be the sole decision-maker with respect to a suspension. The Board Member or Committee Member may ~~not~~ appeal the suspension decision **through the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners**.*

The motion passed unanimously.

### NEW BUSINESS

• Council File 21-0760, amend City Charter to include "City of Los Angeles" to the definition of "local" in Section 371a. of the City Charter:

CIS in Support

Aida Abkarians – Absent, Faye Barta – Yes, Clarice Chavira – Yes, Saif Mogri – Yes, Mark Neudorff – Yes, Steve Randall – Yes, Myrl Schreiberman – Absent, Joan Trent – Yes, Brad Vanderhoof – Yes, Joanne Yvanek-Garb – Yes

The CIS is approved unanimously and will be sent to the WHNC Board.

- Council File 21-0776, for the Fire Department to report with recommendations on the Los Angeles Fire Code as it relates to the definition of residential zoning classification for transitional and supportive housing occupancy type: Reeyan Raynes suggested contacting the Fire Protection Bureau with questions. No action taken.
- Co-chair Joanne Yvanek-Garb adjourned the meeting at 8:18 PM.

The next meeting of this committee is November 15, 2021, online and telephonic.