



Help Guide the Future of West Hills
West Hills Neighborhood
Council



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FINAL
MEETING MINUTES
May 6, 2014

Chaminade College Preparatory High School
23260 Saticoy St., West Hills, CA 91304

ATTENDANCE:

PRESENT: Aida Abkarians, Eric Augusztiny, Sandi Bell, Dan Brin, Bob Brostoff, Michael Castro, Ed Crowe, Nicole Flessati, Bonnie Klea, Ruwan Kotuwelle, Elliot Maggin, Todd Marks, Steve Randall, Charlene Rothstein, Barry Seybert, Ron Sobel, Alec Uzemeck, Ed Young, Jacquie Young

LATE ENTRANTS: Franchon Lyons (6:39 PM), Bill Rose (6:45 PM) Bobbi Trantafello (6:50 PM), Joanne Yvanek-Garb (6:48 PM)

ABSENT: None

Opening Business:

President and Co-Chair Dan Brin called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. Secretary Nicole Flessati called roll and announced an initial attendance of 19 board members, meeting the requirements of a quorum. The April 1, 2014 meeting minutes were approved without changes.

Comments from the chair:

Mr. Brin announced that ALL WHNC board members have taken and passed their Ethics and Funding trainings. He also announced that Citrus Sunday is May 18 and the first West Hills Memorial Day Weekend 5K and 10K Run/Walk will take place on May 24, when he will be among the runners. Dan thanked Ed Young for all his hard work on arranging the run.

Ed Young commented that there were 178 people already registered to run on May 24 and he expects 100% of the board to participate in some way.

Also announced was the neighborhood clean-up of Saticoy and Ingomar Streets between Woodlake and March Avenues on May 17, 2014. Volunteers and weed-whackers are needed for the day.

Mr. Brin also urged board members to join him in purchasing tickets for the 2014 Gala of the Canoga Park/West Hills Chamber of Commerce on May 16 and to participate in West Hills' entry in Canoga Park's Memorial Day Parade on May 26.

Public Comment:

Stakeholder Chris Rowe read from a letter she received from NASA regarding the Santa Susana Field Lab. NASA says there will be 316 trucks per day going through West Hills during the proposed clean-up of the SSFL site. She cited concerns of increased traffic accidents and spills, which would reduce the net benefits of the clean-up.

LAPD Senior Lead Officer Brent Rygh urged attendees to lock their cars and hide their bags and valuables. He said vehicle theft is way up with at least 20 this last week, 70% of which are from unlocked vehicles. Thieves check the door handles.

New Business:

Agenda Item 14-0031 - Discussion and possible actions regarding appointments to fill vacancies on the West Hills Neighborhood Council Board

Five candidates filed applications for two open seats. Candidates are as follows:

- Margery Brown – recent member of the WHNC Board
- Esperanza Butler – local Realtor and resident
- Mark Graff – teacher at Pomelo Elementary
- Carolyn Greenwood – recent member of the WHNC Board
- Edwin Monteagudo – Director, L.A. County Probation Dept.

Each candidate had two minutes to present themselves to the board. Then the members of the board voted on two of the five candidates.

Before the vote, Charlene Rothstein, as chair of the Ad Hoc Board Vacancy Committee, announced the committee's recommendation of Margery Brown, Carolyn Greenwood and Esperanza Butler.

Margery Brown and Carolyn Greenwood were selected to rejoin the Board. A tally of the votes is attached to these minutes.

Item 14-0032 - Appointment of the WHNC committee chairs.

WHNC Co-Chair Charlene Rothstein announced the following appointments by the co-chairs:

- Environment Committee – Alec Uzemeck, Bonnie Klea, Steve Randall
- Public Health – Sandi Bell
- Streets & Transportation – Ron Sobel, Barry Sebert

Zoning & Planning – Bill Rose, Charlene Rothstein
Beautification - Michael Castro
Education – Ed Young, Jacquie Young
Government Relations – Joanne Yvanek-Garb
Emergency Preparedness – Bob Brostoff
Communications – Elliot Maggin

Item 14-0033 - Discussion and possible action regarding the appointment of WHNC committee chairs

It was announced /proposed that the Bylaws be amended to change the status of the Beautification Committee from an AD HOC committee to a STANDING committee. A vote will take place during next month's WHNC meeting.

Agenda Item 14-0034 - Discussion and possible action regarding a request for a leave of absence by WHNC board member Ms. Joanne Yvanek-Garb

Due to the elections on June 3, the scheduled monthly board meeting on June 3 presents a scheduling conflict to Ms. Yvanek-Garb as she works as an election inspector. Dan Brin suggested moving the June WHNC meeting to a different night. If the meeting can be rescheduled, then a leave of absence will become moot.

A vote was taken on the proposed LOA, which was approved by all attending members EXCEPT by Board Member Sandi Bell, who voted NAY

Agenda Item 14-0035 - Discussion and possible action regarding approval of the WHNC's April 2014 spending reports

After some discussion, the report was approved by all Board members present except Franchon Lyons, Elliot Maggin and Alec Uzemeck. Board member Nicole Flessati abstained.

Agenda Item 14-0036 - Discussion and possible action regarding the allocation of \$100 for the Neighborhood Council 2014 Congress

A vote was taken and the funding was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item 14-0037 - Discussion and possible action on allocating funds, if available, for participation in the 2014 Memorial Day Parade in Canoga Park

A vote was taken and the allocation was approved by all members EXCEPT Barry Seybert.

COUNCIL REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Education Committee Report – Presented by Ed Young. The Education Committee will meet June 10, 2014 at Pomelo Street Elementary at 3:00 p.m. This meeting was scheduled around the

principal's availability. It was suggested that, when necessary, committee meetings will be at different schools in West Hills.

Zoning and Planning Committee Report – Presented by Bill Rose.

Verizon's cell tower representative will be at the next Z&P meeting held at Fairwinds West Hills at 6:30 on Tuesday, May 13th.

Environment Committee Report – Presented by Alec Uzemeck.

Next meeting is May 14th at the Hidden Lake clubhouse.

Health Committee Meeting – Chair Sandi Bell reported two new members: Aida Abkarians and Steve Randall. A mission statement and rules for the committee will be established. The next meeting which will be held on June 10, 2014 at Pomelo Street Elementary at 4:00 p.m. will discuss West Nile virus and prevention, health concerns at schools and a free car seats program.

Communications Committee Report – Chair Elliot Maggin said the April meeting was cancelled due to the Passover holiday.

Streets and Transportation Committee Report – Co-Chair Ron Sobel noted that blue bin recycling scavengers are potential robbery suspects.

President Dan Brin noted that El Camino Real Charter High School won the national Academic Decathlon

OLD BUSINESS

Agenda Item 14-0028 - Discussion and possible action regarding amendments to the Standing Rules of the West Hills Neighborhood Council NC

Tabled to the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m. so EmpowerLA representative Thomas Soong could present a training session for Board members.