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WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL JOINT BOARD AND ZONING & PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

FINAL MINUTES

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2021 @ 6:30 p.m.

- 1. Call to Order at 6:32 PM by Co-Chair Bill Rose.
- 2. Quorum established.

Committee Members Present: Aida Abkarians, Faye Barta, Dan Brin, Carolyn Greenwood, Bonnie Klea, Saif Mogri, Steve Randall, Bill Rose, Charlene Rothstein, Anthony Scearce, Myrl Schreibman, and Joan Trent. Committee Members Absent: Bob Brostoff and Alec Uzemeck.

Board Members also present: Brad Vanderhoof;

Speakers for Agendized Matters: none

Members of the Public Present: Chris Rowe, Christina Walsh, Leslie Randall, Adrian Huang, Bob, Debbie Porter, Fein, James Reye, Jeff Kobulnick, Joan Cohen, Karen, Maria Quinonez, Nancy Wold, Sandy, Sharon Feldman, Susan Bradshaw, Tom, Heidi Manning, Fern White, Beth Pollack, Jarine Vine, Robert Sachs Roxy Gannon, Mohammed Hajibagheri, Muriel Greenberg, Mary, Goat Puppet, and call-in users 1 through 17.

3. Comments from the Co-Chair(s):

Bill Rose had no comments.

Char stated that she has been trying to contact Heather Walstein regarding Chaminade and Fields Market shopping center across the street from Chaminade and will advise.

Char advised that Clarice and Faye and Char have been working on the final revision documents for the Platt Village request for re-zoning and trying to iron out remaining issues.

- 4. Minutes from August 10, 2021, were approved as amended.
- 5. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items: Chris Rowe advised that some surrounding neighborhoods are still working on a community plan. Puppet commented on his disdain for those working on community plans. Call-in user #2 complained about lack of handicapped access to meetings. Christina Walsh said this committee is hypocritical.

Old Business:

6. Discussion and possible action to form a Zoning and Planning sub-committee, with the objective to work with the Department of Public Works and individual cell tower carriers, including but not limited to, cell tower repair, cell tower units/boxes and other cell tower related issues.

Char advised that she has no contacts for the committee. However, she has information that the cell tower at 7543 Fallbrook needs following up due to the poor job of installation of additional cells, which remain unpainted, remain an odd color, failure to give notice of work to be done, and over 10 % has already been completed, and the work already finished exhibits extremely poor workmanship, making the tower look terrible. Saif said that this tower is on private property and the owners of the property should contact the cell tower company. Char said the

issue is that the tower looks terrible to neighbors and those who drive by. Saif reiterated that the property owner is the one to call, since the owner is being paid for use of the property. Char said she will forward the company's contact information. Char mentioned the temple on Valley Circle is not getting paid by the company. Saif said his church is getting paid. Dan suggested there are limits to what we can do when private property is involved and that perhaps we can form a sub-committee to handle this issue. Anthony said the utility company is leasing the land and is technically the "owner" and must be advised the tower should be cosmetically pleasing. Saif asked if the tower company came to Zoning and Planning for approval for the tower. Char said yes, but many years ago and the real problem is the upkeep of the tower. Chris Rowe said there is an issue with the tower's width, and it must now be 5G, which causes the need for cell tower upgrades. This poses a risk to neighbors. Dan again suggested a sub-committee to investigate this issue. Bill advised Saif volunteered to check this out and will report back to the committee.

New Business:

7. Discussion and possible action on a proposal to build restrooms at Castle Peak Park and Lazy J Park. Funds provided by Prop K.

Bill advised he has received many emails from members of the public, all of which are completely opposed to restrooms at both of these parks. Char advised she also has had numerous calls, the great majority of which are also completely opposed to restrooms at both of these parks, mainly due to concerns about cleaning of restrooms and protecting restrooms from vandalism. Fave advised she lives near Mae Boyar Park, which is presently the only park in West Hills with a bathroom, due to the fact that the donors of the park land, the Boyar family, stipulated in the transfer deed that bathrooms must be provided. However, the present (and past) problems the park's neighborhood has endured over the years are many and dangerous and are continuing to this day. Steve advised he is adamantly opposed to bathrooms in parks because of severe abuse of them and will vote no to bathrooms. Aida said kids want and need bathrooms when they visit the parks and have parties there, but agreed that security of the bathrooms is an issue. Saif said his neighbors do not believe restrooms are that big an issue. Thereafter, many members of the public spoke. Only two members of the public, Roxy Gannon said kids using the parks need bathrooms and other parks, like Balboa and Malibu, have restrooms with few problems and is in favor of bathrooms at these two parks, and Christina Walsh spoke in favor of park bathrooms. The many other speakers from the public, Chris Rowe, Susan Bradshaw, Fern White, Jeff Kabulnick, Leslie Randall, Mohammed Hajibagheri, Fein, Bob, Muriel Greenberg, Mary, #070 and goat puppet all spoke to the many dangers which occur when bathrooms are installed in public parks, including but not limited to safety issues, drug users, homeless public health concerns, and other issues.

Char advised that the best course of action for this committee is to write a VERY strong letter to the City Council, advising that the community stakeholders strongly oppose bathrooms being installed in these two parks and should discontinue any further plans to do so. Bill moved to send a letter strongly opposing the proposals for park restrooms in Castle Peak and Lazy J parks. Steve seconded. A vote was taken:

Yes – Faye Barta, Dan Brin, Carolyn Greenwood, Bonnie Klea. Saif Mogri, Steve Randall, Bill Rose, Char Rothstein, Joan Trent.

No - none

Abstain - Aida Abkarians, Anthony Scearce and Myrl Schreibman.

Absent - Bob Brostoff and Alec Uzemeck.

The motion carries.

Adjournment – 7:51 PM. Next meeting will be Tuesday, November 9, 2021.