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West Hills Neighborhood Council

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JOINT ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE/BOARD MEETING MINUTES Wednesday September 14, 2016 West Hills Hospital, 1st Floor Conference Room 7300 Medical Center Drive, West Hills, CA 91307

Alec Uzemeck Co Chair called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Committee members in attendance were Alec Uzemeck, Steve Randall, Marge Brown, Bonnie Klea; a quorum was established.

Public Members Present: Brad Vanderhhoof, John Luker, Warren Stone, Sandra Shlapak, Stephanie Elm, Diana Sprout, Sophia Wong, Bill Hoult.

The August meeting minutes were approved.

Steve Randall Co Chair did not have any opening remarks.

Alec brought up the subject of review of future EIR's to be made by the Committee. He examined the EIR for the Andora Estates and recommended that as a general policy the Committee should review new EIR's. The members approved the assessment of new EIR's with the conclusions to be given to the Zoning and Planning Committee prior to their review on any pending development. Alec will look at the Zoning and Planning review process to see when the Environment Committee should become involved.

John Luker spoke about the heritage of open land, landscape and environment and he complained that so much of the natural landscape was being converted to residential use. The Rim Of The Valley study, which is in Congress for approval, takes identified-open areas that are to be preserved and gives the NPS the authority to purchase additional land for that purpose. The Chatsworth Nature Preserve is not part of this effort and inquiries for the purchase or transfer of the land have been rejected by DWP.

John suggested that a coalition of various organizations, such as the neighbourhood councils, be formed to get the politicians and agencies to oppose further development. John said that he would take the lead in forming the group and he asked for support from the WHNC. Steve and Alec said that they would bring this issue to the Council with the recommendation for their approval.

There was general public discussion that was in support of John's suggestion.

The remaining agenda items were postponed until the November meeting.

Alec Uzemeck Co Chair adjourned meeting at 8:45 PM.