



Help Guide the Future of West Hills  
**West Hills Neighborhood**  
**Council**



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**Draft**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**October 7, 2014**

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

**ATTENDANCE:**

**PRESENT:** Aida Abkarians, Sandi Bell, Dan Brin, Margery Brown, Bob Brostoff, Michael Castro, Ed Crowe, Nicole Flessati, Carolyn Greenwood, Bonnie Klea, Ruan Kotuwel, Elliot Magin, Todd Marks, Steve Randall, Charlene Rothstein, Barry Seybert, Ron Sobel, Alec Uzemeck, Ed Young, Jacque Young, Joanne Yvanek-Garb

**ABSENT:** Eric Agusztiny, Bill Rose, Franchon Lyons, Todd Marks, Bobbi Trantafello

**OPENING BUSINESS:** President and Co-Chair Dan Brin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Secretary Nicole Flessati called roll and announced an initial attendance of 20 members, meeting the requirements of a quorum. Vice President and Co-Chair Charlene Rothstein led the Pledge of Allegiance. The October 7, 2014 meeting minutes were approved with no objections.

**Comments from the Chair:**

There are six additional medallions going up around West Hills. The Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates will meet in Van Nuys at 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 11, at 6262 Van Nuys Blvd.

**Public Comment:**

Public comments were led by Charlene Rothstein. Speakers were asked to keep the comments limited to two minutes.

Board Member Michael Castro, head of the Beautification Committee, announced that the clean-up day that was scheduled for Saturday, October 11 at Pomelo Street school has been cancelled in order to push for a greater turn-out on November 8. He would like to see a maximum effort put forth by the council and the community. Members of Rocky Peak Church will be helping out as well at Justice, Pomelo and Elementaries, Orcutt Ranch and a home in West Hills.

Deanna Scott, chair of the Animal Welfare Committee on the Tarzana Neighborhood Council, announced the Feed Them, Fix Them campaign, which encourages stakeholders to spay and neuter feral cats. She encouraged the WHNC to get involved and start its own Animal Welfare Committee. The group need volunteers and items like portable cages. She requested that a link to West Hills Neighborhood Council

the animal welfare site be put up on the WHNC's website. Board member Elliot Maggin immediately added the link.

Sandi Bell, WHNC board member and Health and Safety Committee chair, announced a committee meeting at Pomelo Elementary at 3 p.m. on October 8, 2014. The committee will discuss the Ebola virus and the latest posts by the CDC will be on the WHNC website. She also encouraged people to get their flu shots this season.

Stakeholder Chris Rowe explained her involvement with the Santa Susana Field Lab (SSFL) cleanup and encouraged attendance at a town hall meeting at Canoga Park High School on October 20 at 6 p.m.

Bill Escobar, owner of Elite Sports, spoke about a half-marathon his company is planning in West Hills and Woodland Hills in January 2015. He provided a time-stamped map of the route and says that the event will have a sweep team to cleanup after the race. The last runner will be off of Valley Circle by 10:15 a.m., he said.

#### **AWARD PRESENTATIONS:**

WHNC Education Chairs Aida Abkrians and Jacqueline Young presented Julianna Martinez from Justice Street Academy Charter School teacher and artist Juliana Martinez with a WHNC Certificate of Appreciation upon her being honored on the Walk of Hearts in Canoga Park.

WHNC President Dan Brin mentioned that Mindy Levine, a teacher at Haynes Street Elementary, was also a certificate recipient but was not able to attend the meeting.

#### **Back to PUBLIC COMMENT:**

WHNC Environment Co-Chair Alec Uzemeck mentioned that toxins in the area of the SSFL have been reduced by 50% since 2005. Additional clean-up will involve a lot of trucks driving through West Hills. He is worried about the amount of diesel particulate matter given off by these trucks.

Stakeholder Chris Rowe said poor air quality is related to many forms of cancer and each person should be educated before taking a position on the clean-up.

Mr. Brin mentioned he recalled that the WHNC had taken a position on a risk-based clean-up. Mr. Uzemeck said he will provide copies of relevant resolutions.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Ron Rubine, field deputy for Council District 12 in West Hills, said the remaining "West Hills" medallions have been a green light to go up at entry points of West Hills. He thanked board member Steve Randall and others for their persistence over the years. Upcoming events in CD 12 included the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual CD 12 principals meeting, an interfaith breakfast on homelessness at Temple Ahavat Shalom and the E Awards of Excellence at the Odyssey restaurant, where law enforcement people throughout the Valley will be honored.

LAPD Senior Lead Officer Brent Rygh invited the public to a Topanga Division town hall at West Valley Christian Church. Also, a golf tournament in Woodland Hills will benefit LAPD youth programs.

### **PRESENTATION OF AWARDS RESUMES:**

Stakeholder Daniel Garb was honored with a certificate for helping out with Citrus Sunday. His mother, WHNC Board Member Joanne Yvanek-Garn, presented the certificate.

### **GUEST SPEAKER:**

Bob Brostoff introduced speaker Ernesto Noblejas, who spoke about emergency preparedness at West Hills Hospital.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**14-0041** – Discussion and possible action regarding amending the June 4, 2014 minutes to reflect the description of the Beautification Committee as a standing Committee in the WHNC Bylaws. Vote was taken to amend meeting minutes from June 4<sup>th</sup> meeting. The Board voted unanimously to amend the minutes to show that language describing the committee's purpose is now part of the Bylaws.

**14-0058** – Discussion and possible action on a Community Impact Statement regarding the Budget Advocates' White Paper. Tabled due to incomplete attachment.

**14-0059** – Discussion and possible action on a Community Impact Statement regarding sidewalk repairs presented by Joanne Yvanek-Garb. After discussion, Mr. Brin called for a vote. The motion did not pass.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**14-0060** – Discussion and possible action regarding WHNC approval to change the WHNC logo. This item was tabled.

**14-0061** – Discussion and possible action regarding the approval of the September Spending Report. Vote was taken. Report was unanimously approved.

**14-0062** — Discussion and possible action regarding the allocation of up to \$500 to Hamlin Elementary. This item was tabled.

**14-0063** – Discussion and possible action regarding the allocation of up to and including \$2,000 to The Friends of Shadow Ranch and Woodland Hills Parks. This item was tabled.

**14-0064** – Discussion and possible action regarding the allocation of up to and including \$1,612 to Shadow Ranch for the West Hills Fall Fest in October 2014. This item was tabled?????

**14-0065** – Discussion and possible action regarding the allocation of up to and including \$750 to Oak Lake Association for rental fees from January 1, 2014 through August 30, 2014 for use of its clubhouse for committee meetings. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

**14-0066** – Discussion and possible action regarding the DONE Event Form. Controller Bob Brostoff moved to approve a completed new DONE form concerning the West Hills Fall Fest on October 25. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

**14-0067** – Discussion and possible action to support the LADOT striping project on Woodlake from Roscoe Boulevard north to Chase Street. Recommended by the WHNC’s Streets & Transportation Committee, no second needed. No one opposed, no one abstained. Motion passed.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Board member Bob Brostoff announced that Roscoe Boulevard will be paved soon.

Events Chair Ed Young announced the Fall Fest will take place Saturday, October 25, at Shadow Ranch park between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Volunteers are needed at 2 p.m

President Dan Brin said the Cinema Heritage Project will screen “Friendly Persuasion” on the grounds of the old Boeing Fitness Center on November 9 at 6:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m.