



CITY OF  
LOS ANGELES  
CALIFORNIA



P.O. BOX 4670, WEST HILLS, CA 91308  
WWW.WESTHILLSNC.ORG  
MAIL@WESTHILLSNC.ORG

## WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

### JOINT BOARD AND BYLAWS AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, August 8, 2017, Chaminade High School, West Hills CA  
Revised September 11, 2017

Those in attendance were: Bob Brostoff, Brad Vanderhoof, Aida Abkarians, Sandi Bell, Simone Best, Dan Brin, Anthony Brosamle, Carolyn Greenwood, Steve Randall, Char Rothstein, Myrl Schreibman, Ron Sobel, Joan Trent, and stakeholder Janis MacQuoid.

Committee Co-Chair Brad Vanderhoof called the meeting to order at 7:55 PM. A quorum was established

The minutes from the June meeting were approved as amended.

Chair Comments: Brad explained that due to time constraints, the issue of how abstentions are counted for West Hills Neighborhood Council (WHNC) Board votes will be addressed at the September meeting. Bob explained that the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) can modify Neighborhood Council (NC) bylaws without approval from the NC. This would likely be the case in the event of a change to the NC election schedule.

Public Comment: None

Numbers refer to agenda items

5. Homelessness Committee Mission Statement: The new mission statement was unanimously approved. It will be sent to the WHNC Board of Directors.
6. WHNC Bylaws – Censure of Members: Bob gave background information concerning the current bylaws regarding censure and removal, and how the petition required would be in violation of the Brown Act. The following issues were raised during discussion. Dan thinks the current procedure has administrative issues. As an example, he pointed out that under the current rules he could, as president, refuse to place a censure request on the agenda. Char thinks it is important to have a procedure to try and resolve issues with individuals before taking action at the Board level. Myrl thinks that it is inappropriate to embarrass a council member, who is a volunteer, with a public reprimand. Simone read from the WHNC Standing Rules and likes the provisions for mediation. Brad explained the standing rules contain the instructions for implementing the bylaws and can require additional steps like mediation to proceed with censure. Steve thinks the threat of censure is a valuable tool to influence members to change unacceptable behavior. Carolyn thinks the Board needs the ability to censure members. Bob explained that a censure process is required for a NC to have a removal process, and Brad explained that both processes need to be public for reasons of transparency. Anthony asked if there are any pending cases of censure and Bob answered that there are not. Anthony stated the city attorney's office has told him due process takes precedence over all other considerations when they review challenges to NC censures or removals, and almost all cases result in a reversal.
7. WHNC Bylaws – Removal of Members: Item tabled to September.
8. Proposed Agenda Items: Many of the committee members asked that the issue of abstentions be made the first priority for the September committee meeting.

Committee Co-Chair Brad Vanderhoof adjourned the meeting at 9:23 PM.

The next meeting of this committee will be held: TBD