



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



P.O. Box 4670, West Hills, CA 91308-4670  
818-719-8656

<http://www.westhillsnc.org>

[mail@westhillsnc.org](mailto:mail@westhillsnc.org)

**Final  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
May 14, 2009**

**Chaminade College Preparatory, 23260 Saticoy Street, West Hills, CA 91304**

**Attendance:**

**Present:** Shelly Bright, Dan Brin, Edwin Dockus, Carolyn Greenwood, Donn Howell, Stephen Lenske, Etan Lorant, Walter Perfect, Chris Rowe, Ron Sobel, Alec Uzemeck, Daniel Wiseman, Ed Young and Jacquie Young

**Absent:** Kevin Boal, Jeffrey Stordahl and Joanne Yvanek-Garb

**Excused:** Sandi Bell, Charlene Rothstein, Barry Seybert, Stan Staten and Bobbi Trantafello

**Opening Business:**

Mr. Stephen Lenske welcomed all the stakeholders and explained that this was a continuation of the May 6<sup>th</sup> meeting to complete the unfinished business on the May Agenda.

Draft minutes from May 6<sup>th</sup> meeting were distributed. As this meeting is a continuation of May 6<sup>th</sup> meeting, the minutes from May 6<sup>th</sup> and tonight would be reviewed and approved at the June meeting. Corrections to the draft minutes will be forwarded for inclusion before the June meeting.

Ron Sobel advised the board that there is a choice of three colors for the bags we are purchasing as part of our outreach efforts. It was decided that we would go with the dark green, as the WHNC logo will be more prominent.

Mr. Stephen Lenske gave a brief update on the budget. Currently there is approximately \$8,300 unspent from last year. There was some discussion regarding this amount as some of those monies are already dedicated to projects. There will be a budget meeting to go over this matter.

**New Business:**

**09-0014 – Discussion and possible action on proposed West Hills Neighborhood Council Resolution relating to:**

**CIS # 050409-01 – Proposal to enhance Department of Water & Power and Neighborhood Councils Communications**

After presentation and discussion of the issue, Dr. Daniel Wiseman made the following motion: Whereas the NC-DWP MOU establishes guidelines for timely and meaningful DWP-NC communications – West Hills NC supports a procedure where NC representatives are provided opportunities to make presentations and to be part of the formal “front table” deliberations of

MOU defined “Special Projects” before the DWP Board of Commissioners and their Committees, as well as, the City Council and its Committees. Motion carried.

**09-0015 – Discussion and possible action on proposed West Hills Neighborhood Council Resolution relating to:**

**CIS #050409-02 – Proposal to reconsider Neighborhood Council conflict of interest and revise Form 54**

After presentation and discussion of the issue, Dr. Daniel Wiseman made the following motion: Whereas requiring financial disclosures, like Form 54, may cause the resignation of many neighborhood council participants and this requirement continues to deny neighborhood councils the privilege of creating Neighborhood Council Files – West Hills NC requests that the Ethics Commission revisit the issue of financial disclosure by neighborhood councils, review Form 54 and return with a more suitable solution that sustains neighborhood council participation and meets City Council and City Ethics Commission guidelines. Motion carried.

**CIS #050409-02 (Supplemental) to CF 08-0351 – Recommendation of a process to satisfy the need for NC Conflict of Interest Declarations and to replace Form 54**

Dr. Daniel Wiseman made the following motion: Whereas requiring financial disclosures like Form 54 threatens to cause the resignation of many neighborhood council participants and Whereas creating an acceptable and just process continues to deny neighborhood councils the privilege of creating Neighborhood Council Files – West Hills NC requests that the Ethics Commission and the City Council satisfy the need for neighborhood council Conflict of Interest Declarations when neighborhood councils create a Neighborhood Council File by sending the matter back to the Ethics Commission for further review and recommendation. Motion carried.

**09-0016 – Discussion and possible action on proposed West Hills Neighborhood Council Resolution relating to:**

**CIS #050409-03 – Identification of fiscal year 2009 – 2010 budget challenges with global & specific recommendations**

After discussion, Dr. Daniel Wiseman made the motion that the West Hills NC recommends a 10% reduction across the board of all City salaries and to reaffirm the council’s original impact statement. Motion carried with 1 opposing vote.

**CIS #050409-04 “Special” – Proposal to maintain the DONE Fund (City Charter #5.5.17) and provide adequate funding for our NCs**

After discussion and rewording, Dr. Daniel Wiseman made the following motion: Whereas NC funds were originally granted for operating expenses but actually have been used for outreach and community events which defray and/or supplement other City costs, and Whereas we agree that the NCs should “share the responsibility and sacrifice” required in these challenging times, - West Hills NC proposes that the annual allocations to neighborhood councils be \$45,000 (a 10% reduction from last year) and match the decreases being applied to most City Departments and to retain the policy to roll-over committed and unspent funds. Motion carried.

**Committee & Other Reports**

Board member Chris Rowe spoke about all the meetings she is attending and that other members need to get involved.

8:55 Meeting adjourned