



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



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**Final**  
**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**May 6, 2009**

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

**Attendance:**

**Present:** Sandi Bell, Kevin Boal, Dan Brin, Edwin Dockus, Etan Lorant, Walter Perfect, Charlene Rothstein, Chris Rowe, Barry Seybert, Ron Sobel, Stan Staten, Jeffrey Stordahl, Bobbi Trantafello, Alec Uzemeck, Daniel Wiseman, Ed Young, Jacquie Young and Joanne Yvanek-Garb

**Unexcused Absent:** NONE

**Excused Absent:** Shelly Bright, Carolyn Greenwood, Donn Howell and Stephen Lenske

**Opening Business:**

Mr. Edwin Dockus called the meeting to order. He reminded the board and stakeholders that we are being called to vote in a "Special Election" on Tuesday, May 19, 2009. Regarding the measures, Mr. Dockus said, "look at the fine print" and asked that we read the measures carefully and vote accordingly.

**Announcements:**

Board member Ed Young advised that the Valley Regional Congress will meet Saturday, May 30, 2009 from 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. It is free and open to the public. There will be keynote speakers and breakout workshops. Registration is available online at [www.lacityneighborhoods.com](http://www.lacityneighborhoods.com)

Jeffrey Stordahl, Emergency Preparedness Chair, advised that there is an Emergency Preparedness meeting on Tuesday, May 19, 2009 from 7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. at West Hills Hospital, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Training Room. He also stated that beginning July 2<sup>nd</sup> at the West Valley Christian Church & School on Sherman Way, there will be certified training classes given by Emergency Response personnel. These classes will continue for 7-8 weeks.

Jacquie Young, Budget Committee Chair, asked that if there is any budget request, please turn them in. She also said there is no budget meeting scheduled at the present time.

Edwin Dockus, Bylaws Committee Chair, stated that the City Clerk's office is asking for our election Bylaws. He advised that we have already set up our election procedures and they will be turned in as written.

Regarding the upcoming “Town Hall,” Joanne Yvanek-Garb has moved the date for this event to September, due to scheduling conflicts.

Wally Perfect, Zoning & Planning Chair, stated that there will be a planning meeting at the Fairwinds West Hills on Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m.

The minutes from the April 1, 2009 meeting were accepted as corrected.

**Presentations:**

Stephanie Romero, Field Deputy from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Council District, discussed the Gun Buyback Program on May 9, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at various locations. This program is being offered in an effort to reduce crime. She also gave out information on the Canoga Park Memorial Day Parade on May 25<sup>th</sup>. The parade will begin at 11:00 a.m. on Sherman Way at Owensmouth Avenue. Ms. Romero added that the website for Councilman Zine is a good source for information with weekly briefings and current events.

Ms. Seme Park, Field Deputy from the 12<sup>th</sup> District, was present and gave an update on the issue of Neighborhood Council budget cuts. She stated that the possible cuts are only in the discussion stage and that there has been no final decision at this point. She also thanked WHNC for its participation in a successful “Citrus Sunday” on May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Officer Sam Sabra, Senior Lead Officer (SLO), advised that there has been no upturn in crime and that the department has been watching the transient issue around the canyons closely, especially in the fire seasons. He also spoke in support of the Gun Buyback Program.

**Presentations:**

Dr. Dan Wiseman gave a PowerPoint presentation on the city budget and deficit. With at least 400 jobs gone and more to remain unfilled, it appears that the only “real” way to cut the budget is salaries. One of the questions was how to deal with our highest paid employees, with 11,000 employees earning over \$91,000.00 a year. Dr. Wiseman asks the community for support with the intent of making Community Impact Statements (CIS).

Ms. Helen Yoon, representing the Bureau of Sanitation, gave an informative presentation on alternative technologies for “black bin” waste. With the city generating 10.1 million tons of solid waste per year, alternative methods are needed to remove waste in an environmentally friendly and energy efficient manner that creates new energy sources. For more information, visit [www.alternativetechnology.lacity.org](http://www.alternativetechnology.lacity.org).

Ms. Carol Winston from the Los Angeles League of Women Voters spoke on the Statewide Special Election and the ballot measures Prop 1A through Prop 1F. She made “Easy Voter Guides” available to stakeholders and took questions on the measures at the end of her presentation.

**Public Comments:**

Dan Brin of the Cinema Heritage Project advised that on August 15, 2009, there will be a showing of *Alien vs. Predator* and a tour of a studio in Chatsworth that houses many of the award winning creatures and costumes from science fiction and fantasy films. Contact Dan Brin for further information.

Ms. Sharon Feldman, stakeholder, questioned the possible installation of a new T-Mobile repeater pedestal. She stated that if the requirements of the application were granted, the above ground facility would be unsightly. Mr. Walter Perfect, Zoning & Planning Chair, said we would check on it and request that it would be camouflaged as a tree.

Alba Kuhlmeier, stakeholder, asked about the status of the signal and driveway at Ralphs on Victory Boulevard and also what the time table is for the completion of condominiums on Sherman Way behind the West Hills Post Office. The Zoning & Planning Committee will check on these issues.

**Old Business:****02-0003 - West Hills Street Signage**

Walter Perfect, Zoning & Planning Chair, stated that Councilman Zine has agreed to \$10,000.00 for the West Hills Signage. Barry Seybert is working on getting approval from Councilman Smith regarding matching funds.

**06-0092 – Santa Susana Mountain Area Committee (SSMAC)**

Dr. Wiseman, SSMAC Chair, announced the appointment of two new positions on the SSMAC, Chris Rowe as V.P. and Joanne Yvanek-Garb as Secretary. He also discussed the last SSMAC meeting in regards to possible clean up of the Santa Susana Field Lab. Is it actually possible by 2017? Corporate Pointe moves forwards to the PLUM Committee with no EIR while Dayton Canyon/Centex Homes is working with an EIR that is 10 years old. The SSMAC is trying to link all the governmental and non-governmental agencies to work together on these issues.

**09-0006 – Alta Dena Dairy Conditional Use Permit (CUP)**

Mr. Sameer Hannoun, owner of the Alta Dena Dairy advised the WHNC that he has a hearing with the City at the end of the month on his appeal. He has met with WHNC Zoning & Planning and discussed his \$200,000.00 remodeling plans and his request from the City for a liquor license. Wayne Borkin, stakeholder, spoke in opposition to the project saying that selling “spirits” in the neighborhood would have a negative impact on the community. Bob Brostoff, stakeholder, also spoke against the CUP, stating that there are plenty of liquor stores in the area already and there is a dance studio directly across the street that many children attend. Chris Rowe, board member, asked if the Alta Dena Dairy has been explored as a historical location due to the age of the building. After discussion, Walter Perfect made a motion to approve the CUP with \$200,000.00 remodeling, verify sufficient parking spaces and consult with the City Historical Commission to see if this building does qualify. Motion was carried with a vote of 11 YES and 5 NO.

**08-0026 - Emergency Preparedness Committee**

Jeffrey Stordahl, Emergency Preparedness Chair, stated that he went before the budget committee to request \$3,000.00 to help with the Emergency Preparedness Fair operating costs, i.e. tables, tents, materials, etc. He also asked for \$700.00 for training mannequins. After

discussion by the board, the motion for \$3,000.00 for operating costs and \$700.00 for the training mannequins passed unanimously.

**New Business:**

**09-0011 –**

Ron Sobel, Streets & Transportation Co-Chair, submitted a motion written by Board member Dan Brin urging that the top priority for Federal Stimulus Funds intended for repair of city streets be given to repairing “failed” streets. After some discussion, the motion was passed by a unanimous vote.

**09-0012 –**

Barry Seybert, Streets & Transportation Co-Chair, submitted a motion written by Board member Dan Brin regarding restrictions on unhitched trailers (see exhibit marked 09-0012). After discussion by the board of a proposal by Mr. Seybert to amend the motion, the motion was passed unanimously as originally written.

**09-0013 –**

Dan Brin, board member, submitted a resolution urging the City to adopt new sign regulations relating to size, graphics, placement, construction, location, duration of operation, non-conforming signs and penalties (see exhibit 09-0013). The motion was approved with a unanimous vote.

Chris Rowe, board member, made a motion to adjourn the meeting until May 14, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in order to continue and conduct unfinished business. The motion was passed with a unanimous vote.

10:10 — Meeting adjourned.