



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**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**October 7, 2009**

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

**Attendance:**

**Present:** Sandi Bell, Shelly Bright, Dan Brin, Edwin Dockus, Carolyn Greenwood, Ron Hess, Donn Howell, Stephen Lenske, Etan Lorant, Walter Perfect, Bill Rose, Charlene Rothstein, Chris Rowe, Ron Sobel, Alec Uzameck, Daniel Wiseman, Joanne Yvanek-Garb, Ed Young and Jacquie Young

**Absent:** Stan Staten

**Excused:** Barry Seybert and Bobbi Trantafello

**Opening Business:**

Mr. Stephen Lenske called the meeting to order. Mr. Lenske advised that we would be adjusting order of items on the agenda to accommodate speakers who had to leave for other meetings.

Dan Brin introduced Captain Wendell Smith of the Los Angeles Fire Department. Captain Smith advised that because of the recent fires they are planning to establish a helispot at the Chatsworth Reservoir. With Captain Smith was pilot John Gibbs to answer any additional questions. Captain Smith advised that they are losing helispots due to community growth and often have to abandon a helispot because of the loss of visibility. The advantages of the helispot at the Chatsworth Reservoir is their ability to have air support in fighting fires and a quicker turn around time. The helispot will be portable and fueling will be done by fueling trucks.

Shelly Bright introduced Christopher Garcia, Project Coordinator, Office of the City Clerk. Mr. Garcia was present to give information on the 2010 Neighborhood Council Election. The draft copy of election procedures has been completed. The election for the WHNC will be Tuesday, March 2, 2010 at Shadow Ranch Park (in the parlor). Voting will take place from 2 to 8 p.m. Voters must present documentation of stakeholder status and the minimum voting age is 16. Vote by mail ballots will only be sent to those who are physically unable to go to the polling place.

Mr. Garcia gave the Board an endorsement form for the draft election procedures that must be returned to the City Clerk, preferably by the next board meeting. If the City Clerk does not receive the endorsement form in a timely manner, the preset procedures will become final. If the

board does not wish to endorse the preset procedures, the Board needs to identify conflicts. Once conflicts are resolved the procedures will be final.

Mr. Garcia was presented with a WHNC Certificate of Appreciation for his presentation.

**Announcements:**

Ms. Stephanie Romero, 3<sup>rd</sup> Council Representative, advised that Councilman Zine had one small question regarding the placement of one of the WHNC sign along Shoup. Walter Perfect advised that he would speak to Councilman Zine about sign placement. Ms. Romero advised that Councilman Zine would not cover the maintenance of the signs for the first year. Ms. Romero congratulated the Council for the success of the Fall Fest.

Senior Lead Officer (SLO) Sam Sabra announced an upcoming fundraiser which was taking place in October. Officer Sabra advised that there would be a town hall meeting November 19<sup>th</sup> at West Valley Christian Church on Sherman Way with Chief Moore.

Senior Lead Officer (SLO) Sabra advised that they are working with the Deputy City Attorney, Ms. Ayelet Feiman, regarding issues that impact the residents' quality of life such as the vacate program. He advised that any problem spots, including homes, where suspicious or nuisance activity is occurring should be reported. It is best to report it and let the SLO decide who is the appropriate person or department to handle the problem. Officer Sabra's phone numbers are: desk (818) 756-3074 and cell (818) 731-2258 and (for the north end of West Hills) Officer Cunningham's numbers are: desk (818) 756-3073 and cell (818) 731-2578.

Sandi Bell introduced our new student (non-voting) representative on the WHNC, Jacob Garb. Jacob attends Coutin School.

Mr. Stephen Lenske presented Sandi Bell, one of the founding members of the WHNC, with a certificate of recognition signed by Councilman Dennis Zine.

**Public Comment:**

Peggy Burgess of the North Hills West Neighborhood Council, Land Use Committee, spoke of their opposition to the conversion of two medical buildings at the Sepulveda Veterans Administration to 149 apartments. Ms. Burgess advised that this property was donated to the government for needy veterans. She was requesting that this be put on our agenda next month so that we could vote to join other councils in opposing the conversion.

Adria Deliberto of LA Parks and Recreation advised that they were hosting a Halloween Carnival at Shadow Ranch from 12 to 4 p.m. on Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup>.

Chris Rowe advised that the Los Colinas District Boy Scouts of America was having an open house at the McGrew Home. Ms. Rowe advised that the Boy Scouts of America asked to be on the agenda in the future

Several speakers spoke against the conversion of the two medical buildings at the Sepulveda and asked to have the matter on the agenda; Ernie Hilger, Lawrence Van Kuran from the State of

California and San Fernando Valley American Legion, Jeff Bornstein, former City Council Candidate, Steve Palmer, WWII Veteran, and Mark Reed, Candidate for the 27<sup>th</sup> District. Yvonne Dipre of the North Hills East Neighborhood Council requested to speak but had left before the matter came before the Board.

Shelly Bright advised everyone about the upcoming Neighborhood Beautification Day on Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup>.

John Luker of the Santa Susana Mountain Park Association provided an update on Santa Susana State Historic Park. He expressed appreciation of the public involvement. He advised that at this point the issue regarding the state parks that were slated for foreclosure would be revisited in six months to a year. In an effort to avoid the park being closed because of the drastic cuts in California's budget they are attempting to establish a docent program. Anyone interested please contact his or her Association (818) 371-7918.

Sandi Bell stated that she thought the Fall Fest was wonderful. Mrs. Bell provided an update on Kadima. Mrs. Bell advised that Bill Cohen the new head of school the new principal has been cooperating with the neighbors and that all is going well.

Dr. Daniel Wiseman presented a background on the October 3<sup>rd</sup> Neighborhood Council Action Summit at City Hall led by former General Manger for the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, Greg Nelson. Dr. Wiseman presented a paper comparing the proceedings of the October 3<sup>rd</sup> Action Summit with that of the October 10<sup>th</sup> NC Congress. He reminded everyone about the combined NC Congress and the Mayor's Budget Day to be held at City Hall.

Bonnie Klea questioned the authority of a WHNC member to speak for the Board at a meeting Ms. Rowe attended. Ms. Klea was advised that this was not the venue for such action and that Ms. Klea had the right to file a formal grievance if she believed there may have been some misconduct.

Chris Rowe thanked those involved in reviewing and amending the Council's bylaws for all their hard work.

Walter Perfect advised that he had attended the meeting of Councilman Zine's Posse Committee. He found it very informative and encouraged involvement. Mr. Perfect reported that because of budget cuts, street trees will be pruned every 13 years; that the LA City fire department continues its same coverage, just no overtime and that response time is 5 minutes.

The minutes from September 2, 2009 were accepted as amended.

### **Old Business:**

#### **02-0003– Discussion and possible action re West Hills Street Signage**

Mr. Walter Perfect stated that Councilman Zine has given the OK to produce the sign at a cost of \$9,000. Councilman Zine will not pay the \$750 maintenance fee. Mr. Perfect is trying to get a purchase order for Department Of Neighborhood Empowerment. The delivery will be

approximately 3 to 4 weeks after receipt of the purchase order. The manufacturer will also install the signs. Councilman Smith has not responded yet on the placement of signs in the 12<sup>th</sup> District.

**06-0082 – Santa Susana Mountain Area Committee (SSMAC)**

Dr. Daniel Wiseman advised that the SSMAC and Government Relations activities will be separated by next meeting. Dr. Wiseman summarized the six issues that were discussed at the Action Summit.

Dr. Wiseman advised of the need for a special meeting because of major changes. There is a first draft of the consent decree. The beginning of cleanup has begun at SSFL with a formal process. Dr. Wiseman feels there should be another evaluation at the end of the process to be certain that all necessary cleanups have been done.

Bonnie Klea voiced a complaint about a member of SSMAC who she claimed was harassing and has insulted Dan Hirsch.

**New Business:**

**09-0034 – Discussion and possible action regarding plan approval of an unmanned wireless telecommunications facility located at 22748 Saticoy Street**

Walter Perfect explained that Clear Wireless was asking to add another pod to the bottom of an existing antenna pole. Mr. Perfect made a motion to approve the installation of an unmanned wireless telecommunications facility located at 22748 Saticoy Street. Motion passed.

**09-0035 – Discussion and possible action regarding a proposed Conditional Use Permit (CUP) by T-Mobile for installation of a wireless telecommunication facility located at 22921 Victory Boulevard**

Walter Perfect explained that T-Mobile is putting in a tower shaped like a pine tree behind Ralphs, the box is being put underground. Mr. Lenske brought up the fact that T-Mobile was installing communication equipment in West Hills about which there have been many stakeholder complaints of how they install towers without any input from residents. They have gone so far as to agree with certain conditions and then ignored the conditions when completing installation. It was proposed that T-Mobile's request should be denied until they reestablished working relationships on outstanding equipment placement issues.

Joann Yvanek-Garb pointed out that South Granada Hills Neighborhood Council has been very successful in having all boxes concealed which were not only pedestrian hazards but targets for graffiti and generally unsightly.

Mr. Perfect made a motion to approve the proposed Conditional Use Permit (CUP) by T-Mobile for installation of a wireless telecommunication facility located at 22921 Victory Boulevard. Motion did not carry with one abstention.

9:35 meeting adjourned