



Help Guide the Future of West Hills
West Hills Neighborhood
Council



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FINAL
MEETING MINUTES
April 7, 2010

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, Etan Lorant, Walter Perfect, Charlene Rothstein, Bill Rose, Chris Rowe, Barry Seybert, Ron Sobel, Bobbi Trantafello, Alec Uzemeck, Daniel Wiseman, Joanne Yvanek-Garb, Ed Young and Jacquie Young.

Absent/Excused: Stephen Lenske, **Unexcused:** Stan Staten

Opening Business:

Co-chair, Mr. Edwin Dockus called the meeting to order. Mr. Dockus advised those present that next month the new West Hills Neighborhood Council would be installed. Their election of officers will also be held. Mr. Dockus stated that we are currently reviewing the WHNC Bylaws and when completed will be presented to the entire board and stakeholders. Both the board and stakeholders must approve the Bylaws before they are sent to the City.

Mr. Dockus went on to state that the City is in dire financial trouble and many city departments do not have the funds they once had and this includes the neighborhood councils.

Announcements:

Mr. Dan Brin advised that the Communications Committee would be meeting at 6:15 p.m. every month just before the regularly scheduled monthly council meeting in the small conference room adjacent to the Media Center here at Chaminade.

Ms. Joanne Yvanek-Garb advised that it was very important that everyone mail in his or her 2010 Census form.

Mr. Edwin Dockus advised that there would be another Bylaws meeting in the small conference room tomorrow at 7p.m.

Minutes – Meeting Minutes from March 3, 2010 were presented and approved.

Treasurer's Report – Ms. Bobbi Trantafello presented a Profit & Loss statement indicating that the council has a net income available of \$8,455.38 for the July 2009 – March 2010 budget year. Ms. Trantafello stated that there are still monies owed for contract labor. Ms. Trantafello is not sure of the amount as she has been unable to obtain information on outstanding monies owed to Apple One. Ms. Trantafello advised that she still does not know the status of the \$30,660.16 in roll-over funds.

Dr. Dan Wiseman stated that on Tuesday the Council accepted the recommendation of the Budget Advocate Group and approximately 1 million will be available to the neighborhood councils in roll-over funds.

Ms. Chris Rowe stated that her concern is: that with Wendy Greuel auditing the DWP and with Ms. Greuel stating the city is going bankrupt, it is anyone's guess how much money we will really have.

Ms. Cara Goldman, the new Council Aide replacing Stephanie Romero, from Council District 3 introduced herself to those who had not met her. Ms. Goldman was accompanied by Ms. Jessica Forkish, Special Project Liaison for Councilman Zine.

Ms. Forkish provided information on several upcoming events. There are flyers on the table with full information. Ms. Goldman and Ms. Forkish presented a Certificate for Appreciation from Councilman Zine to Ms. Shelly Bright for her work on the beautification committee in 2009.

Ms. Dan Brin presented to Ms. Goldman a certificate of appreciation from the West Hills Neighborhood Council for Ms. Stephanie Romero for her work while Deputy Field Representative for West Hills.

Ms. Seme Park, Deputy Field Representative for the 12th Council District was present. Ms. Park provided information on activities supported by Councilman Smith. Ms. Park advised that for those who wish to look up information on the portable advertising trailers bill it is AB2756. Ms. Park also advised that the Councilman is introducing 8 new motions relating to the problems with DWP.

Presentation:

Ms. Shelly Bright introduced Mr. Jose Egurbide, Assistant City Attorney in the Criminal Branch, Complex Litigation Section. Mr. Egurbide presented an overview and explanation of the ordinances relating to billboards in Los Angeles.

Mr. Egurbide advised that in 2002 there was a ban on super graphic signs with certain exceptions. This resulted in the filing of lawsuit which has been dismissed. In 2006 what they call a copy cat suit was filed and is still pending. In August of 2009 a new ban, without exceptions, was passed. The Department of Building and Safety is currently working on which signs are legal. A lot of their work is complaint driven. The Los Angeles Fire Department is also investigating from the standpoint of public safety.

With regards to the advertising trailers, Mr. Egurbide stated he is very familiar with Lone Star Security. They are currently looking at if this company has violated the unfair business law as a way.

Public Comment:

Ms. Jacquie Young stated the while the City Clerk stated there were no challenges to the West Valley election, she herself filed five challenges to which she received no response.

Mr. George Weischadle, of Stargazer Restaurant spoke. Mr. Weischadle advised that he and his wife took in partners and the restaurant is now Heartbeat Inc/Yankee Doodles. Mr. Weischadle is requesting permission to install two pool tables in the establishment in response to request of patrons. According to Zoning and Planning Chair, Walter Perfect this is not a change in the CUP and the establishment does not have to notify the surrounding residents. After discussion with the majority of the board seeing no problem with this request, it was determined that it would be handled by the Zoning and Planning Committee.

Old Business:

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

Mr. Walter Perfect stated that he is just waiting for a PO to give to the vendor. After some discussion, Mr. Perfect will get with Ms. Bobbi Trantafello to see what needs to be done.

09-0028 – Discussion and possible action regarding T-Mobile proposed cell phone tower located near Lazy J Ranch Park in the vicinity of Valley Circle Boulevard and Ingomar Street

Mr. Jeff Hafer from T-Mobile advised that they have revised the color and location of the pedestal for the proposed tower to coincide with the wishes of the council. Ms. Charlene Rothstein, based on the committee's recommendation, made a motion to accept the project as presented. Motion carried.

0010-03 – Discussion and possible action re proposed changes to cellular antenna located at Valley Circle Boulevard and Indian Hill Lane – South of Temple Shomrei Torah

Ms. Cia Parker of T-Mobile stated that they are going to flush mount all the vents and based on her many interactions with the board she is recommending the installation of a Radome pole. She stated that she understands that the board asked for a pine tree but in her opinion, because of the height restrictions, we would be very unsatisfied with how it would look. After some discussion, Ms. Charlene Rothstein motioned that the Radome pole be installed. Motion passed.

New Business:

0010-05 – Discussion and possible on a proposed West Hills Neighborhood Council Resolution regarding a proposed signal at he intersection of Kittridge and Shoup

Mr. Barry Seybert read the resolution in which the West Hills Neighborhood Council joins the Woodland Hills Warner Center Council in support of placement of a traffic signal at the intersection of Kittridge Street and Shoup Avenue. After discussion, Mr. Seybert moved that a

letter by written on the West Hills Neighborhood Council letterhead to the Department of Transportation, City of Los Angeles, requesting the immediate placement of a traffic signal at the intersection of Shoup Avenue and Kittridge Street in Woodland Hills/West Hills. Motion passed.

0010-06 - Discussion and possible action regarding approval of funding up to and including \$7,000 for Fall Fest subject to Board approval after the LA City Council approves funding for the West Hills Neighborhood Council for the fiscal year 2010 – 2011

Ms. Bobbi Trantafello advised that this is currently a budget line item. There was much discussion as to what the board's responsibility was if we do not receive sufficient funds to cover this expenditure. It was stated that is why the motion stipulates subject to approval after the 2010-2011 funding is known. Ms. Trantafello moved that we approve \$7,000 for Fall Fest subject to funds available for 2010-1011. Motion passed.

0010-07 – Discussion and possible action regarding approval of funding up to and including \$1,200 for outreach to Optimist West Valley Family Fitness Challenge Run on May 22, 2010 in support of West Hills schools subject to Board approval after the LA City Council approves funding for the West Hills Neighborhood Council for the fiscal year 2010-2011

Ms. Jacquie Young introduced Mr. Ed Young who stated that we have supported this activity since 2007. This activity is better known as Dads Day Dash. The Board's support would allow youth from West Hills to participate free. Ms. Young moved that the West Hills Neighborhood Council sponsor the youth runners from any West Hills School to participate in the Optimist West Valley Family Fitness 5K-10K Challenge Race, Saturday, May 22, 2010 at the Bronze Medallion Level (#1,200), the same level as 2009. It is understood that these funds may be subject to limitations imposed by the City of Los Angeles. After some discussion, it was realized that these monies would be coming from the current funds so the last sentence was stricken from the motion. Motion passed.

Government Relations Report:

Dr. Daniel Wiseman advised that there were four meetings held last Saturday. The City has shown that they cannot handle our funds and run the city. On May 5th we will find out the funds that we are going to have available as well as the use of our reserve funds. Using the reserve funds leaves us vulnerable should there be any major emergency that may arise.

Dr. Wiseman spoke on several items; freezing of NC rollover funds, merger of DONE into the Community Development Department (CDD), budget deficit and use of all of the City's reserve funds. This resulted in a lot of discussion which Dr. Wiseman stated pleased him as he is looking for feedback to take to the Mayor's office.

9:52meeting adjourned