



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  
February 3, 2010**

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

**Council Member Attendance:**

**Present:** Sandi Bell, Shelly Bright, Dan Brin, Edwin Dockus, Carolyn Greenwood, Ron Hess, Donn Howell, Stephen Lenske, Etan Lorant, Walter Perfect, Charlene Rothstein, Chris Rowe, Barry Seybert, Ron Sobel, Stan Staten, Bobbi Trantafello, Alec Uzemeck, Daniel Wiseman, Joanne Yvanek-Garb, Ed Young, Jacquie Young and student representative, Jacob Garb

**Absent/Excused:** Bill Rose

**Opening Business:**

Co-Chair, Mr. Stephen Lenske, called the meeting to order. Mr. Lenske reminded everyone to show respect when someone is speaking and not disturb others by having side conversations. Mr. Lenske reviewed the various activities that the council has been involved in over the past year.

Mr. Lenske asked if the audience had seen the section in the Daily News entitled 140 years in the Valley – A retrospective. He encouraged all who hadn't to look at it as it highlighted some of the significant history of the valley.

**Council Member Announcements:**

Ms. Joanne Yvanek-Garb advised that she is still working on having a town hall meeting. Ms. Yvanek-Garb continues to seek a topic that would appeal and be of interest to stakeholders in the West Valley.

Ms. Chris Rowe advised that she is working with the Woodland Hills Warner Center Neighborhood Council in regards to the 400 million dollar funds from Prop J that is slated to be used at Pierce College. Ms. Rowe advised that she continues to be active in discussion groups concerning medical marijuana facilities in our area and securing a light for the crosswalk at Shoup and Kittridge.

Dr. Daniel Wiseman advised that the Mayor's Budget Survey is available on line at [www.lacity.org](http://www.lacity.org). The site has already had 4500 hits. Dr. Wiseman encouraged everyone to give

their input, not just on the items on the survey but on anything that is of a concern to them. The neighborhood council representatives will be looking at all responses.

Mr. Dan Brin advised that 35 lawn signs promoting the upcoming WHNC election would be available next week.

Ms. Jacquie Young advised those in attendance that although Wendy Greuel attacked DONE's oversight of the neighborhood councils spending, WHNC has never been under any suspicion of misuse of council funds.

Mr. Alec Uzemeck advised that they approached officers Sabra and Cunningham of the Topanga Station with plans to develop a webpage for notifying residents of West Hills concerning Neighborhood Watch activities. The suggestion was well received. Mr. Uzemeck advised they are developing an informal e-mail listing while the webpage is being developed.

Mr. Walter Perfect advised that Zoning & Planning will be holding a meeting on February 9<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 p.m. at Chaminade High School. Topics to be discussed are solar panels, proposed cell tower at Lazy J Park and a presentation for a proposed church @ 22900 W. Saticoy Street.

Mr. Edwin Dockus advised those in attendance that the WHNC election will take place on March 2<sup>nd</sup> and encouraged all to support the candidates.

Mr. Ron Hess advised that the communication committee is generating an e-mail list and there are sign up sheets available.

Mr. Barry Seybert advised that the Valley Alliance has taken the stand that DONE should be eliminated as there is not a need for an entire department to oversee the neighborhood councils.

Mr. Ron Sobel advised that he attended Councilman Zine's Town Hall meeting which was open to the entire district. The main topic was information on crime within the 3<sup>rd</sup> District. The crime rate is down and the big problem now is stolen automobiles. The Councilman and captains from the Topanga and West Valley Stations encouraged everyone to enroll on NIXLE ([www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com)). It is real time notification of police activity in your area as well as nationwide. Mr. Sobel advised that he was very disappointed in the low turnout at the meeting. It reflected a real apathy.

Minutes – Meeting Minutes from November 4, 2009 and January 6, 2010 were presented for review. After some discussion and minor corrections, the minutes were approved as corrected.

Treasurer's Report – Ms. Bobbi Trantafello advised that she has changed the budget to reflect the carryover although the City Council has not voted on the budget for the neighborhood councils. Ms. Trantafello advised that she would continue to use the current \$45,000 to pay expenses. She will wait on the Finance Committee's decision before using the \$36,000 rollover.

Mr. Edwin Dockus advised that the City Council, on Channel 35, had postponed making a decision.

There was no representative present from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Council District.

Deputy Field Representative for the 12<sup>th</sup> Council District, Ms. Seme Park advised that there was a hazardous waste pickup scheduled for February 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> at Platt-Rocketdyne. Ms. Park encouraged everyone to sign up for NIXLE. Ms. Park advised that they are celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Northridge and requested that anyone with any information or memorabilia contact their office.

Ms. Chris Rowe requested that Ms. Park ask Councilman Smith if he could expedite permission for DTSC to obtain samples from Orcutt Ranch. DTSC has agreed to test the fruit at Orcutt Ranch for contaminants but needs permission. Ms. Rowe thought that Councilman Smith could assist in this matter, as he is the Chair for Citrus Sunday.

Senior Lead Officer Sam Sabra advised that West Valley is doing well in crime control and the moral among the officers is good, in light of the threatened layoffs. The Topanga Station is hosting an open house on March 2<sup>nd</sup> and invited all to come. The Neighborhood Watch meetings are held at the station @ 7:00 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month. There is a big push for block captains.

Officer Sabra advised that Senior Lead Officer Cunningham is receiving an award for gathering information that led to the recent capture of a rape suspect. The suspect was one of those going through neighborhoods offering curb number painting. Officer Sabra also advised that they, with the help of the City Attorney have successfully gotten the Department of Corrections to relocate 4 to 5 sex offenders that were on parole. The parolees were living close to a school that while within the Department of Correction's criteria was viewed as a potentially dangerous situation.

**Public Comment:**

Co-chair, Mr. Edwin Dockus explained what constituted public comment and that each speaker would be given two minutes to speak.

Ms. Adria Deliberto, Director of Shadow Ranch Park, encouraged all to complete the Mayor's Budget Survey. Ms. Deliberto pointed out that the second question on the survey relates to parks. Ms. Deliberto advised that if we enjoy the parks and want to continue to have them we need to voice our opinions. Ms. Deliberto advised that signups for the new soccer league has started. The new fee is \$60 and starts in April. Ms. Deliberto advised that the old playground is being completely renovated with Prop K funds. She has been advised that it will be completed in a month and she apologizes for any inconvenience.

Dr. Daniel Wiseman wishes to have the minutes reflect the number of board members and stakeholders present at the meetings. Dr. Wiseman feels that when the council knows how many people attend our meetings they will listen. Dr. Wiseman wants to be part of the solution. After discussion it was stated that this is not the appropriate time to take up this matter.

**New Business:**

0010-01 – Discussion and possible action on proposed resolution regarding the City's proposed sale of assets to pay expenses in its plan to resolve current budget deficits

0010-02 – Discussion and possible action for resolution proposing that City establish regular electronic communication links between the Mayor, City Agencies and Neighborhood Council representatives.

Dr. Daniel Wiseman gave background on how grave the City's current budget crisis is. Dr. Wiseman stated that we must act now and because of this he is introducing four motions for discussion in addition to those stated above. Dr. Wiseman provided handouts for both the above stated discussions and the four he wished to introduce. Dr. Wiseman was of the opinion that the four additional items, not on the agenda, could be heard under the emergency provision of the Brown Act due to dire state of the City.

It was initially proposed that we could consider the two items on the agenda as one. However, it was decided that we take each separately.

Dr. Wiseman moved that the WHNC oppose the sale of City Assets solely for the purpose of decreasing our budget deficit. After much discussion, Ms. Chris Rowe proposed an amendment to the motion that was subsequently withdrawn. A roll call vote was taken. Motion passed with 18 yes and 2 no votes.

Dr. Wiseman moved that the WHNC endorse the concept of increasing Neighborhood Council input in our City's executive and legislative bodies. Specifically, WHNC requests that the Mayor and City Council appoint NC Representatives as "ex officio" members to the Mayoral and City Council Committees and task forces. A roll call vote was taken and motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Wiseman moved that the WHNC consider the remaining motions on an emergency basis. Ms. Joanne Yvanek-garb proposed an amendment to this motion that was subsequently withdrawn. A roll call vote was taken and motion failed with 9 yes, 9 no votes and two abstentions. A two third majority vote was needed to pass.

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. Charlene Rothstein introduced Ms. Cia Parker from T-Mobil. Ms. Parker presented the proposed changes to the cell tower per suggestions from meetings with the Zoning & Planning Committee on this matter. After much discussion, the chair thanked Ms. Parker for all of her hard work and obvious effort to resolve this issue in a manner that was agreeable to both parties, but felt that additional decisions on the part of T-Mobil must be made before the council voted on this matter. It was moved that the matter be tabled and Ms. Parker would continue to work with Zoning & Planning.

**Presentation:**

2010 Candidates Forum - Mr. Etan Lorant introduced the candidates for the upcoming WHNC election on March 2<sup>nd</sup> at Shadow Ranch Park. Each candidate was given two minutes to introduce himself or herself and provided information on their background and/or why they wished to be on the board.

A second Candidates Forum will take place at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 10, 2010 at Chaminade High School.

Meeting adjourned @ 9:55 p.m.