



Help Guide the Future of West Hills
West Hills Neighborhood
Council



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Final
MEETING MINUTES
July 7, 2010

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

Attendance:

Present: Sol Bash, Sandi Bell, Dan Brin, Robert Brostoff, Edwin Dockus, Carolyn Greenwood, Donn Howell, Bonnie Klea, Ruwan Kotuwelle, Stephen Lenske, Walter Perfect, Bill Rose, Charlene Rothstein, Chris Rowe, Barry Seybert, Jeff Shapiro, Ron Sobel, Bobbi Trantafello, Alec Uzemeck and Joanne Yvanek-Garb. Youth Board Member Jacob Garb was present.

Absent/Excused: Shelly Bright, Yoav Shalev, Daniel Wiseman and Jacquie Young

Unexcused: Ron Hess

Opening Business:

Co-chair Mr. Stephen Lenske called the meeting to order. Mr. Lenske expressed his appreciation for all in attendance and encouraged all stakeholders to sign up to participate in any of the council's committees. After the Pledge of Allegiance, a quorum was established.

Announcements:

Mr. Walter Perfect advised that there will be a Zoning and Planning meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 13th at the 911 Call Center.

Co-Chair Mr. Edwin Dockus advised that there would be another by-laws meeting at a date to be announced. Time and place will be on the web site. Ms. Joanne Yvanek-Garb advised that there are by-laws on the DONE web site, as well as instructions that each Neighborhood Council is required to follow.

Minutes – Meeting Minutes from June 2, 2010 were accepted as submitted.

Treasurer's Report – Ms. Bobbi Trantafello presented a Profit & Loss statement indicating that the council has a net income of -\$11,453.71 for the July 2009- June 2010 budget year based upon DONE's failure to honor rollover funds. Ms. Chris Rowe advised that we could see all West Hills transactions on the DONE website. Co-Chair Mr. Stephen Lenske advised that in the future the Board must approve the previous month's transactions at the monthly meeting and the action must be reflected in the minutes. Mr. Alex Uzemeck asked if the \$11,000 overrun would come

out of this year's budget. Ms. Trantafello advised that according to DONE the answer is no. Ms. Trantafello went on to state that we should have had \$36,000 in rollover monies that DONE has failed to honor.

Ms. Jessica Forklish, Council Aide from Council District 3, advised that there would be a NC presidents' meeting at 6:00 p.m. on July 14th at Councilman Zine's office.

There was discussion regarding Councilman Zine's present stand on payment for the West Hills Neighborhood Signage. Co-Chair Mr. Stephen Lenske stated that the councilman's current statement is in conflict with his original written agreement. Ms. Forklish will look into it and get back to Mr. Lenske.

Ms. Forklish advised that, while "No Unhitched Trailers" signs are now posted along Platt Avenue between Sherman Way and Vanowen Street, further actions related to mobile billboards are on hold because of budget cuts. The DOT has been reduced to only one engineer in the West Valley. She is sure funding will resurface in the new budget year.

Senior Lead Officer Sam Sabra distributed the latest SLO Data Sheets. They give a breakdown of everything that has transpired, i.e. thefts, burglaries, etc., in the area in the past month. It includes information on the increase/decrease of crime rates. Crime in the southern portion of West Hills has gone down. Officer Sabra advised that National Night Out is on Tuesday, Aug. 3rd, from 4 to 8 p.m.

Ms. Rosalba Gonzalez, Field Deputy for State Assembly member Bob Blumenfield, invited all to attend the free Women's Financial Literacy Conference on the 16th of July, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Van Nuys. Ms. Gonzalez advised that she is now the liaison for the area west of Reseda and she will be attending our meetings in the future.

Mr. Dan Brin advised that the council hopes to host a candidates' forum during the WHNC's September meeting. In addition, the WHNC is sponsoring a town hall event featuring U.S. Rep. Henry Waxman on Wednesday, Aug. 11, at 7 p.m. at Shomrei Torah Synagogue.

Presentation:

Ms. Dan Brin introduced Ms. Keely Quinn, Communications Director of the Grossman Burn Center now located on the campus of West Hills Hospital. Ms. Quinn gave an update on the move of the burn center from Sherman Oaks to West Hills. They are anticipating that the move will take place by late July. Ms. Quinn also provided background on the creation of the burn center and what the new center will provide. There will not be an opportunity to tour the new facility because of need for a sterile environment. However, there will be an open house with a video tour.

Public Comment:

Co-chair Mr. Edwin Dockus explained what public comment is and the procedure of completing a Speaker Card to request a chance to speak before the board.

Mr. Bob Brostoff advised that in developing the web site he would like to provide information regarding community activities and historical information for West Hills; therefore he would appreciate anyone with such information to forward it to him. Mr. Brostoff also advised that when he was reviewing the official record on the unhitched trailer bill, the only resolution listed was that from Chatsworth Neighborhood Council. He requested that we resend the two resolutions passed by our Council.

Stakeholder Mr. Harold Sabo advised that he wanted to speak about the Indonesian church on Saticoy Street. He and some of the neighbors have several questions, like: where are they going to park when they have events and just how many events do they have each year? Mr. Sabo was advised that this matter has already been before the board and our recommendation was forwarded to Councilman Zine. Mr. Wally Perfect, Zoning and Planning Chair, stated he would meet with Mr. Sabo after the meeting to explain what he should do now to get his concerns addressed.

Board member Sandi Bell stated that she is very concerned that the executive committee changed the name of the Public Health and Public Safety committee to Public Health after the former title was approved for the proposed by-laws.

Stakeholder Kiumars Arzani, founder and Executive Director of Ivy Bound Academy Math, Science and Technology Charter Middle School, advised that he has come before the board to request its support for their acquiring the LAUSD Highlander School facility. They are in the process of preparing a Request for Proposals for the site. His school is currently in Sherman Oaks but there is no room for expansion. It is his understanding that one other school is preparing an RFP for the site. It was decided that the matter could be put on the August agenda so that all parties could be heard.

Board member Chris Rowe advised that DTSC feels that the perchlorate cleanup requirements have been met in Dayton Canyon. Ms. Rowe stated that we need to bring the major players to the board to give information. Ms. Rowe stated she believes that a lawsuit filed by Boeing will determine the amount of cleanup required

Old Business:

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

Mr. Walter Perfect stated that we've already discussed this. Co-chair Mr. Stephen Lenske requested Mr. Perfect to attend the Third Council District's presidents' meeting to facilitate speaking to Councilman Zine on the matter.

Government Relations Report:

Ms. Joanne Yvanek-Garb provided updates from the DWP Ratepayers Advocates and LANCC meetings. Ms. Yvanek-Garb advised that there are still discussions regarding combining DONE and CCD. However, the mayor doesn't have a plan and doesn't know if there will be any cost savings. She advised that DONE is down to a staff of four and that requests going back to 2005 were discovered while cleaning out desks of staff that has left. Ms. Yvanek-Garb advised Councilman Paul Krekorian is planning a town hall meeting.

Fire Captain Don Cascio on B shift from Station 106 spoke about the earthquake that occurred today. Captain Cascio reminded everyone that in preparation for emergencies to have a flashlight and shoes by the bed, have a meeting place outside the house for the family (this will assist rescue personnel to determine if anyone is still in the structure) and another good thing is to have a supply of required medications in your vehicle. He provided an update on the status of installing a heliport at the top of Fallbrook and the new brush-clearance inspection fee of \$13. Captain Cascio also spoke about Station 106 serving as a staging area for fire services during emergency events such as local fires and earthquakes. However, he noted that Station 106, unlike other stations had no auxiliary generator for alternate power source.

Mr. Dan Brin advised that the Communications Committee is planning a special meeting on Aug. 11th and the guest speaker will be Henry Waxman, U.S. Representative for the West Hills area.

Co-Chair Mr. Stephen Lenske advised that the entire board must take the ethics training. It is a requirement that must be met every two years. Mr. Lenske requested that upon completion of the training each member notifies Michelle Ritchie to keep a record of member certification ethics training.

9:16 meeting adjourned