



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**  
**June 2, 2010**

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

**Attendance:**

**Present:** Sandi Bell, Shelly Bright, Dan Brin, Robert Brostoff, Edwin Dockus, Jacob Garb, Donn Howell, Bonnie Klea, Ruwan Kotuwelle, Stephen Lenske, Walter Perfect, Charlene Rothstein, Chris Rowe, Barry Seybert, Yoav Shalev, Jeffrey Shapiro, Rob Sobel, Bobbi Trantafello, Alex Uzemeck, Daniel Wiseman, Joanne Yvanek-Garb, Jacquie Young

**Absent/Excused:** Sol Bash, Carolyn Greenwood, Ron Hess, and Bill Rose

**Opening Business:**

Co-Chair, Mr. Stephen Lenske called the meeting to order. Mr. Lenske expressed his appreciation to the Budget Committee for the new "Budget Form". After the Pledge of Allegiance, a quorum was established and the minutes from the May 5, 2010 meeting were approved as amended.

**Announcements:**

Ms. Jacquie Young stated that there would be a Budget Committee meeting at the 911 Center on July 19, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. Ms. Young also introduced Ms. Nikita Mans, a representative from Chaminade College Preparatory.

Ms. Sandi Bell, Education Chair, announcement that the Education Committee would meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month.

Co-Chair, Mr. Edwin Dockus discussed the budget problems and the negative effect on the Memorial Day Parade. He also reminded us that June 14<sup>th</sup> is Flag Day.

Mr. Walter Perfect, Chair of the Zoning and Planning Committee spoke on the upcoming revision of the West Hills Community Plan. There will be a zoning and Planning Committee meeting (to be announced) for the purpose of discussion, comments and suggestions on the proposed changes to our Community Plan.

Environmental Committee Chair, Alex Uzameck stated that there would be a committee meeting with the date and time to be announced.

Mr. Bob Brostoff, Controller/Communications Chair has been working on the West Hills Neighborhood Council website and plans to add an event calendar to the site.

Public Safety Chair, Ms. Chris Rowe advised that meetings will start next month and may be proposed for Friday afternoons.

Mr. Dan Brin, Communications Co-Chair has been working with Mr. Jeff Shapiro on print media.

Ms. Joanne Yvanek-Garb attended the EPA Open House and had some discussion on the Rad studies.

Government Relations Chair, Dr. Daniel Wiseman spoke regarding the Neighborhood Council's Budget Advocates and the incorporation of DONE into the CDD. There is a meeting tomorrow at 2:30 p.m. in the Mayor's office. See two handouts (attached), which Dr. Wiseman has provided, entitled State and City Conflict of Interest Laws, Information for Board Member of Neighborhood Councils (published by the Office of the City Attorney) and Conflicts of Interest in Public Contracting.

Board member, Ms. Charlene Rothstein invited everyone to participate in the June 13<sup>th</sup>, "Citrus Sunday" drive to feed the needy. This event is to be held at Fields Market in West Hills. Thanks to Mr. Donn Howell and Ms. Shelly Bright, the West Hills Neighborhood Council has a total of five (5) schools participating in our local version of "Citrus Thursday" on June 10<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Barry Seybert, Streets and Transportation Co-Chair, advised that VANC may spearhead a Committee against the DONE/CDD merger.

Co-Chair, Mr. Stephen Lenske asked that board members submit brief summaries on Committee activities, meetings and procedures for distribution to all board members and posting on website. The submissions are to be given to the Executive Director, Michelle Ritchie.

Streets and Transportation Co-Chair, Mr. Ron Sobel, said the "Friday Night Classic Cars" is currently at Fields Market/Woodland & Saticoy Street every Friday night during the summer.

Ms. Bobbi Trantafello, Treasurer, gave the Treasurers report along side the balance sheet and the proposed budget. There was a motion to accept the budget by Mr. Bob Brostoff with a second from Mr. Barry Seybert. The motion was approved

LAPD Senior Lead Officer Sam Sabra informed the Council on the boundaries of his territories and that there had been multiple arrests of burglary group. Officer Sabra suggested that communities form "Block Meetings" to deal with the rise in summer crime. These groups should be 10 people or more. For assistance, Call Officer Sam Sabra @ (818) 731-2578. For those North of Sherman Way, contact Officer Dennis Cunningham @ (818) 756-3073. He also

spoke regarding “National Night Out”, which will be held this coming August at Warner Center Park.

3<sup>rd</sup> Council District Representative, Ms. Jessica Forkish provide information on the November 6, 2010 “Walk” with Zine team to support a cancer cure for the Lymphoma Leukemia Society and the June 13, 2010 disposal of waste materials at Warner Center Park. She also advised that renovation of the bathrooms at Knapp Ranch will begin soon.

12<sup>th</sup> Council District Representative, Ms. Seme Park, stated that anyone who is interested in helping in the removal of signs, please call the Department of Streets at 213-847-6000 to volunteer. She also discussed the issue of sidewalk repair, stating that currently the City will do the repairs, however there is a long backlog and due to budget cuts, future repairs remain in question. She also stated that the legal responsibility to repair the sidewalks does belong to the homeowner. Co-chair Stephen Lenske took issue with her opinion on homeowner responsibility based upon the City’s prior commitments.

**Public Comment:**

Ms. Chris Row reflected on the EPA meeting held today. The primary concern was on the technical documents out for comment. Who is allowed to comment? Part of the statements regard West Hills wells and samples and she asks that the EPA attend a West Hills Neighborhood Council meeting.

Ms. Christina Walsh spoke on the formation of a Community Advisory Group and stated that she is moving forward with her petition for a CAG. She asked that any interested individuals contact her.

Ms. Bonnie Klea submitted an in depth article related to the contamination at the Santa Susana Field Laboratory and spoke of the “loss of innocence” related to this site.

**Old Business:**

02-0003- Discussion and possible action regarding West Hills Signage.

Mr. Walter Perfect and Mr. Barry Seybert stated that part of the problem is that the money has not been put forth in a purchase order and also that the signs have gone from free standing to a “telephone type” attachment. Mr. Perfect and Mr. Seybert will continue to pursue this issue.

0010-09 – Discussion and possible action regarding reconsideration of proposed Church in the A1-1 For a congregation of up to 60 adults with hours and days of operation; Sunday 10:00 a.m. – 5: 00 p.m.; Tuesday & Friday 8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m., with up to 8 special events per year located at 22900 W. Saticoy Street.

Mr. Walter Perfect asked that the board re-open and reconsider this point of business as the Church had met with the stakeholders and added additional conditions to the proposal. Several neighbors who head been against the proposal now spoke in favor of the project, saying there were no objections as long as all the changes were applied. Mr. Robert Lamishaw, JPL Zoning,

representing the Church, agreed that all conditions and the additional changes were now part of the plan. The motion to approve the proposal with the changes were approved with 15 voting yes, 1 no and 3 abstentions.

Co-Chairs, Mr. Stephen Lenske and Mr. Edwin Dockus proposed that Government Relations Committee be chaired by Dr. Daniel Wiseman as an Ad Hoc Committee and that this committee will become a standing committee when the new bylaws are approved. The West Hills Neighborhood Council Board passed this motion unanimously. Dr. Wiseman graciously accepted the Chair position.

**Government Relations Report:**

Dr. Daniel Wiseman discussed the Mayor's proposal to bring the staff of DONE down to 18 under the CDD, to be called "Office of Neighborhood Empowerment". In order to reaffirm our opposition to this proposal and after much discussion, a motion by Dr. Wiseman was made that the West Hills Neighborhood Council opposes the merger of DONE and CDD. The motion carried with a yes vote of 18.

Dr. Wiseman also submitted eleven (11) recommendations from the May 29, 2010 meeting of the Neighborhood Council's Budget Advocates (attached).

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.