



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**  
**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**August 6, 2008**

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

**Attendance:**

**Present:** Kevin Boal, Shelly Bright, Dan Bin, Edwin Dockus, David Ford, Carolyn Greenwood, Donn Howell, Stephen Lenske, Walter Perfect, Bill Rose, Charlene Rothstein, Barry Seybert, Ron Sobel, Jeffrey Stordahl, Tommy Thomason, Bobbi Trantafello, Daniel Wiseman, Ed Young and Joanne Yvanek-Garb

**Excused:** Linda Frost, Rob Jacobs and Etan Lorant

**Absent:** Sam Donabedian

**Opening Business:**

Mr. Stephen Lenske welcomed all the stakeholders. He provided an overview of the meeting agenda and guidelines for speaker comments.

Minutes – the July minutes were approved as amended.

Budget – Bobbi Trantafello provided a brief report and commented on “rollover money.”

**Announcements:**

Mr. Jose Martinez, deputy field representative for Dennis Zine, introduced Stephanie Romero who will be the new 3<sup>rd</sup> District Council field deputy representative for West Hills. Mr. Martinez has been assigned as a representative for two other Neighborhood Councils in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Council District.

Mr. Martinez spoke about the proposed signs for West Hills. He reiterated Mr. Zine’s concern regarding maintaining the signs. As the council has investigated radar signs for West Hills, Mr. Martinez advised that radar signs have been stolen from the 12<sup>th</sup> District. Stakeholders have been asking about the parking lot on Valley Circle. Mr. Martinez advised that the parking lot on Valley Circle across from the West Hills baseball field belongs to the LA County Public Works Dept. He is arranging to have a representative do a presentation and explain just what the plans are for that area.

Ms. Romero spoke of her background and how she is excited to be able to represent the area she grew up in.

There was no representative of the 12<sup>th</sup> Council District. Ron Sobel announced that there are now signs on the north side of Roscoe prohibiting parking from 2 to 6 a.m.

SLO Officers Janet Zumstein and Sue Herold were not in attendance.

Mr. Tom Soong, DONE representative, advised that there was to be a Valley Training Day August 16<sup>th</sup> at the Marvin Braude Constituent Center. It is for everyone, not just the council members. There were flyers available with all the information. Mr. Soong provided a little background on the Congress of Neighborhood Councils and the idea of having regional Congresses. He stated that because of staff resources the regional Congress and the Mayor's Budget Day are being combined. It is being held October 11<sup>th</sup> at City Hall. The first two hours are devoted to the Mayor's Budget and then there is going to be three tracks. The first is working together or the forming of coalitions, the second "best practices" and the third is being called "open space." DONE is continuing to work to have more of the trainings in the valley.

Steve Lenske inquired about the ability to have training videos available for council use. Tom stated there are some available and would provide information to the Executive Director.

Ed Young stated that he attended the City Council meeting and it approved – subject to Mayor's approval – amending the charter to allow NC's to give awards to individuals and schools.

**Public Comment:**

Stakeholder Alex Wasserman, representing the residents of Hidden Lake, stated that they have a petition in opposition to the Corporate Pointe expansion with 741 signatures. Mr. Wasserman presented the petition to the Board.

Stakeholder Oran Zietella requested assistance. A resident in their area runs a swim school out of her home and now is applying for a variance to increase the number of students and days of operation to year round. The traffic from the swim school is already impacting the neighborhood and they are in opposition of any increase. The Zoning and Planning Committee provided some guidance on the issue.

Stakeholder Bob Brostoff spoke about the new WHNC website. He stated that while there are 6 projects listed, only Corporate Pointe has three links to its site (which is supposed to contain pros & cons). However, there are no negative comments to the development, which he doesn't understand since it is such a contested project. Also the site lists a "Guest Book" that is really a comment page, which he says is great but thinks it needs to be labeled differently.

Stakeholder Jackie Young stated that she would like to see the weather in West Hills on the news of instead weather for Van Nuys or other distant places. She would like to know how to get us on the weather map.

## **Old Business:**

### **West Hills Street Signage Update**

Walter Perfect advised that we don't have to remove "Welcome to" from the proposed signage. He stated that Dennis Zine likes it so much he kept the mock up of our proposed West Hills sign. Also the funding has been located and things are progressing.

### **07-1141 Corporate Pointe Development Update**

Bill Rose stated that he has received the proposal and 'Q' conditions regarding this project. He has distributed copies by e-mail and had some hard copies. He has also included copies of DTSC facts and petition inaccuracies. As this is a lot of reading, he asked all to review and get back to him with comments on this material and he will incorporate them into a position letter for the Board. There is to be a hearing this month.

Stakeholder Alec Uzemeck stated that we really needed to look at the 'Q' conditions as they are critical.

Stakeholder Bonnie Klea spoke about how she has pursued this matter for 12 years. She spoke of how the bladder cancer rate is 55% higher in this area. Ms. Klea also stated that we should be wary of the Regional Water Board as they have a history of corruption.

Stakeholder Christina Walsh complained that although Trammel Crow's website has a place for comments, she has been unable to post to the website.

Stakeholder William Bowling asked if he could see the letter from the Board regarding Corporate Pointe prior to its being sent. Steve Lenske stated that board approved correspondence was not subject to stakeholder review or approval before publishing.

### **06-0092 Centex Homes/Dayton Canyon Study Update**

Dr. Daniel Wiseman first stated that the correct name is Santa Susana Mountain Area Committee. Mr. Norm Riley (DTSC) has said that the "no further action" decision is eminent, although he has not yet filed his report. Because of this, Mr. Greig Smith has stated he is satisfied with the findings of the Preliminary Endangerment Assessment (PEA). The committee would like to move that we remind both Dennis Zine and Greg Smith of the material in City Council File #06-2769 which requests and requires "the Environmental Affairs Department, Planning Department, Department of Building & Safety and other relevant City departments and agencies to report on soil and groundwater contamination associated the SSFL and we want them to reactivate the intent of City Council File #02-0149-S2 which started the Santa Susana Field Lab Working Group's actions to collect and publicize information regarding the extent and migration of the various pollutants. Motion was seconded and carried.

Stakeholder Christine Rowe stated that we need to create a dialogue with the various City agencies as contaminants don't stop at borders. She stated again that according to the maps available there are still discrepancies as to where exactly they are going to build.

Stakeholder Christina Walsh wanted to know just what kind of clean up are we going to do in Dayton Canyon as both Councilmen Zine and Smith have said the area is now clean.

Stakeholder William Bowling stated he has a geological map of the area showing fault lines. He also asked that the Board's letter be posted on the website for all to read.

**08-0016 Discussion and possible action regarding the retention of private traffic consultant to survey traffic in vicinity of Valley Circle/Highlander**

Barry Seybert reported that his committee is still talking to local residents and are even investigating contacting traffic consultants from other cities. One problem is that they have been unable to obtain a copy of the very first traffic study on which DOT based their findings.

**08-0008 – Discussion and possible action on changing WHNC Board elections for 2008 to conform with LA City Clerk's office to run election process for 2008 and 2009**

Edwin Dockus reported that unless we change the bylaws as of November we will not have a board. We need to extend the current Board to 2010. There will be a meeting August 12, 2008 to discuss how far we want to extend the old Board and how we want to elect our Board.

**08-0017 – Discussion and possible action regarding proposed allocation of money not to exceed \$500 for a proposed bulletin board to be displayed at Trader Joe's.**

As Ms. Linda Frost was out of town, matter was tabled.

**New Business:**

**08-0019 – Discussion and possible action regarding proposed allocation of money to the West Valley Playhouse up to and including \$10,000 to be paid in two installments.**

Bobbi Trantafello reported that this is a line item and it is rollover money. She introduced Mr. Jon Berry who gave a little background on the playhouse and the request for funds. Their main objective is to bring high-end entertainment for a reasonable price to the West Valley. Motion was made to approve \$10,000 to West Valley Playhouse to be paid in two installments. Motion carried with Barry Seybert voting no and Bobbi Trantafello abstaining.

**08-0021 – Discussion and possible action regarding proposed allocation of money for the National Night Out at Warner Center Park up to and including \$500.00.**

Steve Lenske gave an overview of the activity at National Night Out and a booth manned by West Hills Neighborhood Council. While there was a good turnout it wasn't as large as last year. Ron Sobel moved that we pay \$500 in support of National Night Out. Ed Young seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**08-0020 - Discussion and possible action regarding proposed allocation of money to the Cinema Heritage Project up to and including \$7,500.**

Bobbi Trantafello reported this allocation had been approved by the budget committee. This allocation would come out of the rollover money funds. Dan Brin stated they are now a 501(c) 3 organization and are planning to use these funds to develop the infrastructure. They are looking into several activities. The next showing will be "Blast from the Past." Motion to approve \$7,500 for the Cinema Heritage Project was approved with abstentions by Dan Brin, Barry Seybert, Ron Sobel, Bobbi Trantafello and Ed Young.

**08-0022 - Emergency Preparedness Project**

Steve Lenske stated that this is something we started long ago and now David Ford has agreed again to handle this revived committee. This will be an ad hoc committee and David asked for volunteers.

**08-0023 – Discussion and possible action regarding resolution supporting participation in DWP committee and appointment of WHNC representative**

Dr. Wiseman stated that the “DWP Committee” is another organization which supplements WHNC’s MOU2 membership. The DWP Committee gives WHNC the ability to expression opinions. Dr. Wiseman moved that we support the DWP committee and appoint two representatives. Motion carried and Dr. Wiseman and Joanne Yvanek-Garb volunteered to be our representatives.

**Committee & Other Reports**

Joanne Yvanek-Garb stated she attended the SVA meeting and spoke about joining with them to get a newsletter ready by Fall Fest.

9:45 Meeting adjourned