



Help Guide the Future of West Hills
**West Hills Neighborhood
Council**



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**Final
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
October 1, 2008**

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

Attendance:

Present: Kevin Boal, Shelly Bright, Dan Bin, Edwin Dockus, Carolyn Greenwood, Stephen Lenske, Walter Perfect, Bill Rose, Charlene Rothstein, Chris Rowe, Barry Seybert, Ron Sobel, Stan Staten, Jeffrey Stordahl, Daniel Wiseman, Ed Young and Joanne Yvanek-Garb

Absent: Donn Howell, Etan Lorant, Tommy Thomason and Bobbi Trantafello

Opening Business:

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

Mr. Stephen Lenske advised the stakeholders of upcoming events including the Fall Fest on October 5, 2008 at Field's Market.

Minutes – the September minutes were approved as amended.

Budget – Bobbi Trantafello was not present and report was postponed until the next meeting.

Announcements:

Ms. Stephanie Romero, our new deputy field representative for Dennis Zine, was present. She spoke on a couple of upcoming events. Ms. Romero advised that Councilman Zine sees no problems with the proposed locations for the West Hills signage. The cost of a speed sign proposed for the south side of Valley Circle is \$12,000. Steve Lenske advised that \$15,000 of the Street Furniture Fund will be used for the West Hills signage and the remainder can go to pay ½ of the cost of the speed sign under the program of sharing costs with the Council District.

John Bwarie, the deputy field representative of the 12th District, was present. Mr. Bwarie advised that January 3, 2009 was the proposed dedication of the new Topanga Police Station. On November 13th the largest earthquake drill will take place and he encouraged the council to take part. With regards to the West Hills signage in the 12th District, Mr. Bwarie advised that they are looking into getting a better deal for installation of the pole, and therefore, Councilman Smith has not given his final approval.

Presentation:

Officer Troy Williams, LAPD West Valley Traffic Officer, spoke about traffic enforcement and recent adjustment survey for posted speeds. Officer Williams advised that the proposed speed limit increase is not a bad thing. He advised how the speed limits have been determined in the past resulting in their being artificially low and that has hindered enforcement. Adjusting to the national standards will allow for better enforcement.

Sergeant Martin C. Fentress, LAPD Community Relations, advised about the opening of the new Topanga Police Station and the need for volunteers. There will be a meeting on October 22nd; however, anyone willing to volunteer can contact him at 818-778-4727 anytime. The new station will be operational January 4, 2009.

Public Comment:

Jesse Gilholm from Synergy on behalf of T-Mobile, advised that they are planning on putting an additional cell tower at Fallbrook & Saticoy and wanted input from the Board. Mr. Lenske advised that because it was not on the agenda and had not been publicized we would be unable to vote on it at this time. However, general comments were made on location and design of tower.

Dr. Daniel Wiseman asked that everyone e-mail him regarding points to be covered during Your Neighborhood Council Public Access Television Program which will be airing live on Friday, October 3rd from 8:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. The subject matter of the program will be: "What is the West Hills Neighborhood Council and how does it work?"

Old Business:**West Hills Street Signage Update**

This has already been addressed.

07-1141 Corporate Pointe Development Update

Bill Rose advised that his committee was making progress. The problem seems to be the retail outlet proposed for the southwest corner. Mr. Rose circulated a sheet to get general comment from the board regarding this portion of the committee project. Barry Seybert asked whether the parking structure will be at level with the helio pad. Mr. Rose advised that they have reduced the height but that one of the problems remains the question of what is the actual line of sight of the garage and of the 100' high office building will be—what are they going to be looking at? Dr. Wiseman asked who is going to maintain the buffer zone between Hidden Lakes and Corporate Pointe. Mr. Rose advised that the committee will be presenting a recommendation at the next meeting.

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 advised that the City has mandated that the City Clerk administer all neighborhood council elections. This is the second reading of the proposed Bylaw changes. The changes will be submitted to DONE which in turn will forward them to the City Attorney for review. Dan Brin advised that stakeholders have an opportunity to vote on these changes. Mr. Dockus read and called for a vote on the revised Article VIII, section 1. Motion passed with abstentions by Chris Rowe and Dr. Wiseman. Dr. Wiseman advised that he chooses to abstain from all votes on this issue as he feels the new election process is very unpleasant and ill conceived. Mr. Dockus read and called for a vote on the revised Article VIII, section 2. Motion passed with abstention by Dr. Wiseman. Mr. Dockus read and called for a vote on the revised Article VIII, section 2 a, b, and c. Motion passed with an abstention by Dr. Wiseman. Mr. Dockus read and called for a vote on the

revised Article IV in its entirety. Motion passed with a nay vote by Barry Seybert. Mr. Dockus read and called for a vote on the removal of the sentence “The terms of the directors shall be staggered” from Section 1. Motion passed.

06-0092 Santa Susana Mountain Area Committee (SSMAC) Update

Dr. Daniel Wiseman advised that minutes from the September 24, 2008 SSMAC meeting have been approved. Dr. Wiseman made a motion that we again submit a formal request to Mr. Riley of the Department of Toxic Substance Control to delay the “No Further Action” letter for Centex Homes until there is a new inspection of all sides of the mountain for perchlorate, TCE, other volatile organic compounds (VOCs), heavy metals and radioactive wastes. Further, we ask our City Council to review this matter, publicly and thoroughly and take appropriate action. Motion passed.

Stakeholder Elizabeth Crawford (rocketdynewatch.org) advised that she has been investigating Rocketdyne for the last 8 years and she wishes to back up Dr. Wiseman. She felt that Corporate Pointe is a witch’s soup that we have not begun to look at.

Stakeholder Christina Walsh advised that she brought a handout reflecting the current issues relating to the onsite and offsite clean-up investigation. Comments are due October 29th on how to clean up the site. The Department of Toxic Substance Control has currently declined the invitation from DOE to act as a “cooperating agency” in preparation of the EIS mandated by US Northern District Court order.

Stakeholder William Bowling advised that he brought a flyer and invited all to visit the Aerospace Cancer Museum in Lake Manor. He also would like to sign on to the letter by Dr. Wiseman. Mr. Bowling advised that there is a major plume of perchlorate under Corporate Pointe.

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

Barry Seybert said his committee has only two reports and a third is being sought. Steve Lenske advised that we have all the city reports. While DOT is willing to cooperate, we can’t ask for something we already have been provided. Steve Lenske asked for a timeline for having a recommendation for a consultant. Barry Seybert advised that they need one more bid and then they can proceed. December would be the latest for a recommendation from the committee.

Committee & Other Reports

LA City Government Activities Update – Dr. Wiseman advised the Congress of Neighborhood Councils and the Mayor’s Budget Day are being held October 11th at City Hall. Dr. Wiseman advised that the DWP Board of Commissioners meeting is being held Tuesday morning, October 4th at 10 a.m. and the idea of an independent ratepayer’s advocate will be introduced. This and other information was in a handout distributed by Dr. Wiseman.

Fall Fest – Ed Young advised that it is slated for Sunday, October 5th. The singing group, Ticket to Ride, will perform at 4 p.m. Volunteers should arrive anytime after 6 a.m.

Cinema Heritage – Dan Brin advised that the meetings have been delayed because of work on Fall Fest. However, there are still some things in the works.

9:44 Meeting adjourned

CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY
OF
WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

I, Carolyn Greenwood _____ certify as follows:
NAME OF SECRETARY (type or print)

I am the duly qualified and acting Secretary of WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL.

The attached Minutes of October 1 _____, 2008 shall constitute the minutes of the meeting of

WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
BOARD OF MEMBERS

DATED: _____, 20____.

Carolyn Greenwood, Secretary
West Hills Neighborhood Council

Stephen A. Lenske, Co-Chair
West Hills Neighborhood Council