



Help Guide the Future of West Hills
West Hills Neighborhood
Council



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Final
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
July 2, 2008

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

Attendance:

Present: Shelly Bright, Dan Brin, Edwin Dockus, Carolyn Greenwood, Etan Lorant, Walter Perfect, Bill Rose, Charlene Rothstein, Barry Seybert, Ron Sobel, Jeffrey Stordahl, Bobbi Trantafello, Daniel Wiseman and Joanne Yvanek-Garb

Excused: Linda Frost, Rob Jacobs, Stephen Lenske, and Ed Young

Absent: Kevin Boal, Sam Donabedian, David Ford, Donn Howell, and Tommy Thomason.

Opening Business:

Mr. Edwin Dockus welcomed all the stakeholders. He provided an overview of how the meeting would proceed and what a stakeholder/person needed to do to speak before the board either with general comments or on a specific topic.

Minutes – the June 4, 2008 minutes were approved as published.

Budget – Bobbi Trantafello stated that the budget has been submitted to DONE. The budget committee approved three items for full council consideration:

- 1 - \$3,000 for the Valley Circle traffic study (\$500 for a look over to \$2,500 for a full review)
- 2 - \$4,000 for wrestling mats for El Camino High School (school to secure remainder of \$8,000 cost)
- 3 – There was a request for \$10,000 from the West Valley Playhouse – although the budget committee is recommending this expenditure as it is not on the agenda it will not be voted on.

It was brought up in the Budget Committee meeting the possibility of allocating a maximum of \$4,000 a year to schools (\$500 for each elementary school) in West Hills. This would be part of outreach. It will be discussed further and the legality of such an allocation will be investigated.

Announcements:

Mr. Jose Martinez, Deputy Field Representative for Dennis Zine, was not present.

Mr. John Bwarie, Deputy Field Representative for Greg Smith was present. Mr. Bwarie explained that because there are multiple neighborhood councils within the 12th District and

several have meetings on the same night as WHNC that representatives have been unable to attend our monthly meeting on a regular basis. However, Mr. Bwarie stated that all information regarding the District is on their website CD-12.org and they are always available by e-mail.

SLO Officer Janet Zumstein was not in attendance. She was recovering from a motorcycle accident.

Mr. Tom Soong, DONE representative, advised that all five West Valley neighborhood councils involved in the joint election last year have postponed their next election to 2010. He stated that the Congress of Neighborhood Councils originally scheduled to be held in the South Valley will now be held on the same day as the Mayor's Budget Day with the combined activity being held at Los Angeles City Hall on October 11, 2008. DONE is working to have more of the trainings in the San Fernando Valley.

Public Comment:

Stakeholder Alba Kuhlmeier congratulated Ed Crowe on the new WHNC website.

Presentation:

Daniel Wiseman gave a slide presentation on the DWP rates and what it will mean to each household.

After the presentation Dr. Wiseman advised that there were three motions by the government Relations Committee;

1 – We resolve that the people living in the zip codes with an average temperature over 90 degrees be given even more consideration than the rest of Zone #2. Motion seconded by Barry Seybert. Motion carried.

2 – We support the request to include Studio City and Toluca Lake in the in the “hotter” Zone #2. Motion seconded by Barry Seybert. There were two nay votes. Motion carried.

3 - As the new rate increases are based on data from 1994 and the average summer temperature seems to be rising, we propose that a more current study for the average summer daily peak temperature be done. Motion seconded by Barry Seybert. Motion carried.

Old Business:

West Hills Street Signage Update

Walter Perfect advised that Dennis Zine likes the sign but said that the “Welcome to” has to be removed as it is against City Code. There is some confusion as to whether the WHNC has received the Streets & Furniture funds or not. Councilman Zine is of the opinion that we have but several of the Board members said we only received a symbolic check and the funds were never transferred. Walter will investigate further.

08-0006 Neighborhood Council Self-Assessment Survey Update

Charlene Rothstein stated it has been completed and submitted. The Board thanked her and Donn Howell for all their efforts.

07-1141 Corporate Pointe Development Update

Bill Rose advised that Trammel Crow said we should have the Q conditions within two weeks for our review. They are having a public hearing in August (no date yet). The parking structure (which many objected to) has been changed from five levels to three with one being subterranean to cut down on the visual impact.

06-0092 Centex Homes/Dayton Canyon Study Update

Dan Wiseman stated that DTSC has completed their review. It is now up to Mr. Norm Riley, Chief of Staff of DTSC, to write their position paper as to whether there is “no further action necessary” or not. We are on record as opposed to the “no further action necessary” position.

Stakeholder Chris Rowe spoke. She stated that she is still pursuing the cultural significance of this area with regards to the Chumash Indians. She has learned that there is a portion of the property that Centex is donating to the Santa Monica Conservancy and she is concerned that according to the 1999 EIR. They are only sampling the home site area and not the area that is being donated to the Conservancy. She will give all the information to Mr. Wiseman.

Stakeholder William Bowling asked about the “no further action necessary” statement. Mr. Wiseman explained that DTSC has not issued such a statement yet.

Daniel Wiseman stated that he has prepared a letter of invitation to the WHNC meetings. He proposes to send it to thirteen different department heads. A motion was made that the Board approve the letter as written by Daniel Wiseman. Joanne Yvanek-Garb seconded the motion. Motion carried.

08-0014 Discussion and possible action regarding proposed allocation of money not to exceed \$500 to El Camino High School wrestling team for West Hills labeled mats.

Shelly Bright made a motion to approve \$4,000 for a wrestling mat for El Camino High School. Barry Seybert seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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

Shelly Bright advised that she attended a meeting of the West Hills Safety Coalition. Shelly went over the costs of an independent review. After some discussion it was noted that we should have three competitive bids to meet the City’s requirements. Shelly stated that she has tried to contact other consultants but received no response. Barry Seybert made a motion that we postpone this item until next month to pursuer additional bids. Shelly Bright seconded the motion. Motion carried.

New Business:

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 Joes.

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

08-0018 – Discussion and possible action regarding restroom proposal at Lazy J Ranch Park
Ron Sobel said that in his preliminary investigation the neighborhood was not receptive to this proposal. They felt it may cause problems with transients. Ron made a motion to postpone until September to allow for further investigation. Barry Seybert seconded the motion. Motion carried.

08-0019 – Discussion and possible action regarding proposed support of West Valley Girls Softball League
Ron Sobel advised that the agreement between the softball league and the soccer league was not set in stone. There was some discussion as to exactly what the Board's role was in this matter. Ed Young will get more information.

Committee & Other Reports

Dan Wiseman advised about the upcoming DWP Committee was formed today – asked to be on the August agenda.

Dan Brin stated that the next event of Cinema Heritage Project would possibly be in January or early February.

Ron Sobel attended Dennis Zine's Presidents' Meeting (the presidents of the Neighborhood Councils within the 3rd District) and gave an overview of the meeting. They discussed Fall Fest which will be held on October 5th, elimination of graffiti by calling 311 and National Night Out which will be on August 5th. He advised that there is a new ordinance that requires all businesses lock up spray paint. If anyone observes this not being done – report it.

Ron also requested that he or Barry Seybert be contacted regarding any vacant houses that are not being taken care of.

9:40 Meeting adjourned