

IT'S OUR NEIGHBORHOOD. LET'S BUILD A COMMUNITY.



West Hills Neighborhood Council

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Subcommittee on Homelessness Minutes (approved 9/19/16 minor change)

August 15, 2016 -- 6:00 to 7:00 pm

**West Hills Hospital, 1st Floor Conference Room
7300 Medical Center Drive, West Hills, CA**

1. Call to order 6:01 pm, established quorum
Attendance: Aida Abkarians Tom Booth, Simone Best, Anthony Brosamle, Marge Brown, Fiona Kilner, Olivia Naturman, Brad Vanderhoof. Visitors were Joanne Yvanek-Garb and Nick Montano from Chatsworth NC Homeless Committee also attended.
2. Minutes
 - a. Draft minutes procedure was discussed – Draft minutes are to be sent from secretary to whole group. Draft corrections brought to meeting for review. Approved corrections will be collected and made by the secretary; the secretary will then resend final to be posted.
 - b. Minutes from May, June, and July
Marge moved to approve May 2016 minutes, Tom seconded. Passed with no objections.
Brad moved to approve June 2016 minutes, Tom seconded. Passed with no objections.
Fiona moved to approve July 2016 minutes, Marge seconded. Passed with no objections.
3. Comments from co-chairs

Simone reported she volunteered to be a Budget Advocate. Budget Advocates interview city department heads and make suggestions to the City Council and Mayor on the city's annual budget. Simone's team will be reviewing the city homeless program, housing and aging.

Tom spoke about the SB 82 Mobile Triage Referral Sheet. Anyone can use the referral sheet. Response time is 1-5 days, the individual/family will be assessed and linked to other resources. Mental Health Triage 211 or 818-610-6726 – SFMHC clinic per Marge

Tom attended the last Topanga Neighborhood Watch meeting. He informed us that the Senior Lead Officers' (SLO) remarks were in tune with new philosophy of decriminalizing homelessness, i.e. will contact the homeless encampments at least 3 times before they break down the encampment, etc.

Tom was invited to present at the next Neighborhood Watch on homelessness (set Oct. 10). Also, Sept. 12 Council Member Bob Blumenfield Homeless Town Hall at the Canoga Park Senior Center. The group discussed breaking down information silos between the City and

County, being at the meeting might help. Fiona stated she needs info on LAHSA and how to interface with the city etc.

It was suggested that the County has more services, maybe this is why we see less from the City regarding social services in the West Valley. Need flow/org chart for how county/city work together.

4. Homeless Mobile Business Outreach – Alec submitted resignation. Still looking at Fallbrook Mall business packet. Aida volunteered to do this project once she has the packets.
5. Budget – approved budget \$2,500 for LSS, \$800 left in budget goes back to cover copying costs West Valley food pantry awarded \$1,000
6. CIS File CF16-0047 – General Obligation passed at General Board Meeting
7. CIS File – CF15-1138-S11 - passed at General Board Meeting
8. Joint ventures – struggle to get everyone together Reseda, Canoga, Woodland Hills, Warner Center, Chatsworth NCs (Nick Montano, guest)
9. Homeless services handout document – Olivia to work on this resource listing. Others to send Olivia information or post to common use document. A question was asked on what we are planning to do with this information?
 - a. Suggest use Google form to create this resource. Olivia, Tom and Fiona are to work on Google form/doc. Fiona is to send Olivia the LSS resource list on excel.
10. Fall Fest is scheduled for October 29th. Ed Young is the event coordinator. Our committee will be disseminating information on homelessness and collecting clothing, blankets and hygiene kits and food at the event.
11. Nick Montano from Chatsworth NC talked about his community. Chatsworth has encampments and most folks want to help but the encampments are a real problem. Nick mentioned that he has already been to the encampments and offered jobs to the folks there but they don't want to work.
He suggested a job fair in the parking lot. Get businesses together for the area to do this. It is an opportunity for the shops in Chatsworth to make a difference. Nick offers his restaurant as a meeting place to coordinate West SFV NCs.
This brought back members recollection of a comment Heidi once made about helping local homeless folks through outreach and then asking them if they would agree to us "telling their story" in our publications. The hope would be to educate our community and get homeless folks the services they need.

Meeting adjourned at 7:17pm