



Help Guide the Future of West Hills
West Hills Neighborhood
Council



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Amended
MEETING MINUTES
December 7, 2011

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

Attendance:

Present: Solomon Bash, Shelly Bright, Dan Brin, Edwin Dockus, Carolyn Greenwood, Donn Howell, Bonnie Klea, Ruwan Kotuwelle, Elliot Maggin, Walter Perfect, Bill Rose, Charlene Rothstein, Chris Rowe, Jeffrey Shapiro, Ron Sobel, Bobbi Trantafello, Daniel Wiseman, Joanne Yvanek-Garb and

Absent/Excused: Sandi Bell, Robert Brostoff, Stephen Lenske, Yoav Shalev, Barry Seybert and Jacquie Young

Opening Business:

Co-Chair, Mr. Edwin Dockus established a quorum, called the meeting to order. He also asked, that any stakeholder who would like to speak, please fill out a speaker card so that the appropriate amount of time can be allotted. Mr. Dockus explained that due to a complaint that was filed with the City of Los Angeles our Executive Director, Michelle Richie has been fired and our Chairman, Mr. Stephen Lenske is unable to participate until the allegation has been investigated

Presentation:

Mr. Dan Brin welcomed and introduced Senator Pavley. Senator Pavley spoke about her background in politics and that she is a "valley girl." Senator Pavley also spoke about some of the issues that she is passionate about such as our energy independence, open space and quality of life issues.

Representative from Council District 3, Mr. Ron Rubine advised that the West Hills Neighborhood signs have been approved by the Department of Transportation. The date for the instillation of the signs has not been set. Councilman Zine has introduced a motion to have the interim director of the Housing Authority appear before the City Council and explain the wasteful spending of taxpayers dollars on trips and expensive meals. Mr. Rubine stated that Mr. David Ford is the Redistricting Commissioner for Council District 3.

Representative from Council District 12, Ms. Seme Park spoke about several items spearheaded by Councilman Englander. They are looking to eliminate the sale of soda (because of the obesity problem) at parks, recreation facilities and libraries. Councilman Englander has co-authored a

motion calling for recommendations on more local control and accountability to help improve Van Nuys Airport. They are looking at eliminating the business tax on new car dealers as a means to stimulate business.

Public Comment:

Mr. Walter Perfect and Dr. Daniel Wiseman.

Mr. Fred Gaines, Michael Greenfeld, Ms. Lori Yalem, Mr. Donald Cramer, Mr. Ira Handelman, Ms. Therese Li, Ms. Cynthia Liu and Ms. Chris Rowe all spoke about the New Jewish High School.

Presentation:

Dr. Dan Wiseman introduced Mr. Ronald Ziff to provide information on the Los Angeles River Improvement Overlay. Mr. Ziff advised that the project covers a 32-mile area, much of it in the Sherman Oaks area. A lot of what has gone on with this project has transpired under the radar. Some of the proposed modifications required for private properties adjacent to the river are excessive unnecessary, illogical, extremely expensive and threaten an unpredictable change of the properties along and beside the river. There is a meeting January 12th, 2 p.m. at City Hall before the Planning Commission.

Dr. Wiseman made a motion that the WHNC proposes that the RIO include the Bell Canyon and Valley Circle/Highlander segments of the Los Angeles River because Bell Canyon is the true origin of the river and because a park setting will be created at the Valley Circle/Highlander segment. Motion failed.

Dr. Wiseman made a second motion the WHNC notes that little or no direct communications, few personal visits and only minimal written materials have been provided concerning the RIO plans to the NCs and that this deficiency should be corrected before any further definitive action is taken on the project. Motion carried.

Mr. Lawrence Joe from the Los Angeles City Council Redistricting Commission advised that there was a redistricting hearing planned for Saturday, December 17, 2011 in West Hills and encouraged all to attend. Dr. Wiseman stated that there were decisions to be made with regards to shaping our community. Dr. Wiseman asked for input from the Board on how redistricting should be handled. After some discussion, Dr. Wiseman introduced a motion that the new boundary follow along the neighborhood council boundary line or that the new boundary result in the neighborhood council being completely in one district (not two as it is current configured). Motion failed.

Minutes – the minutes of November 2, 2011 were approved as corrected.

New Business:

11-0027– Introduction of Ms. Amanda Heath and discussion and possible action endorsement for Miss California Teen USA 2012

Mr. Dan Brin introduced Ms. Heath. Ms. Heath gave a short summary of her background and stated that she is requesting approval of representing West Hills at Miss California Teen USA.

Mr. Dan Brin moved that we endorse Ms. Amanda Heath as a representative of West Hills in the Miss Teen USA Pageant. Motion passed.

Ms. Bobbi Trantafello advised that there was no new information with regards to the budget and that there has been only three expenditures, \$30 for mick, \$22 for printing of minutes and agenda and \$46 for four badges, since last month.

Announcements:

Ms. Joanne Yvanek-Garb advised that the Budget Advocates have elected officers and have formed ten committees.

Ms. Yvanek-Garb moved that the WHNC support the resolution passed by BONC regarding the neighborhood councils' elections. Motion passed.

Mr. Wally Perfect advised that there would be a Zoning & Planning meeting December 13th.

Old Business:

02-0003 – Discussion and possible action re West Hills Street Signage

Mr. Wally Perfect advised that everything is ready and he requested information on the total amount expended for the signs.

11-0025 – Discussion and possible action regarding the West Hills Neighborhood Council 2012 Survey

Mr. Dan Brin advised that because of the pending grievances, Mr. Bob Brostoff has taken a leave from his duties and requested that Ms. Charlene Rothstein be appointed a Co-chair of the Election Committee. Mr. Dockus appointed Ms. Rothstein Co-chair. Ms. Rothstein moved to accept the Election Survey as presented to the Board. Motion carried with one abstention.

New Business:

11-0026 – Discussion and possible action regarding recommendations of Environment Committee on Santa Susana Field Lab and Dayton Canyon cleanup

Ms. Chris Rowe moved that a letter developed by the Environment Committee to Michael LoGrande, Director of Planning be approved. Motion failed.

Ms. Chris Rowe moved that a letter developed by the Environment Committee to Debbie Raphael, Director California Department of Toxic Substances Control (copy attached) be approved. Motion passed with ten aye, two nay and not abstentions.

10:20 meeting adjourned.