



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

Final
MEETING MINUTES
April 6, 2011

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

Attendance:

Present: Solomon Bash, Sandi Bell, Shelly Bright, Dan Brin, Robert Brostoff, Edwin Dockus, Carolyn Greenwood, Donn Howell, Bonnie Klea, Ruwan Kotuwelle, Stephen Lenske, Walter Perfect, Bill Rose, Charlene Rothstein, Chris Rowe, Barry Seybert, Yoav Shalev, Jeffrey Shapiro, Ron Sobel, Daniel Wiseman and Jacquie Young

Absent/Excused: Bobbi Trantafello and Joanne Yvanek-Garb

Opening Business:

Mr. Stephen Lenske went over the general rules and purpose of the meeting. Mr. Lenske asked that we leave the facility as clean as we found it so that we may continue to use this facility. In addition, Mr. Lenske advised that this is an open meeting and if anyone wishes to speak they must fill out a speaker card. He went on to explain that we have a full agenda and asked those wishing to speak including those giving reports to keep it short.

Mr. Lenske informed those present that the council's web-site provides a monthly update with information about events in West Hills. There is a sign up sheet for those interested in receiving the publication. Mr. Lenske strongly urged those present to get involved.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, a quorum was established.

Announcements:

Minutes – the minutes of March 2nd were approved as published

Senior Lead Officer Sam Sabra was introduced. Officer Sabra informed those present that thefts are currently the major problem in West Hills, particularly at Westfield and Fallbrook malls. Officer Sabra went over safety precautions that each of us should take. Officer Sabra pointed out that in addition to keeping purchases hidden in the truck, if you are doing additional shopping move your car as a thief may be watching and just waiting for you to return to the store. Officer Sabra also advised that NIXLE.COM is a great tool. It provides real time information to the

community. It is free to the community and is free of SPAM. You can get it on your cell phone or e-mail. LA County also has a website available to the public in which they will actually call your cell phone or landline in case of a major emergency.

There was no representative from District 3 or 12. Mr. Lenske advised that we lost Megan Murray as our District 3 representative. Ms. Murray has accepted a position in Indiana.

Treasurer's Report –As Ms. Trantafello was not present, Mr. Brostoff presented her report. Mr. Brostoff provided a report detailing the estimated expenditures for 2010 – 2011. Mr. Brostoff pointed out that the contract with GoDaddy was for two years and that we might not need the monies projected for the signs. Mr. Brostoff advised that the estimated budget shows available funds of \$3,201 after meeting anticipated expenses. Mr. Brostoff stated that Ms. Trantafello requested that these funds not be used until we are certain that payment requests from the rollover funds are paid.

Mr. Ron Sobel advised that the City has hired a private company to maintain the median from March to Ingomar. Mr. Sobel also advised that many were not aware that the Veterans Administration has a program that pays toward assisted living for a spouse or veteran of World War II.

Mrs. Jacquie Young advised that there will be a presentation in the 911 Call Center at 6:30 p.m. on April 25th by the West Hills/Canoga Park Chamber re Fall Fest. Also Ms. Trantafello has requested that all Committee Chairs submit their budget requests for next year.

Mr. Sol Bash advised that there will be a Public Safety and Health Fair at Shadow Ranch Park April 23rd from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Those interested in participating can contact Mr. Bash. There is no cost for participating. There will be lots of activities for the children.

Mr. Wally Perfect advised that District 3 is conducting Operation Pothole on April 16th and 17th. Residents are to call 818-756-8848 with locations that need attention.

Mr. Dan Brin encouraged all present to sign up for the West Hills Neighborhood Council's e-mail.

Dr. Daniel Wiseman advised those present that for the first time EVER, the neighborhood councils gave a formal presentation to the City Council. They were given a half hour but the presentation with questions lasted an hour and a half.

Mr. Lenske advised that Ms. Joanne Yvanek-Garb has provided a written report on the VANC and LANCC and each board member should have a copy. Extra copies were available for those present.

Presentation:

Mr. Dan Brin introduced Ms. Jill Milligan and Mr. Alex Kosich who had come to present "A Vision for the Francis & Marion Lederer Community Performing Arts Center in West Hills". Ms. Milligan is the manager of the Hidden Chateau and Mr. Kosich is the architect that has been

hired to develop a plan for turning the Chateau property into a cultural center for the west valley. Ms. Milligan stated that the Chateau was originally the horse stable built in 1934 as part of the Francis and Marion Lederer property. Francis Lederer's vision was to build a plaza and bring the arts to the valley. Ms. Milligan stated that they are now on the journey to make Mr. Lederer's vision a reality. Ms. Milligan stated that it is even more important now that Mrs. Lederer who is presently 91 years of age and would like to see this happen in her lifetime. Ms. Milligan advised that they are currently looking for support of this project and that anyone interested or who knows someone that would be interested to go to HiddenChateau@SBC.net or they can come and see her at the Chateau

Mr. Kosich presented colored renderings of the vision for the plaza and the buildings/activities that would be there.

The building of this plaza would address several critical needs for West Hills.

Public Comment:

There were no speaker cards presented for public comment.

Governmental Relations

Dr. Dan Wiseman advised that he is part of the 22 Neighborhood Budget Advocates who have been working for the last 7 months to compile information for the city budget. This work turned into what is now being called the "White Paper". They presented their findings at the City Council meeting, which is the first time the neighborhood councils have been formally asked to speak. The report will be coming out in a couple of weeks. Dr. Wiseman advised that the Mayor's budget comes out April 20th.

Environment & Public Health Report

Ms. Chris Rowe presented a report on the Chatsworth Nature Preserve, update on SSFL and the crisis in Japan.

Ms. Rowe gave the background on the establishment a portion of the Chatsworth Nature Preserve as wetlands and why we were not given the opportunity to respond. It involves 44 acres on the SW portion of the preserve.

Ms. Rowe advised that the primary law that applies to SS Field Lab is SB990, which requires cleanup to agriculture standards. Currently SS Field Lab is involved in two lawsuits regarding the required cleanup. Ms. Rowe stated that there are multiple levels of monitoring in effect.

Ms. Rowe gave an overview of the possible danger from the crisis in Japan. At this time we are not in danger and she will keep us posted.

Old Business:

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

Mr. Wally Perfect advised that board members, Mr. Dan Brin and Mr. Barry Seybert were not happy with rendering for the signage. Mr. Seybert explained that the rendering was done from

concept drawing. This was just a concept and an actual drawing of the chateau and hills were to be done when we got the approval to make the signs. They wish to look into the cost of having a new rendering done with the correct items. The matter is put over until the May meeting for follow-up.

09-0028 –Status of cell antenna design/site options for Lazy J Ranch Park in the vicinity of valley Circle Boulevard and Ingomar Avenue

Ms. Charlene Rothstein advised that Mr. Luke Snyder from BMS Communication is present. Ms. Rothstein advised that they are proposing to install a Radome on an existing light pole just north of Ingomar instead of a mono-pine. Mr. Snyder explained that the hearing is April 15th for approval of this design. Ms. Rothstein requested that he come back to the board and neighbors after the approval.

Stakeholder Jeff Bobrosky stated he is a homeowner involved with appealing the original design. He stated that this would be a much more viable option and that the neighbors would approve this design. He also thanked Ms. Rothstein and Mr. Snyder for their assistance.

10-0003 – Discussion and possible action re proposed changes to cellular antenna located at Valley Circle Boulevard and Indian Hill Lane – South of Temple Shomrei Torah

Ms. Rothstein advised the board that Jonathan Brand, from Councilman Zine’s office, had contacted her. Ms. Rothstein stated that Mr. Brand needed our position on the swapping of the current design for a more preferable design, the Radome at Shomrei Torah as it is going for approval next week.

Ms. Rothstein recommended and moved that we approve the Radome design as presented. Motion passed.

New Business:

11-0005 – Discussion and possible action to allocate up to and including \$500 for Annual Citrus Sunday Event

After some discussion, Mr. Dan Brin moved that we approve an allocation up to and including \$500 for Citrus Sunday. Motion passed.

11-0006 – Discussion and possible action re board vacancy recommendation and appointment of: Mr. Elliot Maggin

Mr. Dan Brin advised that he has known Mr. Maggin for 40 years. Mr. Maggin has expressed his desire to join the board and is particularly interested in being on the communication committee. Mr. Brin recommended appointment of Mr. Elliot Maggin to the board. Recommendation accepted unanimously.

11-0007 – Discussion and possible action re proposed Board Resolution supporting change of street parking restriction fronting Carlson Circle Shopping Center located at the Southeast corner of Sherman Way and Shoup

Mr. Lenske provided background on the situation. This started in June or July when residents of The Lakes complained to their Senior Lead Officer about transients parking on Sherman Way. Los Angeles Police Department conducted a limited investigation of the matter and then wrote

the Department of Transportation (DOT) requesting “No Parking” on Sherman Way. There was a failure to contact the business owners to get their input before contacting DOT. The business owners have filed two (2) separate petitions requesting that the parking be changed to no overnight parking as the no parking is affecting their businesses. The DOT is now requiring a formal letter from the LAPD requesting the change. Mr. Lenske proposed the following resolution – Be it resolved that the West Hills Neighborhood Council, having duly considered the restricted street parking effects on businesses and their customers in the Carlson Circle Shopping Center located at the Southeast corner of Sherman Way and Shoup in Canoga Park, hereby support a change in the restricted parking signage from “No Parking” to “No Overnight Parking from 11:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.”

Stakeholder and owner of Circle Plaza Shopping Center, Cliff Reston, thanked the board for their assistance in this matter, as it really has become a problem for the business owners.

Resolution passed unanimously.

9:25 meeting adjourned