



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



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**FINAL**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**March 4, 2014**

Chaminade College Preparatory School  
23260 Saticoy Street, West Hills, California 91304

**Present:** Eric Augusztiny, Solomon Bash, Sandi Bell, Dan Brin, Robert Brostoff, Marge Brown, Michael Castro, Nicole Flessati, John Hogue, Bonnie Klea, Ruwan Kotuwelle, Elliot Maggin, Steve Randall, Bill Rose, Charlene Rothstein, Barry Seybert, Ron Sobel, Bobbi Trantafello, Alec Uzemeck, Ed Young and Jacqueline C. Young.

**Absent:** Joanne Yvanek-Garb, Daniel Wiseman, Franchon Lyons and Carolyn Greenwood.

President Dan Brin opened the meeting and asked Board Member Jacqueline C. Young to take the minutes, given the absence of Secretary Carolyn Greenwood.

**Opening Business:** As Acting Secretary, Ms. Young conducted the roll call and announced a quorum of 20 Board members was achieved. A few minutes later, Board Member Ruwan Kotuwelle arrived, bringing the total attendance to 21.

The minutes for the February meeting were accepted without comment or objection.

**Comments from the Chair:** Mr. Brin welcomed everyone and announced several future events, including Neighborhood Council elections on March 16 at Shadow Ranch Park. He said 15,000 voting guides with a capsule statement by each candidate will be distributed in the community the next day.

Other events on the calendar include:

**March 10, 7:30 p.m.:** Candidates Forum at West Valley Christian Church  
**April 19, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.:** Eggstravaganza Health & Safety Fair at Shadow Ranch  
**May 24:** 5K/10k Run in West Hills in cooperation with the Chamber of Commerce  
**May 26:** Memorial Day Parade sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce

Vice Present/ Elections Chair Charlene Rothstein said Board Member Nicole Flessati will collect

food donations at Shadow Ranch Park on Election Day. Also, Board Member Ed Young is asking local restaurants to donate pizza and other food for voters to enjoy at the voting site.

**Public Comment:** Stakeholder Chris Rowe cited evidence supporting her view that a 1959 nuclear accident at the Santa Susana Field Lab site was not a meltdown. She also noted a study that found no cancer clusters in areas near the SSFL site.

**Announcements:** Ron Rubine, field deputy for West Hills from Council District 12, reported that more than 700 stakeholders voted in elections for the Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council. He also reported that the City Council had voted for a ban on “fracking” in Los Angeles. Mr. Rubine said he has joined the organizing committee for the Eggstravaqanza Health & Safety Fair on April 16. President Brin thanked Councilmember Mitchell Englander and the CD 12 staff for their quick responses to community concerns, including the repaving of Platt Avenue and resolving vegetation and drainage problems on Chase Street. Streets & Transportation Co-Chair Ron Sobel also thanked the CD 12 staff for its work on keeping storm drains clear of debris. Mr. Rubine said the staff follows the “West Hills, California” Facebook page to monitor concerns in the community. He also invited the community to attend when Chaminade’s CIF Division II champion football team is honored at the City Hall in Van Nuys on April 4.

LAPD Senior Lead Officer Brent Rygh (northern West Hills) introduced himself to the WHNC Board and Stakeholders, saying he will work hard to serve the community.

**Presentations:** Michael Castro, Beautification Committee chair, presented WHNC Certificates of Appreciation to the Southern California Garden Club, the West Valley Garden Club, Orcutt Ranch Senior Gardener Velterina Lauterio and Valley Lead Senior Gardener Robert D. Baker for their work in the annual rose pruning at Orcutt Ranch Horticulture Center in West Hills.

**Speaker:** Public Health Chair Sandi Bell introduced Ramon E. Guevara, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health epidemiologist, who spoke about the prevalence, causes, effects and treatment of valley fever.

## **Old Business**

### **14-0008 - Motions to recommend parking restrictions along Platt Avenue, Valley Circle Boulevard and Roscoe Boulevard.**

Streets and Transportation Committee Co-Chair Barry Seybert introduced three motions (see attached), all approved unanimously by the committee, supporting overnight parking restrictions on Platt Avenue, Valley Circle Boulevard and Roscoe Boulevard. All three resolutions were approved unanimously by the Board: (21) (0) (0).

## **New Business**

### **14-0011 –Discussion and possible action regarding proposed property developed at 8500 Fallbrook Ave., West Hills**

Acting on the WHNC Zoning & Planning Committee’s recommendations, the West Hills Neighborhood Council voted to approve Case No. CPC-2014-194, Proposal for Zone Change

and General Plan Amendment: Subdivision into 90 single family homes, with the following conditions:

1. A median along Fallbrook Avenue, preventing easterly turns onto Eccles Street and Schoenborn Street from southbound Fallbrook Avenue.
2. A left-turn arrow incorporated with the traffic signs at Fallbrook Avenue and Roscoe Boulevard for southbound traffic turning easterly onto Roscoe Boulevard.
3. Four lots, NO. 66, 67, 68, & 69 adjacent to proposed open space not to be built on to provide extra parking for open space, AKA park.
4. Michale Street from east to remain a cul-de-sac and not open to the project.

Motion passed: 11 ayes, 6 nays, 4 abstentions

**14-0012 - Discussion and possible action regarding Community Impact Statement on cleanup at the Santa Susana Field Lab site**

Tabled to the next Board meeting on April 1 because of lack of time.

**14-0013 - Discussion and possible action regarding re-allocation of \$220 for labels for Emergency Preparedness Brochures**

On behalf of the Budget Committee, Bob Brostoff, Budget Committee co-chair, brought forth a motion to reallocate \$220 for Emergency Preparedness brochures. This was approved by a roll call vote of Board members who had taken the required trainings. The vote was 19 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions. Sol Bash and Ruwan Kotuwelle did not vote.

**14-0014 – Discussion and possible action regarding re-allocation of \$1350 to The Walking Man Inc. for distribution of fliers for election.**

**14-0015 – Discussion and possible action regarding re-allocation of \$1471 to MP Printing & Mailing for printing of election brochures.**

**14-0016 - Discussion and possible action regarding re-allocation of \$1480 for street banners for election.**

On behalf of the Budget Committee, Bob Brostoff, Budget Committee co-chair, linked together motions relating to agenda items 14-0014, 14-0015 14-0016. The combined motion would allocate \$1,350 to pay The Walking Man Inc. for distribution of election voting guides, \$1,1471 to pay MP Printing and Mailing for printing them and \$1,480 to pay Nationwide Display for printing and installing street banners promoting the election. The combined motion was approved by the Board after it was clarified that the allocations were for specific vendors and that the funds would be taken from the already-approved election budget. The combined motion was approved in a roll call vote among Board members who had taken the required trainings The vote was 19 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions. Sol Bash and Ruwan Kotuwelle did not vote.

**14-0017 - Discussion and possible action regarding re-allocation of up to \$1000 to Education Committee for support of 8 public elementary schools in West Hills.**

On behalf of the Budget Committee, Bob Brostoff, Budget Committee co-chair, moved to re-allocate up to \$1000 to the Education Committee in support of public elementary schools in West Hills. The motion was approved in a roll call vote among Board members who had taken the required trainings. The vote was 19 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions. Sol Bash and Ruwan Kotuwelle did not vote.

**14-0018 – Discussion and possible action regarding the approval of the WHNC’s February 2014 spending reports.**

On behalf of the Budget Committee, Bob Brostoff, Budget Committee co-chair, moved to approve the WHNC’s February 2014 spending reports (attached). The motion was approved in a roll call vote among Board members who had taken the required trainings (Sol Bash and Ruwan Kotuwelle did not vote). The vote was 19 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions. Sol Bash and Ruwan Kotuwelle did not vote.

**14-0019– Discussion and possible action regarding the Los Angeles Community Broadband Network**

This agenda item was tabled for the WHNC’s April 1 Board meeting.

**14-0020 – Discussion and possible action regarding motion to approve the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment conducting a new board orientation to educate and train all board members.**

After discussion, Ms. Rothstein moved, with a second by Mr. Brostoff, to request that the Los Angeles Department of Neighborhood Empowerment conduct an orientation event to educate and train Board members. The vote was 21 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.**