

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



West Hills Neighborhood Council

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Joint BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE/BOARD MEETING MINUTES **Tuesday May 24, 2016** **West Hills Hospital, West Hills**

The meeting was called to order at 6:38 PM by Tony Brosamle and Reeyan Raynes, Committee Co-Chair's.

Those in attendance were Tony Brosamle, Reeyan Raynes, Tom Booth, Matthew Davine, Heidi Manning, Steve Randall, Joan Trent, and Brad Vanderhoof. A quorum was established.

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM by Reeyan Raynes.
2. The April 2016 meeting minutes were approved.
3. Reeyan warned the committee that serial communication is a violation of the Brown Act and reminded the group not to discuss agenda items outside of the committee meetings. Tony asked the group to refrain from debating issues in e-mails. Steve stated the intent of the prohibition on serial communication is aimed at preventing influence or coercion with regard to voting. Reeyan stated that establishing a quorum is becoming a problem due to chronic absenteeism. Steve recommended an odd number of committee members be maintained. Reeyan introduced a motion to remove Barry Seybert from the committee. Brad seconded. Tony expressed his opposition and stated his opinion the chairs should address an individual privately before having a vote to remove them. Steve stated that committee membership is at the sole discretion of the chairs and a vote is unnecessary. Reeyan withdrew his motion. Reeyan introduced a motion to add Matthew Davine to the Beautification Committee. Tony seconded. The committee voted unanimously to add Matthew to the committee. The chairs added Mathew Davine to the WHNC Beautification Committee.
4. Public Comment: Tom emphasized the need for committee members to attend the cleanup events stating more council participation is needed to properly supervise and manage the large number of volunteers from youth groups. Tom also asked if historically there was better attendance from committee and council members at events. Reeyan will add a discussion of committee member responsibilities and attendance expectations to the agenda for the June meeting. Steve said he remembers clean-up events with as few as two participants. Heidi reported on her efforts to report a house with a neglected parkway to the city. She played a phone message responding to her 311 complaint where a city official confirmed the issue was the property owners' responsibility and had been referred to LA City Fire Department for further investigation and action. Heidi reported the parkway has been maintained. Heidi would like to post a copy a fire department letter outlining violations on social media. Steve suggested the committee investigate working directly with the fire department. Reeyan informed the group any citizen can visit a fire station and ask for an investigation of a property they think is an issue.
5. The chairs declared the 5/14/16 Cleanup Event a great success. Reeyan stated that unfortunately the event coincided with another Key Club Event.

6. Anthony and Reeyan led discussion on possible sites and dates for the next two months. The following sites were suggested: Tony – Sherman Way on the south side between Fallbrook and Shoup for July. Reeyan expressed support for this project as it is near the eastern border of West Hills, Tom – Topanga south of Nordhoff. Tony commented on the need to reach out for help from the LAPD Topanga Station for this location. Reeyan commented this is too small of an area and he did not have time to contact the conservation corps but still thinks they would be better able to handle this project. Steve is concerned with the safety issue and suggested contacting Mitch Englander’s office. Matthew said he thinks high traffic areas are preferable in terms of exposure. Heidi asked if this would be a possible cooperation effort with Canoga Park since Topanga is the border between the neighborhoods, Reeyan – Valley Circle from Bell Canyon to the baseball fields Matt commented this would be a good project for the Fall when West Hills Baseball is in season, Heidi – Medical Center Drive, and from public request on social media; Sherman Way and Shoup, Platt Hill. It was determined by consensus that the west side of Topanga Canyon Blvd. will be the cleanup location on 6/25/16. Meeting time is 8:00 AM. Meeting location is on Nordhoff, west of Topanga. The tentative location for the July event is Sherman Way east of Fallbrook with meeting time and place TBD.
7. FY 2015-2016: Tony reported the Budget Committee approved all planned tool and supply expenditures for 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 for 2015-2016. Tony stated he promised a much smaller revised budget request for FY 2016-2017.
8. FY 2016-2017: Tony stated the two remaining budget considerations for next year are outreach and the idea of a Beautification Committee NPG. Reeyan suggested a 300\$ budget for outreach. Tony informed the group that the Department of Recreation and Parks has inquired about the possibility of NPG funds to install climate control in a rebuilt historical greenhouse on the Orcutt Ranch site. Steve suggested a total request of 500\$ for NPG and 500\$ other. Tony stated he does not want to exceed 1K\$. Reeyan made a motion to submit a proposed budget for FY 2016-2017 as follows: 500\$ NPG funds, 300\$ outreach, 200\$ tooling / incidental. Tony seconded. Vote: Yea – 6, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0, Ineligible – 2 The motion passed and will be sent to the Budget Committee.
9. Committee Letters to the Community: The latest letter from the working group was discussed. Tony identified and the group agreed on a need to review and potentially modify the letter each time it is distributed. Reeyan made a motion to approve as amended as a template. Tony seconded. The motion passed unanimously and will be referred to the working group.

Agenda Items 10 and 11 were tabled due to time considerations.

The next cleanup was scheduled for Saturday June 25, 2016, to clean the area on the west side of Topanga Canyon Blvd. at 8:00 AM. Please note new meeting time. Meeting place is on Nordhoff, west of Topanga

The next meeting of this Committee will be held on June 28, at 6:30 PM at West Hills Hospital, first floor Conference Room.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:34 PM by Tony Brosamle and Reeyan Raynes.