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WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

JOINT BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE/BOARD ONLINE AND TELEPHONIC FINAL MEETING MINUTES Tuesday, July 20, 2021 @ 6:00 PM

Numbers refer to agenda items:

1. Committee Co-Chair Dr. Faye Barta called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM. Those in attendance: Faye Barta, Dan Brin, Kian Gholibeik, Glenn Jennings, Heidi Manning, Steve Randall, Anthony Scearce, Myrl Schreiberman, and Brad Vanderhoof. Absent were Tariq El-Atrache, Jessica Fuentes and Joan Trent. Councilmembers Bonnie Klea, Kent Mariconda and Mark Neudorff were also present. A quorum was established. Also present were Jill Mather, Kathryn Stewart, Christina Walsh, Atziri Camarena, and speakers Wendi Gladstone and John Luker,
2. The June 14, 2021 minutes were approved as amended.
3. Comments from the Chairs: Co Chair Dr. Barta reminded all that the upcoming cleanup is scheduled for July 31, 2021, and will be held at Fallbrook and Saticoy. A brief discussion ensued concerning the fact that the cleanup would require a truck to carry tools. Anthony advised he would check to see if he could do so and would advise on July 21, 2021. Myrl suggested it would be a good idea to engage the community about cleanups. The cleanups are advertized on social media.
4. Public Comment: None
5. Approval of Committee Operating Rules: Discussion was had concerning the revised Operating Rules. Anthony stated he believes all stakeholder members should sign the Code of Civility. Brad advised there are no requirements for committee members. Myrl believes the behavior of the chairs and co-chairs should be added and adopted by all members of the committee. The vote to approve the Operating Rules, with a small punctuation correction to the mission statement, was unanimous.
6. John Luker and Wendy G. from Sky Valley Volunteers (SVV) were guest speakers concerning the history and present actions for oak trees. John advised that the City and DWP had requested his help with Chatsworth Lake Manor in order to control the flow of silt and sediment and to vegetate the property to prevent further damage. The effort to do so is being publicized in order to obtain community support and help and raise funds up to \$4000 or \$5000 to accomplish the goals. John advised all monies donated would be invested in these SVV projects. SVV also worked in the past with DWP to help with solutions to problems and to preserve the Valley. Therefore although SVV began with oak trees, it has now expanded to helping communities and people and "giving back". Committee members and attendees asked where the community garden would be located and how it would be watered. John advised it will be in CD 12 and a part would be in Chatsworth and West Hills and a nearby fire station would provide water. Also asked were questions about how SVV was going to keep wild animals from eating the growth and how existing bad drainage would be amended. Brad said that sometimes it was better to let nature take its own course. Myrl advised that WHNC has very limited funds to donate to neighborhood purpose grants to many different schools and other charities.
7. Discussion and Review of Board Event Approvals for August and September, 2021, cleanups. Dr. Barta advised that the September cleanup would be held at Orcutt Ranch and assisting with the milkweed planting and care. Then Dr. Barta advised that, although the committee had already voted to paint hydrants for the August cleanup, that cleanup should be reconsidered, since adequate funding for purchase of paint and paint supplies was not available and the heat in August could lead to problems with the paint, including not being very long-lived. Dr. Barta suggested that we not hold the hydrant

painting until this coming fall or next spring and instead cleanup an area that we have not cleaned up for a year and a half, namely, Medical Center Drive near West Hills Hospital. Dr. Barta moved to change the August cleanup from painting hydrants to cleaning Medical Center Drive near the hospital. Dan seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Discussion and Possible Action on Board Event Approvals for October, November and December, 2021 cleanups:
Myrl suggested that the very high weeds and grass on the Sherman Way/Platt curve badly needed trimming. Heidi advised that there is no trespassing allowed on that City property and she will talk with CD 12 about removing that serious fire hazard. Steve also suggested alerting the fire department. Anthony suggested painting fire hydrants in late October and Dr. Barta suggested mid-December.
Brad stated that all we do is sweep streets. In response to Brad, Christina Walsh stated that Platt Hill has a stand of milkweed and native plants could be added there to grow. Heidi advised that Platt Hill is privately owned by the people who live at the top of Platt Hill.
Jill Mather advised she has obtained approval for an “Environment Day” at the Chatsworth Train Station on November 20, 2021. Brad moved to support that day and to have a booth at the site. Dan seconded. The motion passed with one abstention.
Anthony moved to do the hydrant painting in December. Dan seconded. It was mentioned the hydrants belong to DWP and there are over 5,000 of them. Dr. Barta will be checking on whether or not approval for the hydrant painting will be necessary. Brad opposes the December painting and believes October in the early morning would suffice. The motion passed, with one “no” vote.
The October cleanup remained undetermined, and there were no additional suggestions. Dr. Barta tabled the discussion of the October cleanup to the August agenda.
Myrl reminded the committee that the Special Events Committee will hold its events in October, November, and December.
9. Discussion and Possible Action on Resuming Providing Pre-packaged Snacks at Beautification Events:
Dr. Barta advised this matter has already been determined and there will be prepackaged snacks.
10. Discussion and possible action on Beautification Committee’s Funding Requirements for Fiscal Year 2021-2022:
Brad advised that the budget which the committee prepared at the June meeting for a total of \$3,500 was submitted to the Budget Committee for consideration.
11. Event with City Street Services Department (in person or by ZOOM) to be held jointly with Beautification, Government Relations and Streets and Transportation Committees: Item tabled.
12. LA City Park Maintenance Updates – including reports from members regarding conditions of our local parks:
Heidi inquired if Chase Park has now been designated Sean Brown Park and said she read some article in the CD 12 newsletter that the re-naming dedication would be sometime in October. Dr. Barta advised she will check with CD 12.
Dan inquired if the main entrance to Orcutt has been changed to the Roscoe entrance. Anthony advised he would try to get it changed. Dr. Barta advised she will check out any progress and advise.

Agenda Items 13, 14, 15 and 16 were tabled to August.

Dr. Barta adjourned the meeting at 7:51 P.M.

The next meeting of this committee will be held Tuesday, August 17, 2021, at 6:00 PM, Online and Telephonically.