



CITY OF
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CALIFORNIA



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WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

JOINT BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE/BOARD ONLINE AND TELEPHONIC DRAFT MEETING MINUTES Tuesday, July 19, 2022 @ 6:00 PM

The Committee shall take official action by a simple majority of yes and no votes cast by the committee members present at a duly noticed regular or special Beautification Committee meeting, not to include abstentions. There shall be no proxy voting.

Numbers refer to agenda items:

1. Committee Co-Chair Brad Vanderhoof called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM. The meeting was recorded. Those in attendance: Faye Barta, Dan Brin, Glenn Jennings, Heidi Manning, Steve Randall, Myrl Schreiber, Joan Trent and Brad Vanderhoof. Members Rosi Mariconda and Anthony Scarce were absent. Also present were current Board member Aida Abkarians and former Board member Reeyan Raynes.

A quorum was established.
2. The minutes of the April 19, 2022, and May 17, 2022, meetings were both approved as amended unanimously.
3. Comments from the Chairs: None.
4. Public Comment: None.
5. Discussion and Possible Action on Budget for Beautification for 2022-2023 and any items needed to be purchased. Much discussion regarding the draft Budget for the Beautification Committee, drafted by the chairs, was conducted by the committee. See attached Budget Request. Most of the concerns discussed were related to the cost of items, which have greatly increased, probably due to inflation. Myrl advised that CD 12 has a "special relationship" with Home Depot, which could lead to reduced prices for some items. Both Brad and Faye stated they were unaware of such an arrangement, but would check it out. Discussion was had for each and every item on the Budget Request and all members who were present spoke about the items on the budget. After almost 50 minutes of careful and detailed discussion, Steve made and Glenn seconded a motion to approve the Budget Request as drafted. A vote was taken and the Budget Request was approved unanimously, with 2 absent.
6. Discussion and Comments regarding the cleanup events of May 21, 2022, on Woodlake Avenue, and of June 25, 2022, on Medical Center Drive. Faye said how pleased she was with both the turnout by both hospital employees and Beautification members and the general public. There were no other comments,
7. Discussion and Possible Action on the upcoming July 23, 2022, cleanup on Ingomar Avenue between Lazy J Park and March Avenue. There were no comments other than by Brad, who encouraged all to attend.

8. Discussion and Possible Action on future cleanup events for September and October, 2022.
First, Faye reminded the committee that the August cleanup will be held on Valley Circle Blvd. between Victory and Kittridge. For September, the date of September 24 was suggested for the cleanup. Steve said there is another event happening that day and we should move the cleanup to September 17. Heidi suggested we return to Orcutt Ranch Park to plant more milkweed. Faye advised that she and Glenn spoke with Edgar Fuentes at Orcutt who advised the reason he cut down some of the previously planted milkweed was that it was impeding the path for the public to participate in the picking fruit event at Orcutt, but he encouraged us to return and that he will advise of several places in the park which can be planted with milkweed seed. Brad advised that we need NATIVE seeds. Aida suggested Green Thumb or other retailers may want to donate the seed. Heidi suggested we advise the West Valley Garden Club about our planting and request volunteers to help us. Myrl suggested we ask CD 12 to declare August to be “Monarch Butterfly Month” and perhaps donate some seeds for planting. Faye moved to approve the September cleanup for 09/17/2022 and have the location at Orcutt Ranch Park to plant more milkweed seeds. Glenn seconded the motion. A vote was taken as follows:
Yes – 6; No – zero; Abstain – 2; and Absent – 2. The vote passes. The vote for the October, 2022, cleanup is tabled.
9. Discussion and Possible Action on the City Adopt-a-Median Program. This item is tabled.
10. Discussion and Possible Action on Landscaping for Dividers along Valley Circle and Platt. This item is tabled.
11. Discussion and Possible Action on Dedication Ceremony for Historic Trees along March Avenue.
Brad advised that we must contact CD 12 to arrange this event. Heidi questioned what words and descriptions would be present on the plaque. Reeyan advised that there are two avenues to the plaque ... first, is for the committee to purchase one, but the cost is around \$1,000. Otherwise, the City has these signs and they can be made available at NO cost. Myrl said the trees should be named for Meghan Markle. Steve commented that that is a joke. Dan said perhaps something related to Meghan Markle could serve as the name, and he will look into this possibility. Heidi volunteered to ask CD 12 when the ceremony can be held. Brad advised we should do our background work on this topic before we ask CD 12 anything. This matter is tabled for further research.
12. Discussion and Possible Action on Creating a Community Garden. This item is tabled.
13. Discussion and Possible Action on Right-of-Way letters. This item is tabled.
14. Strike Team reports: This item is tabled.
15. Planning and Suggestions for Committee Direction and Activity in 2022 and 2023. This item is tabled.

The meeting was adjourned by Brad at 7:18 PM.