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## WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

### **JOINT BOARD AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE ONLINE AND TELEPHONIC MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, October 12, 2022 7:00 PM**

**APPROVED**

Co-Chair Steve Randall called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM and a quorum was established.

Committee members in attendance: Steve Randall, Char Rothstein, Saif Mogri, Faye Barta, Brad Vanderhoof, Rosi Mariconda and Joan Trent. Other Attendees: Bonnie Klea, Sandi Bell and Christina Walsh

The minutes from the September 14, 2022 meeting was approved as amended.

Comments from the Chair(s): There were no comments.

During the Discussion & Possible Action on Taking a Position Against the Release of Genetically Engineered (GE) Mosquitoes in California, Steve Randall mentioned that the committee was not be able to vote on the item at the last meeting. Brad suggested that if we want to consider taking a position, we should have a position document prepared. Steve asked if the committee was willing to take a position. No one responded to the question. After some more discussion the matter was tabled to the November meeting.

During the discussion on Advantages and Disadvantages of EV's and Hybrid Vehicles, Saif discussed the advantages and disadvantages of EV's and hybrid vehicles, and energy security for the US. Saif stated the biggest advantage of EV's is that they do not emit any Green House Gases, such as, CO and CO2, although today the charging energy is not necessarily coming from pollution free resources. The cost to purchase an EV, the battery range and the cost of rare minerals was also noted. Steve mentioned that EV's would be difficult to charge if the electrical grid goes down. Char mentioned that people should have the option to choose and also since some of the material comes from China, which can be a problem in the future. Rosi mentioned that it is cost prohibitive for many people and they should have a choice. Brad mentioned that gasoline taxes pay for the maintenance of the roads and highways and presently the EV's are not paying their share. Saif mentioned that this is a topic under discussion and a solution will have to be developed.

During the discussion of improving the tree Canopy in West Hills, Brad Vanderhoof stated that all the data was at the Bureau of Urban Forestry website. The City of LA has decided that we need more trees. Char mentioned that we should create a map of the empty tree wells in West Hills and submit a letter to the city requesting they replenish those tree wells. Steve said we should figure out the committee best to take the lead on creating this map. Faye mentioned that this is a great idea and a great project for the Beautification Committee. Brad requested that this be done in partnership with the Environment Committee. Brad mentioned that damaged sidewalks could be a good topic for the Streets and Transportation Committee. Faye mentioned that we should keep a lookout for free tree giveaways. Brad asked if a tree giveaway might be something we might want to discuss and host. Steve mentioned that we should coordinate with CD12.

During Public Comments, Christina Walsh mentioned that the MOU says "Boeing agreed not to litigate", but that Melissa Bumstead has filed a lawsuit to block the Boeing MOU and that should be on next month's agenda.

Steve adjourned the meeting at 8:17 PM.

The next scheduled meeting of this committee is November 9<sup>th</sup>