



CITY OF
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CALIFORNIA



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WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

JOINT BOARD AND BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE ONLINE AND TELEPHONIC MEETING AGENDA Tuesday, January 17, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m.

In conformity with the September 16, 2021 enactment of California Assembly Bill 361 (Rivas) and due to concerns over Covid-19, the West Hills Neighborhood Council meeting will be conducted entirely with a call-in option or internet based service option. All are invited to attend and participate.

This meeting of the West Hills Neighborhood Council Beautification Committee will be conducted online via Zoom Webinar and telephonically. All are invited to attend and participate.

To attend online via Zoom Webinar, click or paste the following link into your browser: <https://zoom.us/j/99272551544>

To call in by phone, dial toll-free 833-548-0276, then punch in this Webinar code when prompted: **992 7255 1544#**.

This meeting is open to the public. Comments on matters not on the agenda will be heard during the Public Comment period. Those who wish to speak on an agenda item will be heard when the item is considered.

AB 361 Updates: Public comment cannot be required to be submitted in advance of the meeting; only real-time public comment is required. If there are any broadcasting interruptions that prevent the public from observing or hearing the meeting, the meeting must be recessed or adjourned. If members of the public are unable to provide public comment or be heard due to issues within the Neighborhood Council's control, the meeting must be recessed or adjourned.

1. Call to Order and Establish quorum
2. Approval of Minutes of December 20, 2022
3. Comments and Announcements from the Chairs
4. Public Comment
5. Discussion and comments regarding upcoming cleanup events for January 28, 2023, and February 25, 2023.
6. Discussion regarding future cleanup events for March, April and May, 2023.
7. Discussion and possible action on other "Beautification" events for 2023.
8. Discussion and possible action on Creating a Community Garden.
9. Discussion and possible action on Right-of-Way (ROW) letters.
10. Strike Team Reports

The next regularly scheduled meeting of this committee will be held on Tuesday, February 21, 2023 at 6:00PM

Public input at Neighborhood Council meetings: When prompted by the presiding officer, members of the public may address the committee on any agenda item before the committee takes an action on the item by punching in *9 (if calling in by phone) or by clicking on the “raise hand” button (if participating online through Zoom) and waiting to be recognized. Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the committee’s jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Ralph M. Brown Act, the committee is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future committee meeting. Public comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of said committee.

Notice to Paid Representatives: If you are compensated to monitor, attend, or speak at this meeting, City law may require you to register as a lobbyist and report your activity. See Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 48.01 et seq. More information is available at ethics.lacity.org/lobbying. For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or ethics.commission@lacity.org.

Public Posting of Agendas: WHNC agendas are posted for public review at Shadow Ranch Park, 22633 Vanowen St., West Hills, CA 91307 or at our website, www.westhillsnc.org. You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to the City of Los Angeles Early Notification System at www.lacity.org/government/Subscriptions/NeighborhoodCouncils/index

The Americans With Disabilities Act: As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices and other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least three business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting via email NCSupport@lacity.org or calling (213) 978-1551. If you are hearing impaired please call 711.

Public Access of Records: In compliance with Government Code Section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting may be viewed at the meeting where such writing was considered or by contacting the WHNC’s executive director via email at michelle.ritchie@westhillsnc.org. Requests can be made for a copy of a record related to an item on the agenda.

Reconsideration and Grievance Process: For information on the WHNC’s process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the WHNC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our website, www.westhillsnc.org

Servicios De Traduccion: Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Por favor contacte Michelle.Ritchie@westhillsnc.org



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JOINT BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE/BOARD ONLINE AND TELEPHONIC DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, December 20, 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 6:02 PM. The meeting was recorded. Those in attendance: Faye Barta, Dan Brin, Glenn Jennings, Heidi Manning, Steve Randall, Myrl Schreibman, Joan Trent and Brad Vanderhoof. Absent were Rosi Mariconda, Anthony Scearce and Vinura Kotuwelle. A quorum was established. Member of the public Kathryn Stewart was also present.
2. The minutes of the November 14, 2022, meeting were unanimously approved as amended.
3. Comments from the Chairs: None.
4. Public Comment: None.
5. Discussion and Comments regarding: (1) the November 19, 2022, cleanup on the east side of Valley Circle between Strathern and Roscoe: Glenn said he thought the cleanup went very well, considering the high winds that morning; and (2) the December 3, 2022, cleanup on the north side of Saticoy east of Fallbrook and north on Fallbrook: Glenn said the school kids who came to assist did a great job on both cleanups.
6. Discussion regarding future cleanup events for 2023: For January 28, 2023, Brad reminded us that the committee will be seeding milkweed at El Escorpion Park. For February, 2023, Glenn suggested either February 18 or 25 for the date of the cleanup. Glenn also mentioned that the Orcutt perimeters need trimming. Heidi suggested cleanups on March Avenue and Justice St., Orcutt Ranch, Justice Street across from the school near the wash, and Valley Circle between Roscoe and Schoenborn. Brad reminded us that the Valley Circle traffic is very fast and therefore very dangerous for a cleanup. Steve agreed. Glenn moved to choose the Orcutt perimeter for cleanup on Feb. 25, 2023, beginning at 8:30 AM. Faye seconded. There was no discussion. Voting was as follows: Faye, Dan, Glenn, Heidi, Steve – yes; Myrl, Joan and Brad – abstain; Rosi, Anthony and Vinura -- absent. The motion passes. Discussion for a March cleanup was continued to the January meeting.
7. Discussion and possible action on “beautification” events for 2023:
The discussion began with Faye reminding the committee that last month’s discussion of this topic, which focused first on the concern that all this committee has been doing are cleanups, no “beautification” per se, and this is an opportunity to do other things for “beautification”. Heidi suggested that we schedule an upcoming cleanup to clean and then paint the many fire hydrants in West Hills, which desperately need cleaning and painting. Joan advised that the hydrants must first be cleaned before painting. Brad advised there is a specific procedure for scrubbing the hydrants. Steve advised that Carolyn said we have a lot of money left in our budget, so we do have the money to purchase the cleaning materials, paint and brushes, etc., needed to do the cleaning and painting. Heidi suggested that we make a list of hydrants and their locations which need painting. Brad added perhaps there are areas where several or more hydrants need painting. Glenn said we also need money for water and

snacks. Brad agreed, indicating we should have at least \$50. Steve suggested we also have some bagels and creamed cheese and coffee. Brad reminded the committee that at present we are allowed to serve only pre-packaged snacks. Joan inquired whether we need chemicals or scrapers to clean the hydrants. Brad advised we need rubbing alcohol for the cleaning and we need water and packaged snacks, which will cost approximately \$50.

Brad moved to clean hydrants for the March, 2023, cleanup with snacks for \$50. Faye seconded. Voting was as follows:

Faye, Dan, Glenn , Heidi, Steve, Joan, and Brad – yes; Myrl – abstain; Rosi, Anthony Vinura – absent.

8. Discussion and Possible Action on Creating a Community Garden:

Brad advised he had not completed his research on this matter, so it was tabled to the January meeting.

9. Discussion and Possible Action on Right-of-Way (ROW) Letters:

Glenn advised that the home at the northeast corner of Valley Circle and Highlander has tree branches overhanging on the sidewalk and obstructing the signal light. Brad will deliver a brochure to the home and/or remove the branch.

10. Strike Team Reports:

Steve, Glenn and Brad advised that if the overhanging branch at Valley Circle and Highlander has not been removed by near the time of next month's meeting of this committee, they will proceed to do so, Steve reported that on his street he cuts all branches overhanging too low over the sidewalk. Brad said he continues to pick up litter in his neighborhood.

Myrl asked what the purpose of this committee is ... does the Beautification mission statement encompass more than landscaping and cleaning up? Brad answered that yes, largely it does. Myrl disagreed, said other things were involved, and wanted clarification. Steve said our mission statement encompasses activities to maintain the appearance of our community, and many other things, but ideas are always welcome. Myrl said many sidewalks in West Hills need repair or replacement. Brad advised that one person at CD 12 handles sidewalk repairs. Joan said since fixing sidewalks is a safety measure, we should send letters to our government. Heidi said we can make 311 requests for uneven sidewalks and repairs. Brad said we engage our community for cleanups but the sidewalks are the City's responsibility. Glenn said getting sidewalks fixed more quickly can be accomplished by stressing that elderly people need these sidewalks to be even and taken care of. Dan reported the north side of Saticoy between Shoup and Sale is very bad. Heidi asked if the sidewalk was ruined by tree roots. Dan said there is a tree there which causes the sidewalk to become narrower and uneven. Brad advised the DWP station on Platt has sidewalk areas in need of repair.

The meeting was adjourned by Brad at 7:03 PM.