



CITY OF
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CALIFORNIA



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WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

JOINT BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE/BOARD ONLINE AND TELEPHONIC MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, January 17, 2023 @ 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.

Brad called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Numbers refer to agenda items:

1. Committee Co-Chair Brad Vanderhoof called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM. The meeting was recorded. Those in attendance: Faye Barta, Dan Brin, Glenn Jennings, Heidi Manning, Rosi Mariconda, Steve Randall, Anthony Scearce, Myrl Schreiberman, Joan Trent and Brad Vanderhoof. Absent was Vinura Kotuwelle. Board members Bonnie Klea, Alejandro Phillips, Miriam Schimmel were also present. A quorum was established. No members of the public were present.
2. The minutes of the December 20, 2022 meeting were approved as amended with one abstention.
3. Comments from the Chairs: None
4. Public Comment: None
5. Upcoming events for January 28, 2023, and February 25, 2023:
Before discussing the two upcoming cleanups, Bonnie and Heidi mentioned areas in West Hills which needed branches and bushes trimmed on Roscoe between Fallbrook and Sale and at Sean Brown Park on Eccles/Chase. Brad advised the committee will keep these areas in mind. For the January 28 cleanup (seeding milkweed at El Escorpion Park), Heidi advised the CD 12 newsletter had printed that information. Brad said that CSUN is interested in sending groups to help. Miriam asked why the event as shown in the Council page says only 25 people would be permitted to attend. Steve advised the City is "upset" regarding committee events, so caution is needed to prevent mistakes and we should run the number 25 by Char to get her opinion. For the February cleanup of the perimeter of Orcutt Ranch Park on Justice Street and March Avenue, Heidi suggested we start on Justice Street and proceed around the corner and set up at the drive entrance on Justice Street.
6. Future cleanup events for March, April and May, 2023:
For March 2023, Brad advised we did not vote on any money for supplies and tools and therefore we will need the money fronted. Heidi suggested we could help on All-Serve Day by painting fire hydrants and ask Rocky Peak, which is already gearing up for its All-Serve Day on March 4, 2023, to supply the paint. Brad advised Rocky Peak has already decided its projects but we can also make their projects a WHNC project. Bonnie asked if the hydrants' color must be yellow. Brad said yes, rules of the City. No decision about the March 2023, cleanup was decided.
For April, 2023, Glenn suggested cleaning Roscoe between Fallbrook and Sale. Steve said someone sent him information that north of Roscoe there are hanging bushes which need to be cleared ASAP, and perhaps we can notify the homeowners to do so. Brad suggested the committee send ROW letters. Bonnie said the bougainvilleas are too low on Fallbrook on the east side north of Roscoe. Heidi advised that there is also significant overhang on Vanowen east of Fallbrook. Dan mentioned the significant bougainvilleas overhanging the northeast corner of Saticoy and Woodlake. Brad suggested we consider this next month and perhaps send these neighbors ROW letters. There was no further discussion regarding April or May, 2023, cleanups, all of which are continued to next month's meeting.
7. Beautification events for 2023:
Brad asked for suggestions for cleanups for major Board functions and other things.
Rosi said there is a taco vendor selling food in front of Pavilions and asked if this is permanent or permitted. Brad told her this issue is not within the purview of this committee, but rather the Zoning and Planning Committee. Myrl added that the City Council made these set-ups easier, so they are all over West Hills, but the committee can change what it does pursuant to its mission statement. For example, this committee can deal with poop bag stands in parks and look to the future and

“redefine” the committee. Alejandro suggested the committee commence a program to award homes approved to be beautified. Brad said this is an interesting idea. Anthony advised that food carts are permitted on sidewalks. Heidi asked if vendors leave trash or do their stands block people from using the sidewalks. Brad said this vendor does not leave trash or block the sidewalk. Alejandro mentioned that the sidewalk is usually left clean and passable, and perhaps Beautification could do a cleanup of the area. Anthony advised that sidewalks must be available for use by wheelchairs. If wheelchairs are restricted, that is an issue. Brad advised that wheelchairs must go under the canopy of the stand to pass.

8. Creating a Community Garden:

Bonnie asked where this community garden would be and advised that there is one at Orcutt Ranch Park. She also said the garden could be cancerous. Brad said there could be many complications. Heidi said it is necessary to define what a community garden is. Brad said there is no plan yet. Joan stated we should not do a community garden. We should have people clean up the land first. Boy scouts and different schools could do this and then we can give awards for them helping. Alejandro said a community be use to educate individuals. We could make posters for the garden that give information about the garden and show how a garden is maintained. Bonnie said schools make gardens on school property and asked how they do them. Brad said some schools do have gardens and WHNC gave NPGs to support the cost.

9. Right-of-Way (ROW) Letters:

Brad explained the process of ROW letters: first, we deliver our brochure, then we send a letter to the homeowners. Brad asked if there were any addresses for such homes in need. Anthony reminded us that Bonnie said there is need at Roscoe and Fallbrook and we should deliver our brochure. Brad advised that he and Glenn will make that happen at both Roscoe and Fallbrook and at Woodlake and Saticoy. Steve said on the east side of Roscoe and Fallbrook and Woodlake and Saticoy we should speak with the homeowners first.

10. Strike Team Reports:

Heidi reported she picks up trash on Justice, Woodlake and Roscoe and Valley Circle.

Brad adjourned the meeting at 7:01 PM.