Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: West Hills Neighborhood Council

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Date of NC Board Action: 03/04/2009
Type of NC Board Action: For Proposal

Impact Information Date: 04/09/2009

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 08-0351-S1

Agenda Date: Item Number:

Brief Summary: WHNC wants to see NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL FILES (NCFs)but opposes all Conflict of Interest declarations. NCFs are to City Council Motions as Initiatives are to State Ballot Measures; they are not "legislation" unless and until they are processed and approved by the City Council. City Council must simplify and streamline Form 54 and avoid unnecessary invasion of NC Board Member's privacy. We would favor a simple, NCF-specific declaration.

Additional Information:



Help Guide the Future of West Hills

West Hills Neighborhood Council



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Draft GENERAL MEETING MINUTES March 4, 2009

Chaminade College Preparatory, 23260 Saticoy Street, West Hills, CA 91304

Attendance:

Present: Kevin Boal, Dan Brin, Edwin Dockus, Carolyn Greenwood, Donn Howell, Stephen Lenske, Etan Lorant, Walter Perfect, Chris Rowe, Barry Seybert, Ron Sobel, Stan Staten, Daniel Wiseman, Ed Young, Jackie Young and Joanne Yvanek-Garb

Absent:

Excused: Shelly Bright, Jeffrey Stordahl, Bobbi Trantafello, Charlene Rothstein and Bill Rose

Opening Business:

Mr. Stephen Lenske welcomed all the stakeholders. He provided an overview of the meeting agenda and guidelines for speaker comments.

Minutes – The January minutes were approved with the correction of the spelling Kovel to Koval. February minutes were approved with the correction of Tac lights for Tec lights.

Treasurer's Report – Will be included in the discussion of Item 09-0001 on the Agenda.

Announcements:

Stephanie Romero, Field Deputy for the 3rd Council District briefly spoke of a couple of upcoming March events.

There were no representatives present from the 12th Council District or from DONE present at the opening of the meeting although Tom Soong of DONE arrive later in the meeting.

Officer Janet Zumstein, West Valley Senior Lead Officer (SLO), advised that the main problem in West Valley continues to be burglaries. She also advised that residents be alert for magazine seller and curb number painters, as often this is a ruse to determine whether a home is occupied. There are only three business sites approved by the City for curb painting. There has been a rash of robberies from small businesses. Officer Zumstein advised small businesses that when leaving the premises leave the cash drawer open. When thieves see it is empty they will move on.

Public Comments:

Stakeholder Bob Hromadka of the West Valley Food Pantry thanked the council for the grant they are being given. He advised that they were able to recruit two new volunteers at the last meeting.

Board member Dan Brin advised when and where the next meeting for the Cinema Heritage project would take place.

Board member Dr. Daniel Wiseman complimented the board and stated that the defeat of Proposition B illustrated the Neighborhood Councils power to influence what is happening in the City.

Presentation:

"Speed Zone Information For West Hills Streets"

Mr. Alan Willis, Principal Transportation Engineer, Los Angeles Department of Transportation (DOT), spoke regarding the setting of speed limits which resulted in the proposed changes for Roscoe Boulevard and Sherman Way. Mr. Willis explained the laws that they have to follow to make the use of radar enforceable and why it is felt that this would make the streets safer. He explained "default" speed limits, deviating from the "default" speed limits, engineering and traffic surveys and enforcement of speed limits. The City Attorney prepares an ordinance on all proposed speed limit changes and it must go before the full City Council for approval. The changes for Roscoe Boulevard and Sherman Way will be on the Council Agenda in April.

Old Business:

06-0092 – Santa Susana Mountain Area Committee (SSMAC)

Dr. Daniel Wiseman advised that a meeting was not held in February. Instead members attended several in other meetings. One meeting attended was the SSFL Work Group Meeting on February 26th at which the State invoked SB990 guidelines. Dr. Wiseman advised that the recommendation of the zoning hearing officer, Tom Glick, with relation to the Corporate Pointe/West Hills Property was received by the L.A. City Zoning Commission on February 26th. The Corporate Pointe zoning was changed to M 1 (manufacturing) with a long list of "Q-conditions" which will limit the usage of the property, permanently.

New Business:

09-0001 – Discussion and possible action on funding community outreach programs:

Board member Donn Howell acted in behalf of the Treasurer, Bobbi Trantafello, who could not be present.

Mr. Howell moved that we approve \$4,200 to El Camino High School to replace one of the tubas that were lost due to the collapse of the roof in the band room. Mr. Ken Hoffman, Band Director, spoke in behalf of the school. Motion carried.

Mr. Howell moved that we approve \$7,200 for a full-page newsletter in the West Valley News for one year. Motion carried with Charlene Rothstein opposing and Walter Perfect abstaining.

Mr. Howell moved to postpone approving an additional \$3,000 for the town hall meeting. Motion carried with Dan Brin abstaining.

09-0007 – Discussion and possible action regarding re-evaluation of proposed lot split located 23641 Sandalwood Street, West Hills

Mr. Walter Perfect introduced Mr. Eric Liberman, who represented the property owner, Linda Gotlib. Mr. Liberman stated the owner wants to subdivide the property to build a 2500 sq. ft home for her daughter and son-in-law. Several stakeholders living around the property spoke against the project. One stakeholder has collected 146 signatures in opposition to the lot split. One question was whether there was to be a driveway on Platt. The answer was yes but with the condition that vehicles had to have the ability to turn on the property and drive out onto Platt. To consider the matter more thoroughly than time would permit, this matter was referred back to committee. There will be a meeting to discuss this prior to next months meeting.

09-0004 - Update on Enadia Way Elementary School Activation

Enadia Way Principal, Ms. Robin Toder, advised the board Enadia Way was open for business on December 1, 2008. She invited everyone to the ribbon cutting ceremony on March 25th at 10 a.m.

09-0005 – Discussion and possible action regarding T-Mobile proposed cell phone tower located at 7531 Fallbrook Avenue, West Hills

Mr. Walter Perfect, Committee Chair Zoning & Planning, presented two proposals by T-Mobile for the installation of a cell tower at Saticoy & Fallbrook. Mr. Perfect moved that we approve the instillation of a 50' Momo Palm (cell tower). Motion carried with Barry Seybert abstaining.

09-0006 – Discussion and possible action regarding Conditional Use Permit (CUP) by Alta Dena Dairy located at 22748 Saticoy Avenue, West Hills

Mr. Walter Perfect, Committee Chair Zoning & Planning, advised that the proprietor of the Alta Dena Dairy has signed a 5-year lease and is now seeking to request to sell liquor out the back. After discussion, Mr. Perfect moved that we not approve the conditional use permit requested by Alta Dena Dairy. Motion carried with Kevin Boal opposing.

09-0008 – Discussion and possible action re WHNC's response to Community Impact Statements (CIS) regarding:

CIS#1: Updating the WHNC position on Neighborhood Council Files (C.F. #08-0351 and #08-0351-S1)

Dr. Daniel Wiseman advised the board that recrent actions in City Council would require NC Board Members regarding the requirement to complete Conflict of Interest Declarations to enable neighborhood councils to if and when they create Neighborhood Council Files. After discussion of 4 possible actions, Dr. Wiseman moved that we restate the previous WHNC position to resist all Conflict of Interest Declarations (such as Forms #700, #52, #53 and #54). Motion carried with 6 in favor, 4 against and 1 abstention.

CIS#2: L.A. City Budget (C.F. #09-0600 and its multiple parts):

a) General Principle: Maximum preservation of L.A. City Employees and therefore, L.A. City Services in today's difficult economic times.

Dr. Wiseman moved that WHNC proposes 1) An across the board decrease of 10% of the base salary of City employees who now make \$90,000 to \$100,000 annually; 2) An across the board decrease of 15% of the base salary of those City employees who now make \$100,000 to \$200,000 annually and 3) An across the board decrease of 20% of the

base salary of those City employees who now make over \$200,000. Motion passed with one opposition.

- b) General Principle: rebuild the City's Reserve Fund. We need it for "emergencies."
- c) General Principle: Lessen the financial strain produced by unfilled Pension Plan funding and threatened benefits (Health Insurance, etc.) packages.

Dr. Wiseman moved that WHNC proposes the City Council consider the following solutions to resolve the above issues: 1) Take measures to "move up" the \$190,000,000 plus DWP Power transfer from springtime to summertime (This would save about \$5,000,000 in interest payments); 2) "Move up" the pay date for the Business Tax from February to June (This would help diminish or erase the summer and fall deficit...but wouldn't start this year...It would start next year) and 3) Change the dating of the City's Fiscal Year from July to June to January to December. Motions passed.

Committee & Other Reports

Committee & other reports tabled in interest of time

10:00 Meeting adjourned