

Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council
General Meeting
Meeting Minutes
July 19, 2007 7:00PM to 9:00PM
Stonehurst Elementary School,
9851 Stonehurst Avenue, Sun Valley, CA

A. Call to order, Pledge to Flag, Roll Call:

Meeting called to order at 7:10PM.

Roll Call:

Cile Borman, Kevin Davis, Royan Herman, Mary Benson, Ken Keeble, Terry Kaiser, Cris Hughes, Bart Paul, Erwing Davis, Electra Kruger, Frank Buchanan, Sheryl Greslie (Excused), John Blue, Maryann Geyer.

B. Approval of May and June minutes:

June 21, General Meeting minutes.

Maryann Geyer: Point of order: not going to vote for minutes because May and June minutes/meetings not specified; requests minutes to be clarified.

Cile Borman: June 21st General minutes corrected.

Maryann Geyer: wants minutes clarified June 21 General minutes.

Cile Borman: Any additions? Corrections?

-Correction by Electra Kruger: page 3, line 18: July 10, not July 4 General meeting announcement.

Line 18 on page 3: July 10, not July 4 announcement General meeting.

-Mary Benson: Line 44 and 45 as written: Dale stated building inspector would like to correct that golf course has shown significant progress in complying with conditions. He did not say that they complied with all the conditions.

Electra Kruger objecting to Mary Benson; seconded by Frank Buchanan. Moved and seconded.

-Council District 2; not 7.

Any other corrections?

Moved by Terry Kaiser; seconded by Erwing Davis that the meetings be accepted.

Maryann Geyer is opposed.

Please show that these are the minutes from June 21 General meeting. Approved as corrected. May and June minutes approved.

May General meeting minutes approved by all.

May 17th at Village Christian School, copies not available for public; not approved minutes.

Cile Borman: Any corrections to General meeting minutes?

- Electra Kruger: Correction under Council District 2 address for the third entry was 96809. Item 2 on same section term was used: lot split.
- Maryann Geyer: Voting opposed of minute page 2 stakeholders sharing 9310 possible drug act Sunland Place, not La Tuna Canyon; Address is not correct either. No address on Sunland Place.
- Maryann Geyer: Page 24 the bullet point down refers to half-way house at Sunland Place, address also incorrect.
- Missing page 3, in some of the agenda minutes/Bart Paul pointed out page missing, seconded by Maryann Geyer. Tabling May 17 minutes.

C. Remarks from DONE and Elected Officials:

- David Mays from Public Works on agenda.

D. Public Comment on non-agenda items:

Erwing Davis specified time: everybody gets 2 minutes. Sign will be displayed for time cut-off.

We can start with the first group:

1) Christina Sable Water Committee meets the third Monday of the month at Lake View Terrace Recreational Center add agenda item starting next month; line item not agenda, give a summary of what they are doing.

2) Sharon Romano from Hollywood/Los Angeles Beautification Team; A California Environmental Non-Profit Corporation.

-Looking for leadership from the Neighborhood Council

HBT Environmental Projects:

The environmental work HBT has been developing in Los Angeles County includes areas as natural habitat restoration, creation and improvement of green areas and open space and site beautification.

The purpose of the environmental projects is to create a better place to live for the residents of Los Angeles County and to improve the quality of the natural environment. Development of these projects have required land surveying, project design and planning, GIS spatial and demographic analysis, construction and planting.

A special component in all projects HBT develops is the participation of community organizations, residents, and at risk youth.

Mailing address: P.O. Box 931090

Hollywood, California 90093

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3) Public invited to air concerns about issues debating minutes of time for individuals allowed to speak. Everybody who wants to speak invited to line up regarding on-going discussion at 9955 Sunland Boulevard, Cinzano Restaurant.

-Bernard Buenoflor wanted to direct questions to Building and Safety Inspector regarding controls to be put into place; No Building and Safety Inspector present at meeting.

Bernardo is seeking guidance on how to get point across. Inquiry as to why building and safety is not here.

-Other residents of the Rancho Caballo Drive neighborhood in Shadow Hills, CA that voiced their concerns regarding Cinzano Restaurant: Heidi House; Henrik Arakelian; and Gary Smizer.

Royan Herman: Raised the issue regarding conditional use permit (zoning administrator)

Jorge Vallabres who is associated with Cinzano Restaurant: Claims they are not having parties; inviting community to come and look at restaurant.

4) Alex Lucero, Partnerships to Uplift Communities (PUC Charter School) Lake View Terrace location. October will be the official grand opening ceremony. Neighbors within 500 feet will be notified.

Action Items:

1. Discussion and possible Actions to address notice received by Nancy Woodruff concerning Office of Zoning Administration "Notice of Public Hearing to Property Owners" in reference to 10519 La Tuna Cyn. Rd. (Discussion led by Mary Ann Geyer).

Mary Ann Geyer:

In regards to 8 houses built decades ago- 7 houses connected to 1 deed; 1 house connected to another deed. Extensive remodeling was proposed, but the buildings were subsequently torn down.

Nancy Woodruff: Old houses grandfathered in at time of original zoning took place. Need board support and anybody who wants to save zoning to sign petition.

Royan Herman: Proposed to support opposition to that application.

Royan Herman made motion, held on table.

Jack Sedgewick: (Supporting land owner) 8 small homes on property built in 1938. 4 of the properties have citations currently. The property has been remodeled under a permit. Permit plans were approved; citation was because construction may have gone further then it should have. Issue is up for a hearing tomorrow. Owner hopes to get variance approved.

Owner wants variance to finish upgrading.

Carlos Torres: Clarifying misstatement. Old houses were dilapidated. Remodeling with the same square footage. Studs were gone, eaten by termites when they went to remodel. Had to add new foundation. Need zoning administrator to allow them to continue remodel. Variance will allow them to renovate and renew.

Terry Kaiser:

Questioned if one wall is left standing. They continued without proper permits. 99% done exceeded scope of permits. They violated permits.

Carols Torres: Seeking support to make them safe. Retains legal land conforming rights.

Maryann Geyer:

Zoning administrator: what kind of recommendation they are going to be making? Motion has already been made to support the Woodruffs. How are they going to support that to the maximum benefit of the residents?

Royan Herman:

Did not have a 2nd.

Mary Benson:

Made a motion

Seconded by Terry Kaiser

That the Council support the Woodruffs and the language that Maryann used.

Council needs to take a position in opposition to the complete application regarding 10519

Royan Herman:

Write a letter on behalf of the Council to be submitted July 20. If approved, Council will file an appeal.

Electra Kruger:

Stated that she feel Council still does not have the right to appeal.

Frank Buchanan:

Owner has to have known the laws were there. Implored that owner should have gone by it the right way.

All in favor: All

Nobody opposed.

2. Discussion and possible action to discuss the formation of an ad-hoc committee and provide funds to ad-hoc committee to study the possibility of support and distribution of funds to investigate costs, secure speculative engineering/architectural renderings, and to build a website to publicize and look for the actual cost to build a pedestrian bridge at Osborne Street and Foothill Blvd. in Lake View Terrace

Mary Benson, Sponsor:

Discussion for formation of an ad hoc committee. The individual need not be a board member.

Tim Forest: Intersection of the Children's Museum, also contains playground and library. A Pedestrian's bridge would be a logical and safe thing to do. Richard Alarcon's office is offering support for the bridge. Tim is also working on a website to inform people about the bridge, and has discussed the project with a steel company who is behind him as well. He feels it would be a real possibility to enhance Council District 7 and 2.

Nicole Chase with Council member Richard Alarcon's office: Supports bridge proposal.

Royan Herman:

In regards to ad hoc committee: Tim Forest appointed to chair for committee.

People can sign up for 30 days for committee.

Maryann Geyer:

Would like to make a motion today would be the first day that ad hoc committee is formed . Mr. Forest would chair that committee look at phase built of bridge and that they address all transportation issues as well as look at alternatives.

Seconded by Royan Herman.

Moved by Maryann Geyer and seconded by Royan Herman.

All in favor: All

Oppositions: None

Motion passed.

3. Discussion and possible Action of Board Funding Resolution to approve \$500.00 for computer repair services concerning Out Reach (Discussion let by Royan Herman, Out Reach chair)

Royan Herman:

Feels unlikely to need \$500 but needs some funds to get website up and running.

Mary Benson has objections to computer "repair" services.

Mary Benson: would like to make a motion board funding up to \$500.00 computer instruction and Out Reach.

Seconded by Erwing Davis.

Resolution for computer instruction concerning Out Reach.

Maryann Geyer:

Motion by resolution.

All in favor: All

Oppositions: None

Motion carries.

4. Discussion and possible Action of Board Funding Resolution to approve \$500.00 for Out Reach at the Eagle Neighborhood Watch annual block party on August 25, 2007. (Discussion led by Erwing Davis).

Erwing Davis: Annual block party that has been occurring for the past 8 or 9 years in his district, district 3. Everyone from Shadow Hills, La Tuna Canyon and Lake View

Terrace is invited. Feels should be given \$500.00 for party.

Ken Keeble: Seconded motion.

Mary Benson: Makes the motion to approve block party.

Ken Keeble: Seconded.

Funding Resolution: approved for Neighborhood Watch block party.

All in favor: All

Oppositions: None

5. Discussion and Possible Action to hold a FTDNC Board Retreat. Facilitated by the Los Angeles Human Relation and DONE to address Standing Rules, Code of Conduct, Brown Act etc. Dates available, Monday July 30, Wednesday August 1, and Monday August 13, 2007. (Comments from Board)

Maryann Geyer:

Would like to make a motion to accept all 3 dates for a board retreat.

Ken Keeble:

Would like to make a comment:

Proposed that filming or taping of the retreat to be done for anybody who cannot attend.

Maryann Geyer:

Friendly amendment transcriber in attendance for all 3 dates.

July 30, August 1, and August 13.

Mary Benson:

Pursuant to the motion, who is going to contact Human Relations Division for set-up?

Cile Borman:

Will contact Human Relations and DONE to set-up dates.

Ken Keeble:

Will secure a transcriber.

Seconded by Bart Paul.

Information and Updates:

1. Update from Land use Committee

Fritz:

Apologized. He was supposed to bring paperwork regarding land use committee, but failed to do so.

2. Council District 2 Update:

Council District 2 update:

9633 Sunland Place "sex offender" house. Going up for City Attorney hearing August 1. Have enough action to evict tenants there. Good progress. Not a public hearing.

3. Update Fuhrman's Market Project (Peter Elias, Residents from impacted area)

Located NE corner of Sunland Blvd and Wheatland Ave. Proposing to build a two story facility.

Summarized Building Data: Market on ground floor; 4 office spaces on second floor; landscaping buffer; 22 parking spaces; site area 6,747.5 SF.; building area 7,680 SF.

Incorporating all the elements of the specific plan. C1 zone currently CR. Will request conditional use permit.

Public comment:

Debra Stevens: Opposes proposal has concerns.

Dorothy Zimmerman: Could not make it. Opposes, but is not here.

Ken Parrillo: Opposes

Julia Tarnowsky: Opposes

Darlene Lowry lives on Wheatland. She has no problem with him putting a two-story building there. She will live right behind it.

4. 10 minute presentation, David Mays, Executive Liaison Neighborhood Councils, Department of Public Works. Discussion regarding the Department's plan to meet the city's growing infrastructure needs, cost, age of much of the City's infrastructure and the City's growth plans for the future.

Department of Public Works has about 6000 employees and is headed by a full-time, paid, 5-member Board of Public Works that holds public hearings in City Hall three times a week. The Office of Community Beautification, which is responsible for graffiti removal, cleanup coordination with community groups and community beautification grants, and my office, the Executive Liaison to Neighborhood Councils, work directly for the Board. The rest of the Department is divided into Bureaus. The Bureau of Sanitation is responsible for curbside collection of recyclables, refuse, yard trimmings and bulky items. It is also responsible for wastewater collection and treatment and the control and future treatment of rainwater runoff (watershed protection). The Bureau of Street Services is responsible for street and sidewalk repair and street tree trimming. The Bureau also does lot cleaning and enforces regulations of the public right-of-way. The Bureau of Street Lighting is responsible for design, construction and maintenance of the City's street lighting system. The Bureau of Engineering designs municipal facilities, including streets, bridges, buildings, police stations, fire stations and libraries. The Bureau of Contract Administration oversees the construction projects designed by Engineering.

NC members can call 3-1-1 for routine problems or call me at 213 978-0204 or email me at David.Mays@lacity.org.

Mr. Mays would like Council to contact him regarding the issues they have that were brought up during this General Meeting.

5. Update concerning Standing Rules and Elections

Kevin Davis: Bi-law changes. He will be putting items on the agenda next month.

6. Treasurer's Report

Facilitated by Mary Benson, handout distributed to Council Members

-DONE Funding Department RELEASES NEW DEMAND WARRANT FORM

-Steven Oh, Foothill Trails Audit Coordinator has left the department

-Credit card advance shift expense curden to NCs from DONE

Maryann Geyer: still going to do cash withdraws?

Mary Benson: Yes

Cile Borman: Any more questions for Mary?

Council: No

- Mary Benson : Would like to allow to allocate \$200 for night out @ Stonehurst Park 6-10PM August 7th.

7. Comments from the Board (2 minutes please)

Frank Buchanan:

During public comment stop responding to the public. Council is going to get a complaint if comments continue. Commenting is a violation of the Brown Act. Suggest that there should also be a greeter at the door to explain procedures of the meeting.

Maryann Geyer:

People don't understand what rules and regulations that fall under the Brown Act. It is not permissible to have cross-talk. Explain procedures with the public. Explain the process to the public. Agrees there should be a greeter at the door.

Bart Paul:

Issues that came up 2 meetings ago board members can ask questions to clarify comment from the public.

No cross-talk but can ask them to clarify.

Retreat topics:

Split the neighborhood council or desert the council. Serious issues need to talk about at the retreat.

Royan Herman:

First meeting during with she has been a member they really got a lot done, and she is very proud.

Terry Kaiser:

Recreation Parks: Hansom Dam clean-up Sat., Aug 4th at 8:00AM.

After the clean up, people will be in attendance from The Audubon Society and The Corps of Engineers

Electra Kruger:

Sharon Romano forgot to mention that this coming Saturday will be a tree give away hosted by the Sun Valley Chamber of Commerce 9AM to 1PM.

Cile Borman:

Foothill Trails has been asked to facilitate an out reach meeting to the community regarding solid waste on September 4th.

8. Adjournment

Maryann Geyer:

Made a motion for adjournment 9:35PM

Minutes prepared by Brenna Charboneau