

Minutes

Community Services Committee Meeting

March 26, 2013 – 6:30 p.m.

Fire Station 84, 21050 Burbank Blvd., Woodland Hills, CA 91364

Committee Chair, Bill Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:39 p.m.

Roll Call was conducted by the Chair; a quorum was reached with 7 committee members present: Bill Anderson, Kathy Davis, Zack King, Sean McCarthy, Pat Patton, Albert Saur, and Melanie King (*WHWCNC Education Committee Chair*). Absent: Anna Davies, Marty Golden, and Heath Kline.

Approval of Minutes: As there were several errors in the draft minutes for the February 25, 2013 meeting, approval was postponed until corrections could be made.

Public Comment Period: There were no public comments.

Committee Agenda Items

1. DWP Smart Meter Program

The Committee discussed “next steps:” with regard to the DWP smart meter program.

Melanie King reported that she had spoken to Chairman, Scott Silverman about a writing a letter to the DWP requesting that the agency send a representative to a meeting of the WHWCNC to discuss the proposed Smart Meter Program. She was unclear if the letter had been written. Melanie reported that she had been in contact with Councilman Zine’s office for help in setting up the DWP meeting. She also had been in contact with staff at Councilman elect Bob Blumenfield’s office and with Max Reyes of State Senator, Fran Pavely’s office. Blumenfield’s person, she reported, said that they had received no complaints about the meters. Mr. Reyes said that Senator Pavley was aware of the meter program. Melanie also reported that she had learned that Chatsworth has had smart meters installed as it was the initial pilot area

The Committee discussed inviting other area neighborhood councils to the proposed meeting with DWP.

Action Item: Follow up with the WHWCNC Chairman about writing a letter to the DWP requesting that a representative attend a meeting of the Council to discuss the proposed Smart Meter Program (*Bill Anderson*)

Action Item: Contact other area neighborhood councils to see if they know about the smart meter program and to gauge interest in attending an informational meeting with DWP. (*Zack King*)

2. Neighborhood Clean Up Program

The Committee discussed the draft program mission statement. Revisions were made to make the statement clearly communicate that the intent of the program is to clean up the area and educate stakeholders about their obligations to maintain public right-of-ways, the city resources that are available to them, and to be a liaison

with City Council District 3 office. The Committee felt that the mission statement should be uploaded to the WHWCNC website when ready.

The Committee discussed the project's draft Action Plan. As all WHWCNC areas except Area 2 are covered by members of the Committee, the Committee felt that the best way for clean-up problems to be discovered was for each member of the Committee to be on the look out for issues within their area. Any identified problems would be brought to the Committee each month in writing. Each month these will be turned over the District 3 Council office.

Action Item: Rework the project's Mission Statement and bring it back to the Committee. *(Bill Anderson)*

Action Item: Rework the project's Action Plan and bring it back to the Committee. *(Bill Anderson)*

3. Senior Citizen Program

Senior Symposium at One Generation

Kathy Davis reported that 2013 edition of the Senior Symposium, scheduled for 20 April at One Generation, is a good opportunity to assess senior citizen needs by doing a poll at the event. She reminded the Committee that four areas have been identified for information gathering: 1) transportation issues; 2) food programs; 3) medical needs; 4) social activities. With symposium just three weeks away, the Committee was of the opinion that a questionnaire should be done and used at the event. The questionnaire should be short, no more than 8 questions. Kathy Davis, Bill Anderson and Melanie King will draft the questionnaire. Information on existing senior services could be passed out to poll participants. One Generation may know if any organization that will be at the symposium has services information for seniors.

The WHWCNC will have a table at the symposium. Volunteers are needed to be at the table in at least two hour shifts. Bill Anderson volunteered to work the table all day. Sean McCarthy said he could do 4 hours in the morning. Kathy Davis will send out a sign up sheet to the Council for other volunteers.

The Committee felt that information about the WHWCNC should be made available at the symposium. It should be also given directly to each person who participates in the poll.

Action Item: Create a short questionnaire for poll of senior citizens at the Senior Symposium. *(Kathy Davis, Bill Anderson, Melanie King)*

Action Item: Send out sign up sheet to the WHWCNC for volunteers to work the Council's table at the Senior Symposium. *(Kathy Davis)*

Proposed Westfield Community Center

Melanie King reported that she had talked to Larry Green of Westfield about the proposed community center at Van Owen and Owensmouth. Mr. Green confirmed that the plan is for community center and not just a senior center, although the facility can be used by seniors. Plans now call for a large room that will accommodate 150 – 200 people and for smaller spaces, a kitchenette and a garden area. Westfield will run the center, charging groups a nominal fee for use to defray maintenance. Community meetings may be held at the center, including usage by neighborhood councils.

Affordable Care Act Seminars

Sean McCarthy reported that the United Chamber of Commerce and several other organizations, including the Woodland Hills Tarzana Chamber and Providence Hospital, will be hosting seminars on the Affordable Care Act in the coming weeks.

4. LA Dept. of Sanitation / City Wide Franchise System for Solid Waste Collection

Sean McCarthy reported that City of Los Angeles is creating seven franchise areas (this may increase to 15, one for each city council district) for the pick up and recycle of solid waste from multi-family dwellings and commercial enterprises. These franchises will replace the approximately 450 private haulers that currently service these dwellings and businesses. The process to create this franchise system is well along.

The Committee discussed doing a study to assess the attitudes of Woodland Hills stakeholders about the proposed franchise system. Sean McCarthy made the following motion to take to the full board of the Woodland Hills Warner Center Neighborhood Council:

The Woodland Hills Warner Center Neighborhood Council, as a part of its assessing of community needs, will conduct a survey of stakeholders, specifically commercial property and multi-family residential owners, about their concerns and opinions about the franchising of trash hauling in Los Angeles for multi-family and commercial properties.

And further, the Neighborhood Council will request that someone from the Los Angeles Department of Sanitation come to a Neighborhood Council meeting to explain the franchise program.

Zack King seconded. The motion was passed unanimously – 7 Yes 0 No.

5. Proposed City Mural Ordinance

The Committee discussed the Los Angeles City Council's proposed ordinance which deals with murals. Melanie King reported that the ordinance was being dealt with by the WHWCNC Planning & Land Use Committee (PLUM). As such, the Committee felt that the matter should remain with PLUM.

6. New Business

Melanie King reported that she had noticed that a restaurant in the mini-mall just east of Taft High School is allowing smoking at tables on the sidewalk outside its doors. Sean McCarthy reported that by ordinance smoking can not occur within 20 feet of a restaurant door. The Committee felt that this problem should be handled by the new 3rd District Council Office.

Melanie King reported that she had learned that Pierce College has scheduled two gun safety classes on campus. This was of concern to her as the Education Committee was dealing with issues of campus violence and shooters. The Committee felt that it was unclear what could or should be done about such classes.



Meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

Bill Anderson,
Committee Chairman

Disabilities Act Notification:

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Brown Act Notification:

In compliance with Government Code 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 www.whcouncil.org.