

7/29/2025

HSJA COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Woodland Hills Warner Center Neighborhood Council-Homelessness and Social Justice Committee Meeting

I. Meeting Called to Order by Juliet Schwarz at 6:32 pm.

II. Roll Call.

Present at the meeting were Members

- Juliet Schwarz
- Reina McCaughey
- Dean Mathew
- Aaron Quantz
- Harry Sherman

-Not present was:

- Masha Dowell

-Some members of the public and members of the WHWCNC Board (Jon Mann & Melanie Kirschbaum) were in attendance.

III. There were no public announcements by City officials, but Sean Pilz from Councilmember Padilla's office introduced himself, and attended the entire meeting.

IV. There were no Stakeholder comments.

V. Minutes from 3/25/2025 were approved unanimously.

ITEM 1-Know Your Rights presentation by guest Josune Aguirre Gamez, Immigration Attorney.

Josune described what an individual stakeholder should do if they witnesses an ICE raid or confrontation. Key suggestions included staying calm and recording the confrontation with your cell phone. It was stressed how important it is to get the name and birthdate of the person being questioned, and the warrant and badge number of the Federal agent or other officer of the Federal Government.

A rapid Response phone number was shared- 888-624-4752.

Josune answered several questions by the public and the committee and then left the meeting.

ITEM 2- Unhoused Resource Cards-Jayce Baron.

-Jayce showed computer images of the Resource Card that will be printed and distributed by the NC.

-There were suggestions made to add Veteran and Mental Health resources to the card. It will be printed soon.

ITEM 3- Follow up on “Hang Out, Be Good” charity involvement. -Reina McCaughey.

-The Woodlands Hills chapter of this organization puts food packages together for unhoused and food insecure neighbors and distributes them to that community. They are usually sandwiches and other side foods. We were asked to consider volunteering with the organization on one day that has yet to be determined.

-Reina will email the website of the organization to the committee members, but we agreed to move on to next steps in the near future.

ITEM 4- CDI’s Early Learning Center presentation by Juliet Schwarz.

-This is a Free non-profit organization that offers Safe, Nurturing, and Engaging activities to children in our area at no cost to the families. They have trained volunteers with experience in Early Learning activities. They serve the Reseda, Canoga Park and Woodlands Hills areas.

-They recently served victims of the nearby fires, and they do occasional food distribution.

It was suggested that we engage them to apply for an NPG. This can possibly be done after we table at one of their events or volunteer there.

-Jayce thought that this would be a good idea. He also suggested that they request a grant from the County.

ITEM 5- Future Action Items.

-Reina would like to discuss having committee members volunteer at the West Valley Food Pantry, or delivering food directly to folks that are afraid to leave their homes.

-There was a previous discussion about buying a printer for the NC. Reina brought it to our attention that the NC had previously approved the purchase of a hi-end printer but it was currently in the hands of a former member of the Board. There is a need to locate that printer and add it to the NC inventory. It is also been suggested that we inventory other NC owned items and keep a database on those items.

-There was a reminder to keep our commitment to each volunteer at least one day every month at an event or with a service provider.

-Juliet mentioned that we should change the name of our committee to include the word ‘unhoused’ in place of the word ‘homeless’. Dean and Jayce agreed to work on this.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 pm.