

**WHWCNC-Special Homeless and Social Justice Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**1/9/2026**

I. Juliet Schwarz called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm, then read the meeting rules/preamble.

II. Roll Call:

Juliet Schwarz-present

Dean Mathew-present

Harry Sherman-present

Reina McCaughey-absent

Aaron Quantz-absent

Melanie Kirschbaum-present

III. No public comment by City officials.

IV. Stakeholder comments. Lionel Mares-Guest-Valley Charter Committee meeting tomorrow at 10 am. Monica Rodriguez passed a motion at a recent meeting. Spoke of LA Charter changes that are being considered.

V. Minutes approved unanimously. 4 Yes. 0 No Approved

Item 1-Loving Hands Children's Home-Janiese Finney runs the organization. Juliet gave an update. Edible Garden, Farm animals. NPG is going to the full board for a vote at the next meeting (next Wednesday). This is a Woodland Hills-based non-profit. They foster children with medical issues. Harry spoke about the project with the West Valley Food Pantry to save produce for the farm animals at Loving Hands. On Dec. 23 the NPG application was submitted, and today, Janiese was notified that there are some corrections needed.

Item 2-CDI's Early Learning Center-Juliet-Follow-Up- Beautification Day Wed., Jan 28th from 10-2. 7 people committed. Clean toys, paint, and gardening.

Item 3-Executive Director Search-WVFP-New Executive Director is Merria Velasco, and she will begin on January 14th. She is currently the Vice President of Development and Communications at Friends In Deed, Owner of Jazzercise Los Angeles, and Board President at Outdoor Adventures by Boojum

Item 4-NPGs - Juliet - New Friends and Bundles of Kindness. New Friends is in the process of filling out NPG forms.

Item 5-Fallbrook Encampment-Harry and Melanie - Next clean up tomorrow. Melanie is frustrated. Harry spoke of temporary and PSH in the area.

Item 6- Workforce/Affordable Housing project-The Woodlake Apartments- Harry. The project will be completed around April and open for tenants in April/May. Harry is reaching out to local schools to find potential tenants.

Item 7- Homelessness Liaison Meeting Recap-Juliet-Talked about LAHSA and LAHOP.

Item 8-Discussion of future action items. Juliet wants to create a Community Impact Statement (CIS) in opposition to harmful ICE enforcement.

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 pm.

Next Meeting-January 27.