

FEDERATION OF HILLSIDE AND CANYON ASSOCIATIONS

JUNE 2, 2010

Minutes

President Marian Dodge welcomed attendees and introductions were made. There was no quorum present.

A map was circulated to members requesting them to mark their geographical jurisdiction, Neighborhood Council affiliation as well as Council District.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

1. New signers for bank account

The federation needs to update the signature cards for the bank account. It was recommended that the signers be the President and the Treasurer. There are many old signers still authorized on the account; they need to be removed.

2. Website

The web site needs to be updated and we need to increase the federation's presence on the web. Federation members should e-mail links to their organizations' web sites for the federation website.

An Ad Hoc web site committee was formed: Gillian Calof and Dan Palmer from Beverly Glen will investigate web sites. Dan will get a bid to Marian.

3. Billboards

Good news! Last week the 9th Circuit Court upheld the city's ban on billboards.

4. Burbank Airport Authority

The Studio City Residents Association invited everyone to hear two directors from the Burbank Airport Authority speak on June 8, 7:30 at Beverly Garlands Hotel.

GUEST SPEAKER: Marlene Rader, Lopez Canyon Open Space

Marlene, representing the Community Alliance for Open Space, made a presentation regarding the Lopez Landfill/Open Space and their request for support to block the variance going before PLUM on June 15th regarding the Big Rig Driver Training Academy being proposed. Suggested arguments to make: industrial use is illegal under current status as open space, stay focused on findings, show no revenue benefit, and cite past variances that deal with this issue specifically. The appeal of the variance will go before City Council June 30, at City Hall.

A straw vote was taken regarding recommendations to support the appeal. There was unanimous support for the appeal with one abstention. Individual organizations were encouraged to write letters supporting the appeal.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Baseline Hillside Ordinance

There was discussion regarding the fact that grading restrictions were dropped from the proposal and the fact that there was no mention in the final staff report summary (page P 4) that grading was one of the items they would be reviewing after the May 27 hearing.

Actions: Contact Bill Eick and David Garfinkle for clarification of the argument that F.A.R will somehow mitigate problems. Contact Erick Lopez for an explanation of why grading was removed and how it will be offset.

Additionally it was reported that PLUM is sensitive to outcry and e-mails so write, write, write – Dan Wright requested samples/templates to use.

2. Advertising on bus shelters – letters were set. Building & Safety and the Bureau of Street Lighting both denied responsibility for the lighted ads of bus shelters.

3. SB 1818

Marian will send out motions to revise the ordinance for members to review and take a position. There are 2 motions to revise (Krekorian & Koretz). Letters of support are requested.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Van de Kamp Building

Dan Wright reported on changes to the original plan for a much-needed community college. They will now lease one building to a charter school with lease space for a ‘web workforce’ office and will add mixed use. This decision is possibly in violation of the bonds for a community college and the EIR.

2. Outreach Committee

We will formulate a plan to introduce the federation to Neighborhood Councils that have federation member associations in their area. Cassandra Barrère will head the ad hoc committee and solicit participation.

3. Koretz - cost-recovery fee costs

Councilmember Paul Koretz has a motion (CF 09-0969-S1) which would accelerate the increase of fees to developers, which would help reduce the city’s budget deficit. Tom Freeman, Upper Mandeville Canyon, sent a sample letter that could be used to support Koretz’ motion.

4. Mt. Olympus speed bumps

Mel Remba announced that Mount Olympus will self-fund the installation of speed bumps and solar speed feedback machines using City resources in a public/private partnership. It is expensive but is a way for communities to address their needs during the city’s budget crisis.

5. Quorum

The group discussed reducing the quorum requirement to facilitate monthly federation business. Currently we have 32 paid member organizations and a 1/3 quorum requirement. One suggestion: 25% of the membership would mean 8 members would comprise a quorum.

6. President's Letter

Mel Remba suggested that Marian write a letter to past member organizations spelling out her new agenda and reminding new board members who the Federation is and how we work for mutual hillside issues. "Meet Marian" was sent to the current membership. We need a "Meet the Federation" to attract their return.

7. New Policy & Procedures

Board members asked the new President to lead the meetings in a timely manner, limiting redundancy and encouraging order. The Board offered support in all ways to achieve this goal. Additionally there was discussion regarding bringing new business to the floor on the day of the meeting. Board members expressed their interest in eliminating the standing rule that all new business must be run thru the President.

Respectfully submitted by
Cassandra Barrère,
Acting Recording Secretary

Members Present:

Bel-Air Skycrest POA	Mark Stratton
	Lois Becker
Cahuenga Pass Neighborhood	Joan Luchs
Highlands Homeowners	Nicole Ellington
Laurel Canyon	Cassandra Barrère
Los Feliz Improvement Assn.	Marian Dodge
	Don Seligman
Mt. Olympus POA	Mel Remba
Mt. Washington HO Alliance	Dan Wright
No. Beverly/Franklin Canyon	Robert Levy
Residents of Beverly Glen	Gillian Calof
	Dan Palmer
Sherman Oaks HOA	Laura Gutierrez

Guest Present:

Community Alliance for Open Space Marlene Rader