

**Hillside Federation
Minutes
January 8, 2014**

I. Call to Order

President Marian Dodge called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm. Members and guests introduced themselves. Marian introduced and welcomed Stacy Thompson from our new member group Upper Riviera Homeowners Association.

II. Approval of Minutes - The November minutes were approved as written.

III. Officers' Reports

A. President's Report - Marian Dodge

Treasurer Don Andres was thanked for his help in making the Holiday Party such a great success.

A judge gave architect Gerhard Becker the minimum sentence of one year for using shoddy building materials in violation of code, causing the roof of his home to collapse and kill Firefighter Glenn Allen. The judge said he gave this lesser sentence because the Department of Building and Safety was also culpable.

The LAFD Foundation, a non-profit group that supports LAFD, has reached out to Marian to request help in purchasing special brush helmets for firefighters. Marian will contact the group to set up a meeting.

Mayor Garcetti sent an e-mail survey asking constituents to identify their priorities. Garcetti will be the guest speaker at the Sherman Oaks HOA meeting on Wednesday, February 19, 2014.

Hollywood Hills West Neighborhood Council has requested that the Hillside Federation provide contact information for member organizations that are in their area so the Council can circulate information to them to encourage participation in the Neighborhood Council. Because the Federation does not share contact information, Marian will forward a notice to the associations within the NC boundary on behalf of the NC.

Marian will circulate an e-mail from Citizens for Los Angeles Wildlife (CLAW) asking hillside dwellers to trim their trees in the winter before nesting season begins. <http://www.clawonline.org>

The Natural History Museum's First Friday events explore the city's wildlife from 5:00 - 10:00 pm. Check their website for ticket availability. <http://www.nhm.org/site/>

Hollywoodland HOA is seeking old minutes from its community meetings. Steve Twining mentioned that UCLA has some archive documents from the Federation and he will look into how to access them.

B. Treasurer's Report - Don Andres

Don Andres reported that the Holiday party was a great success with 112 attendees. There was an impressive list of community groups, elected officials and representatives of federal, state and local government offices present.

Membership dues of \$150 per organization are due in March.

The Federation has prepared a chart of its member organizations and their corresponding governmental representatives. The chart has been circulated to our member groups for review. The list will be posted on our website as soon as it has been finalized.

IV. New Business:

A. Rodenticide motion - Ali Simard, Citizens for Los Angeles Wildlife (CLAW)

Ali asked the Hillside Federation to support City Council motion CF#13-1580, proposed by Councilmembers Paul Koretz and Tom LaBonge, requesting that the Department of Rec and Parks report back on the usage of rodenticides. Wendy-Sue Rosen stated that the Hillside Federation passed a motion on this issue last year and asked Ali to fill out a Request for Action form and come back to make a presentation at the Hillside Federation's February meeting.

B. Area Planning Commissions - Wendy-Sue Rosen

Members of the community are concerned that the Mayor has appointed unqualified commissioners to the City and Area Planning Commissions. The LA Times reported that most of the appointees are campaign donors, but don't necessarily have land use expertise or experience. The most recent complaints have come from westside leaders who were successful in getting one potential appointee to withdraw after the LA Times did a story about her lack of relevant experience. There is concern that recently appointed commissioners do not understand the complexities of land use and will not address the community's need to mitigate significant impacts.

C. 10550 Bellagio Road – Victor Marmon, attorney for neighboring property owner

Victor Marmon filed a petition for Writ of Mandate for a similar project at 360 N. Stone Canyon Road, opposing a height variance granted by the City Council. The Bellagio project involves a similar height variance that was recently approved by a Zoning Administrator. This variance approval would undermine the Baseline Hillside Ordinance and set a negative precedent. The West LA Area Planning Commission is scheduled to hear an appeal on the ZA's determination on January 15, 2014.

MOTION MSP: Wendy-Sue Rosen moved that the Federation oppose the Zoning Administrator's granting of the variance and support the appeal.

D. Zoning Advisory Committee - Carol Sidlow

Carol reported that she is one of 21 members of the city-wide committee to oversee a 5-year update of the 1946 Zoning Code. Carol introduced Edgar Khalatian, who is Co-Chair of the ZAC with Sharon Commins. The focus of the first two years of the committee's work will be on the downtown area. The first meeting is set for Wednesday, January 15, 2014 at City Hall East. All are welcome to attend. For information regarding this 5-year program to revise the 1946 Zoning Code, check the Re-code LA website. <http://recode.la>

V. Old Business

A. Harvard-Westlake Expansion - Marian Dodge

Marian reported that Doug Mensman from Councilmember Krekorian's office said the EIR is not expected to be circulated until March at the earliest because of the large number of comments submitted. Edgar Khalatian, representing Harvard-Westlake, concurred.

B. Hollywood Community Plan update - George Abrahams

George reported on the three successful lawsuits against the City on the Hollywood Community Plan. Judge Goodman rejected the City's arguments and found that the population projections used in the HCP were inaccurate. The judge ruled that the City must consider a downsized alternative because the population is declining.

George Abrahams also gave an update on the draft earthquake fault maps released by the State's geologist Dr. John Parrish. The Hollywood fault line appears to lie beneath the proposed Millennium Hollywood project as claimed in the SaveHollywood lawsuit. Several other projects along Hollywood Blvd. that are in various stages of construction also are along the fault line. George's group is demanding a Grand Jury investigation of the Dept. of Building and Safety for failure to require trenching near the fault lines.

C. Curtis School update - Mark Stratton

Mark described the City Planning Commission hearing held on December 19, 2013. Bel Air Skycrest attorney John Given objected that the application being heard by the Commission had been previously withdrawn by the Applicant. The City Attorney agreed and advised the Commission that it lacked jurisdiction to consider the application. Curtis must file a new application.

VI. Announcements:

Steve Twining - the City is not enforcing or analyzing projects under SB-1818 to assure low income housing is created. These projects are receiving increased heights and reduced parking.

Steven Poster - The Laurel Canyon landslide mitigation project has begun. Steven will circulate weekly updates.

George will post the state geological earthquake fault line maps on his organization's website. <http://www.stophemillenniumhollywood.org/>

VII. Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Carol Sidlow,
Recording Secretary

Members Present:

Beachwood Canyon	George Abrahams
Bel Air Skycrest	Mark Stratton
	Lois Becker
Brentwood Res. Coal.	Tom Freeman
Cahuenga Pass	Patricia Weber
Canyon Back Allian.	Wendy-Sue Rosen
Franklin Av/Hlwd Bl.	Don Andres
	Yvonne Hessler
Kagel Canyon	Kit Paull
Laurel Canyon	Ali Simard
Lookout Mountain	Steven Poster
	Carol Sidlow
Los Feliz Impvmt.	Marian Dodge
Oaks HOA	Bob Young
Resid. of Beverly Glen	Stephen Benson
Roscomare Valley	Steve Twining
Sherman Oaks HOA	Elke Heitmeyer
Studio City Res.	Alan Dymond
Upper Riviera HOA	Stacy Thompson

Guests Present:

Studio City RA	Wanda Bailey
	Marc Singer
Paul Hastings LLP	Edgar Khalatian