

Hillside Federation
May 6, 2015
Minutes

I. Call to Order – Marian Dodge

President Marian Dodge called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm. Members and guests introduced themselves.

Special Order: Installation of Officers by Kevin James
President, Board of Public Works

Officers installed are:

President: Marian Dodge
Chairman: Charley Mims
Vice-President: Wendy-Sue Rosen
Vice-President: Mark Stratton
Treasurer: Don Andres
Recording Secretary: Carol Sidlow
Executive Secretary: John Given

Guests:

Kevin James, President, Bd of Public Works

Kevin James spoke about the responsibilities of the Board of Public Works Commission—the only full-time board in the City that oversees five bureaus: Bureau of Street Services, Bureau of Sanitation, Contract Administration, Bureau of Engineering, and Street Lighting.

In addition to being President of the Board of Public Works, Mr. James was appointed by Mayor Garcetti to be the chief liaison to the Film and Production office of the City. He is working on better coordination between City departments regarding film and television production and how to balance the needs of the community and neighbors.

Several big projects will be undertaken in the City including a Sidewalk Repair Plan stemming from a settlement of litigation; Clean Streets Initiative which provide strike teams for clean ups; Pavement Preservation Program which provides a grade for every street; and the paving of more lane miles—approximately 10% more with the same budget money and more coordination with Department of Transportation and the General Services Dept. regarding lane striping. He would like see community liaisons to both the Department of Public Works and the Film and Television office. Carol mentioned the issue regarding filming on substandard hillside streets without secondary access and the negative impacts to public safety. Charley asked about enforcement with the Clean Streets initiative regarding illegal dumping. Mr. James spoke about the illegal dumping strike force/task force created by the City Attorney's office and the money allotted for enforcement. A pilot program in CD-15 is being looked at to place cameras in hot spots in the City.

Questions were asked about the pothole identification program and deterioration vs. repair of our streets and how the City determines which streets are to be repaired by using an A-F grading system. The money in the budget only maintains the City's Pavement Condition Index as the City does not have the budget to address an F-graded streets, which cost on average \$1 million per mile to reconstruct. Mr. James spoke to the State Senate Transportation Committee to

address the issue of the inequitable distribution of gas tax revenue and the need for the City of Los Angeles to get a greater allocation of those funds. An increase of the State gas tax money to the City of Los Angeles would have a significant impact.

Guest: Tim Pershing, Assemblymember Richard Bloom's office

State Assemblymember Bloom has been appointed to the Appropriations Committee and spoke about AB 1357, which would place a 2 cent tax on sodas and would establish and help to fund the Children and Families Health Promotion Trust Fund. Regarding the gas tax issue previously addressed, Wendy asked if Assemblymember Bloom would get involved regarding the gas tax allocation issue.

II. Approval of Minutes

The April minutes were approved.

III. Officers' Reports

A. President's Report: Marian Dodge

Marian thanked Lois Becker for taking the minutes in April and Steven Poster for the use of the Cinematographers Guild for the CD- 4 Candidate Forum.

Warren Olney's "Which Way LA?" radio program (KCRW) featured a discussion about development in Hollywood with Robert Silverstein, a representative from the developers, a Professor of Planning from UCLA, and Marian. Steven Poster and Wendy complimented Marian on her participation. Robert Silverstein will be speaking at PlanCheck, at the Hollywood Presbyterian Church on Saturday, May 9.

Tom LaBonge will be making a presentation on the "Untold History of Los Angeles," May 2 at the Downtown Central Library.

Wendy mentioned that she and other Hillside Federation members received a letter from Councilmember Paul Krekorian acknowledging and thanking them for commenting on the Weddington Condo/ Studio City Senior Living Center project. The letter states that he is taking public comments into consideration.

B. Treasurer's Report: Don Andres provided a status report.

IV. New Business

C. 10101 Angelo View Drive: Aaron Green

Jeff Franklin, a resident of Benedict Canyon, and Aaron Green, Jeff Franklin's representative from the Afriat Consulting Group, spoke about a proposed 82,000 sq.ft. development on Angelo View Drive. Approximately 56,000 cubic yards of the hillside will be exported, representing thousands of truck trips. Due to concerns of the neighbors and strong input from Councilmember Paul Koretz, the applicant will undertake a voluntary Environmental Impact Report (EIR). In addition, the Benedict Canyon Association and the Bel Air/Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council, who oppose the haul route, are keeping on top of the Environmental Impact Report issue and the issues that need to be covered.

Aaron Green asked that the HF take a position opposing the project with the information provided and comment on the Environmental Impact Report as appropriate. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the status of the project in the City, the development's compliance with the Baseline Hillside Ordinance, the voluntary Environmental Impact Report, deviations from the Los Angeles Municipal Code vs. "by-right" status, habitable basements, and the closing of the

loopholes of the Baseline Hillside Ordinance.

MOTION: Wendy-Sue Rosen moved that the Hillside Federation send a letter to Councilmember Paul Koretz expressing concern that the Angelo View Drive project is an example of why the loopholes in the Baseline Hillside Ordinance need to be promptly amended. The motion passed unanimously.

A. Greek Theater Contract: Barbara Ferris

President Dodge turned over the gavel to Mark Stratton so she could speak on behalf of the Los Feliz Improvement Association. Barbara Ferris from the LFIA described the management of the Greek Theatre which has been successfully run by Nederlander Concerts for the past 40 years. A motion was made in the City Council to have a new Request For Proposals prepared. The Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) instead asked the City to allow RAP to take over the running the Greek Theatre itself. The LFIA opposes that plan as RAP does not have the experience or staffing to do so.

Nederlander Concerts has done an outstanding job of running the Greek and has been responsive to the community concerns.

MOTION: Charley Mims moved that Hillside Federation support the extension of the current contract with Nederlander Concerts to run the Greek Theatre while the new Request for Proposals process is being pursued. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Zip Line in Runyon Canyon: Don Andres

Don distributed the recent proposal for a zip line through Runyon Canyon Park. The proponents went to the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) last year at which time the Department asked for input from the community. Subsequently, the company promoting the zip line went to a Hollywood Hills West Neighborhood Council meeting to discuss their proposal. Hillside Federation members discussed both the zip line issue as well as the broader issue of the commercialization of our parks.

MOTION: Charley Mims moved that the Hillside Federation opposes the concept of a zip line in the Runyon Canyon Recreation Area and continues to oppose the commercialization for profit of our wilderness areas. The motion passed with three no votes based on the fact that the motion included both the specific zip line issue and also a broad policy statement regarding commercialization of parks.

There was discussion about putting together a policy book that includes an index and all Hillside Federation policy statements. This will be discussed further at a future Executive Committee meeting.

D. 3003 Runyon Canyon Road: Stacey Sillins

Stacey described the proposed development within Runyon Canyon Park and the applicant's request to build a 9,500-sq.ft. house at 3003 Runyon Canyon Rd. The project will require exceptions to the Mulholland Scenic Parkway Specific Plan. The Mulholland Design Review Board will hold a Preliminary Review hearing on the project at its meeting on May 7, 2015.

MOTION: Wendy-Sue Rosen moved that the Hillside Federation oppose any deviations from the Mulholland Scenic Parkway Specific Plan for the proposed development at 3003 Runyon Canyon Road. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Old Business

A. Rim of the Valley Corridor: Marian Dodge

The proposal is entering the public comment period and everyone is encouraged to submit comments before June 30, 2015. The preferred alternative released in the draft by the National Park Service is Alternative C, which focuses on getting people into parks for recreating. Alternative D includes wildlife connectivity. The Hillside Federation adopted a position of support for a combination of Alternatives C & D. There was discussion about the alternatives and the various pros and cons. Representative Adam Schiff will be holding a public meeting on June 2, 2015 from 3:00-5:00 pm, at El Pueblo de Los Angeles. The National Parks Conservation Association is assembling a coalition of organizations that support the Rim of the Valley Corridor Alternatives. Wendy asked that the Hillside Federation ask for a presentation from a representative of the Rim of the Valley Corridor Study regarding the various alternatives at the next Hillside Federation meeting.

B. Re:code LA: Carol Sidlow

A presentation regarding the residential component was made by the consultants in March. It will be discussed again at the next Re:code LA meeting on May 27, 2015. Carol encouraged everyone to go to the website and participate and give input. Erick Lopez may be available to attend a future meeting of the Hillside Federation to give an up-date on Re:code LA.

C. Millennium Hollywood: George Abrahams

The several community groups who sued the city over the Millennium Hollywood project won a decisive victory with the court's decision to vacate the entire Environmental Impact Report which would require the developer to start over.

D. Tree Replacement/Caltrans I-405 Project: Wendy-Sue Rosen

Wendy-Sue Rosen, Lois Becker, and Mark Stratton attended a presentation at the Skirball Center regarding the Caltrans I-405 project. As a mitigation for removing trees along the I-405 Freeway and the Mulholland Scenic Corridor area and other areas for the Caltrans I-405 project, Caltrans is to replace the trees removed. Some trees will be replaced using a 4:1 ratio and others a 2:1 ratio. There are 3,800 trees remaining to be placed that cannot be placed in the public right of way due to lack of room. Caltrans will try to work with the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy to plant these trees. The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy has project properties all over the City. Wendy requested that we ask Caltrans to replace the trees as close to the project boundaries as possible, and especially in the Mulholland Scenic Corridor, before allowing them to be planted in areas outside of the project area..

MOTION: Wendy-Sue Rosen moved that the Hillside Federation request that the replacement of trees in the public right of way be planted as close to the project boundaries of the I-405 Freeway as possible and within the Mulholland Scenic Corridor. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm

Carol Sidlow,
Recording Secretary

Members Present:

Beachwood Canyon	George Abrahams
Bel Air Knolls	Georgia Alkov
Bel Air Skycrest	Mark Stratton
Benedict Canyon	Steven Berck
Brentwood Hills	John Given
Brentwood Residents	Wendy-Sue Rosen
Cahuenga Pass POA	Steven Kates
	Krista Michaels
CASM-SFV	Craig Smith
Franklin Av/Hlwd Blvd	Yvonne Hessler
Franklin Hills Res	Charley Mims
Hollywoodland	Chip Clements
Kagel Canyon	Kit Paull
Lookout Mountain	Steven Poster
	Carol Sidlow
Los Feliz Impvmt.	Marian Dodge
Nichols Canyon	Don Andres
Oaks Homeowners	Gerry Hans
Roscomare Valley	Steve Twining
Save Coldwater Canyon!	Heidi Mackay
Sherman Oaks	Elke Heitmeyer
Studio City Res.	Claudia Freedle
Upper Nichols Canyon	Stacy Sillins

Guests:

AD-50 Bloom	Tim Pershing
Bd of Public Works	Kevin James
Los Feliz Impvmt.	Barbara Ferris
NELA GreenSpace	Laura Gutierrez