

**Hillside Federation
January 6, 2016
Minutes**

I. Call to Order

President Marian Dodge called the meeting to order at 7:20 pm. Members and guests introduced themselves.

Guest speakers:

Angie Aramayo, representative from State Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian distributed a flyer regarding the earthquake Brace and Bolt program which offers up to \$3,000 to help California Homeowners retrofit their homes. Qualifications are determined by Zip codes, date of construction of home, built on a level or low slope among other factors. The legislative session in Sacramento has just begun and members are encouraged to contact the Assemblyman's Legislative aides with ideas for creating legislation.

Park Ranger Walt Young of the Mountains Recreation Conservation Authority (MRCA) spoke about the relationship between the MRCA and the LAFD. The MRCA has offered forty 4-wheel-drive vehicles for LAFD use in areas affected by flooding, debris flow, etc. Additionally, the MRCA has renewed its relationship with the No Litter Zone campaign which helps to clean up trash and debris on the canyon roads and along Mulholland Drive. The MRCA has offered to take care of expendable expenses for community clean ups such as gloves, safety vests, trash bags and any dumping fees. This offer extends to homeowner groups, Hillside Federation members, community groups for a one-time event or on-going clean ups along Mulholland Drive and its canyons. As the No Litter Zone was a non-profit, a suggestion was contact should be made to the Neighborhood Councils in the area to request a Neighborhood Purposes Grant to help fund this activity. Regarding homeless encampments in the hillsides, please contact Ranger Young and he will forward to the appropriate people. Park Ranger Young can be contacted at: walt.young@mrca.ca.gov. (310) 858-7272, Ext. 102

Janet Turner, representative from Congressman Ted Lieu's office spoke about some very exciting projects in 2016. The Congressman is looking at proposals to expand the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area along the coast to include Ballona Creek and to make more money available for open space and recreation with no impact to private property. They are still waiting on the report on the Rim of the Valley which the Congressman is supporting. On Thursday, January 14, 2016 there will be public comment meeting in Calabasas sponsored by Caltrans regarding the Liberty Canyon Wildlife Crossing. All were encouraged to attend to support this important project. Regarding climate change, Congressman Lieu, along with some of his colleagues has sent a letter to the SEC requesting an investigation on whether or not Exxon Mobile broke any laws by making mis-representations or omitting material facts in security filings related to what the corporation knew about climate change.

II. Approval of Minutes

The November minutes were approved as submitted.

III. Officers' Reports

A. Presidents Report - Marian Dodge

Marian thanked John Given for his work on the newsletter and thanked everyone who helped on the Hillside Federation Holiday party including Don, Mark for the wine donation and all the member organizations for participating. Special thanks to Andrea from the Ca Di Fara Winery for the wonderful wine. Marian read the proclamation from Councilman Paul Koretz which was presented to the Hillside Federation.

The Mayor has appointed a new Director of City Planning, Vince Bertoni, formerly a Deputy Director of Planning in the City who most recently served as the Planning Director in the City of Pasadena. He is very knowledgeable about hillside issues and was previously honored by the Hillside Federation for the work done on the Baseline Hillside Ordinance.

LAFD Deputy Chief Joe Castro, former West Bureau Chief has been promoted to Chief Deputy of Emergency Operations for the LAFD. The new West Bureau Chief Bureau Commander is Pat Butler.

A public hearing by the South Coast Air Quality Management District regarding the Porter Ranch gas leak will be held on Saturday, January 9, 2016, 9:00 am at Granada Hills Charter High School in Granada Hills.

PlanCheck is meeting on Saturday, January 9, 2016 at the DWP building, downtown at 10:30 am. Topics to be addressed are Small Lot Subdivisions and Unapproved Dwelling Units.

There is a Griffith Park community input meeting regarding a traffic plan for Griffith Park to address traffic congestion caused by Hollywood Sign viewing on Wednesday, January 20, 2016, 6:30 pm at Friendship Auditorium.

There are two meetings being held by the Department of City Planning regarding the Small Lot Subdivision Ordinance: Wednesday, January 20, 2016 at the Felicia Mahood Multipurpose Ctr., 11338 Santa Monica Blvd. and Tuesday, January 26, 2016 at the Grace E. Simmons Lodge, 1025 Elysian Park Drive. More details are provided in the January newsletter.

B. Treasurer's Report - Don Andres

Don updated members with the year end report. The Hillside Federation is strong with 45 member groups. The Holiday Party was very successful with 97 attendees. Dues notices will be sent out shortly for 2016 and due by March 1, 2016. There will be a discussion by the Executive Committee regarding the expenditure of funds in the near future.

V. Old Business

A. Baseline Hillside Ordinance Amendments:

The BHO amendments were discussed at the November Hillside Federation meeting. The comment period ends Monday, January 11, 2016 and members were encouraged to submit their comments. The Hillside Federation supported the BHO amendments and offered two additional amendments. Everyone was encouraged to read the Hillside Federation newsletter and the Draft Ordinance. John addressed questions regarding basements, grading, proportional story bonus, 10% bonus authority by the Zoning Administrator, exemption for garages among other topics. The next opportunity for input will be in March at the City Planning Commission meeting. Charley reminded everyone that when this item is scheduled before the City Planning Commission, we will all need to communicate and turn out. Comment letters should be addressed to: Hagu. Solomon-Cary@lacity.org and copy their Council office. With respect to hauling and import and export issues, Carol encouraged folks to speak with their Council people about setting a meeting with LADBS about this issue and perhaps looking to move haul route hearings to the Department of Public Works where issues such as cumulative impact, environmental issues can be discussed rather than just the route of the trucks.

B. 7107 Hollywood Blvd/Mosaic Church: Don Andres

The existing structure, the Mosaic Church, was designated a Historic-Cultural Monument. The developer did not oppose the designation. The developer may be considering incorporating the existing church building into some new design plans. This development project is located in a residential zone; however, the developer wants to extend the commercial designation across La Brea and make it a mixed residential commercial complex. This would be precedent setting. The developer has requested a zone change and the fear is that this zone change might continue to move all the way down Hollywood Blvd. The use of a zone change has been used by developers on some projects in Hollywood. The Hollywood Hills West Neighborhood Council is in discussions with the developer to limit the size, magnitude and eliminate the commercial aspect of the development.

Don described the Neighborhood Integrity Initiative, a ballot measure sponsored by the Coalition to Preserve LA, which calls for a two-year moratorium on developments requesting exemptions in the City of Los Angeles. They are collecting signatures to qualify for the November 2016 election.

IV. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Carol Sidlow
Recording Secretary

Members Present:

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| Bel-Air Assn. | Bruce Kuyper |
| Bel Air Skycrest | Mark Stratton |
| Benedict Canyon | Kerry Welland |
| Brentwood Hills | John Given |
| Cahuenga Pass POA | Krista Michaels |
| Canyon Back Alliance | Lois Becker |
| Franklin Ave/Hlwd Bl | Yvonne Hessler |
| Franklin Hills Res. | Charley Mims |
| Hollywood Dell | Mary Ledding |

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| Lookout Mountain | Steven Poster |
| | Carol Sidlow |
| Los Feliz Impvmt. | Marian Dodge |
| Nichols Canyon | Don Andres |
| Oaks HOA | Gerry Hans |
| Save Coldwater Canyon! | Heidi Mackay |
| Sherman Oaks | Elke Heitmeyer |

Guests:

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| Cong. Ted Lieu | Janet Turner |
| MRCA | Walt Young |