

Hillside Federation
September 6, 2017
Minutes

I. Call to Order

President Charley Mims called the meeting to order at 7:22 pm. Members and guests introduced themselves.

Guest: Fernando Morales—Senior Field Deputy, Supervisor Kuehl's office.

Fernando works in the West/Metro LA region with Stephanie Cohen. Supervisor Kuehl is working on a motion to move away from Polystyrene and is looking for alternatives. John Anson Ford Amphitheatre has reopened with community oriented programming. Sup. Kuehl has a motion on recapturing water. She also has an Accessory Dwelling Unit motion for unincorporated areas which would allow a property owner to bring a unit up to code if it is for low income renters. Fernando can be reached at 213-379-2807 or FMorales@bos.lacounty.gov.

II. Approval of Minutes

The July minutes were approved as written.

III. Officers' Reports

A. President's Report - Charley Mims

The Federation sent letters: 1) opposing the Innsdale Dr. project; 2) to Gov. Brown to support AB 25, which allows cities to regulate modified tour buses; 3) to strengthen brush clearance fire regulations in hillside areas.

B. Treasurer's Report—Charley Mims for Don Andres

The Federation has 42 paid members; 3 have not renewed. There are no outstanding bills.

IV. Old Business

A. Harvard-Westlake School Expansion - Suellen Wagner

The Planning Department held a hearing on August 8. The Van Nuys Council Chamber was full with approximately equal numbers of pro and con speakers. Marian spoke on behalf of the Hillside Federation. Save Coldwater Canyon! has a meeting with Councilmember Krekorian tomorrow. The September 28th CPC hearing has been indefinitely postponed because they are in discussions on the project.

B. 6459 Innsdale, York Vineyards - David Benz

The planning committee of the Hollywood United Neighborhood Council (HUNC) met a month ago with little notice to the public. York is asking for many "adjustments" to the BHO. The applicant proposes to dump 38,000 cubic yards of earth into a ravine with no retaining wall. He is only allowed to grade 3,300 cubic yards. HUNC was given misinformation by York's representative, who says there is no stream. The representative also denies that mountain lion P-22 has ever been on property. The HUNC planning committee voted to approve the project. Gerry Hans found a mapped blue-line stream on the property. Because of the stream, Fish & Wildlife has jurisdiction. The project will be on HUNC's PLUM agenda again tomorrow night. Lake Hollywood HOA wants to require the applicant to do a full Environmental Impact Report.

IV. New Business

A. AB 1000 California Desert Protection Act

MOTION: Arnie Newman moved to confirm the Executive Committee's decision to write letter of support for AB 1000 (Friedman). The motion passed. Since that time, AB 1000 has not been brought to the floor for a vote.

B. Proposed Increase in Appeals Fees - Marian Dodge

Charley described City Council's efforts to have all fees provide cost recovery for the city. The proposed increase to file an appeal of a Planning decision to \$13,538 would mean that only developers could afford to file appeals and concerned neighbors and HOAs could not. Jamie Hall said that appeals are beneficial in that they result in better projects.

MOTION: Jamie Hall moved that the Hillside Federation oppose an appeal fee increase for non-applicants. The motion passed.

C. 11580 Sunshine Terrace - Diana Zogran

Diana organized Neighborhood Tree Watch. The applicant is proposing to excavate 2,000 cubic yards of earth and remove 21 protected trees. Ten mature trees have already been cut to stumps. A hearing is scheduled for September 18. The applicant needs to evaluate alternatives to cutting down the trees. He could alter the project by moving the house slightly and save many trees. 4 The mitigation plan is horticulturally unsound. Gerry Hans suggested that some trees could go to a nearby park. The neighbors have hired Jamie Hall.

MOTION: Claudia Freedle moved that the Hillside Federation oppose the removal of the protected trees at 11580 Sunshine Terrace. The motion passed.

D. 3915 Hollyline Ave. - Neil Newman

A 2.5-acre lot with one house was recently purchased. The owner wants to split the lot to build two houses. The property borders SMMC's Fossil Ridge Park. The City claims the lot is unstable, and requires the removal of trees by clear cutting. There has been no seismic movement however. The proposal calls for excavating 50,000 cubic yards of earth. Why does the city Department of Building & Safety think removing the ancient trees will help stabilize slope? The neighbors hired Jamie Hall. Jamie noted that alternatives would be to change the placement of the houses, or use pylons or earth nails instead of a retaining wall. The developer has a self-inflicted hardship because of the placement of the houses.

MOTION: Arnie Newman moved that the Hillside Federation support an alternative development that would preclude the removal of protected trees on the property at 3915 Hollyline Avenue and mitigate impacts on the wildlife corridor. The motion passed.

Announcements:

Jamie Hall - We are shining a light on alternatives to save mature trees.

Mark Stratton - MRCA had a meeting about the proposed Berggruen project near the Skirball Center. MRCA owns open space and trail easements at the property where the proposed project is located.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 pm.

Marian Dodge
Acting Secretary

Members Present:

Bel Air Hills Assn. Robin Greenberg
Bel Air Skycrest POA Mark Stratton

Canyon Back Alliance	Lois Becker
Franklin Hills Res.	Charley Mims
Hollywood Dell Civic	Mary Ledding
Hollywoodland HA	George Abrahams
Kagel Canyon Civic	Kit Paull
Lake Hollywood	David Benz
Laurel Canyon Assn.	Jamie Hall
Los Feliz Impvmt.	Marian Dodge
Oak Forest Canyon	Arnold Newman
Oaks HOA	Gerry Hans
Save Coldwater Cyn!	Suellen Wagner
	Heidi Mackay
Studio City Res.	Claudia Freedle

Guests Present:

Office of Sup. Kuehl	Fernando Morales
Neighborhood Tree Watch	Diana Zoran
	Pam Pierson
Friends & Neighbors of Hollyline Avenue	Neil Newman
Bel Air resident	Linda Whitford