

## Minutes Community Services Committee Meeting

April 30, 2013 – 6:30 p.m.

Fire Station 84, 21050 Burbank Blvd., Woodland Hills, CA 91364

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**Committee Chair, Bill Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:42 p.m.**

**Roll Call** was conducted by the Chair; a quorum was reached with 7 committee members present: Bill Anderson, Kathy Davis, Zack King, Sean McCarthy, Pat Patton, Albert Sauer, and Melanie Smotrich-King. Absent: Heath Kline. Also attending the meeting was Dennis DiBiase (*WHWCNC vice Chair*) and two visitors, Megan Valles and Brett Wang.

**Approval of Minutes:** The draft of the February 25, 2013 meeting minutes was approved with the following amendments: correction of the spelling of the last names of Melanie “Smotrich-King” and Larry “Green.” As there was no draft minutes available for the March 26, 2013 meeting, approval was postponed.

**Public Comment Period:** There were no public comments.

### Committee Agenda Items

#### 1. DWP Meeting Regarding Smart Meters

Zack King & Melanie Smotrich-King reported that the DWP has responded positively to having a representative attend the 8 May regular meeting of the Woodland Hills Warner Center Neighborhood Council (WHWCNC) to provide information on the proposed roll-out of Smart Meters in the West Valley. Cindy Sage of Sage Associates (an environmental consulting firm in Santa Barbara) has also been contacted about speaking at the meeting and has indicated an interest in doing so. Zack has spoken with WHWCNC Chairman, Scott Silverstein, about adding Ms. Sage to the meeting agenda.

Zack King reported that the Neighborhood Councils in the surrounding area have been emailed to alert them about the DWP’s attendance at 8 May meeting. There has been no response. A second email will be sent to these NCs closer to the meeting date. The Committee discussed other ways to inform the public about the DWP coming the 8 May meeting. It was suggested that the local newspapers should be informed.

The Committee discussed the need to create a list of questions that the DWP should answer with regard to the Smart Meters and their proposed roll-out. This list should be given only to the WHWCNC Board as, after the public comment period, only the Board should be able to pose questions to the DWP.

**Action Item:** Email again surrounding area Neighborhood Councils about DWP attendance at the 8 May Full Council meeting. (*Zack King*)

**Action Item:** Contact WHWCNC Outreach Committee Chair, Joyce Fletcher about contacting the newspapers about the DWP Smart Meter presentation. (*Zack King / Melanie Smotrich - King*)

**Action Item:** Create a list of questions for the WHWCNC Board to pose to the DWP about Smart Meters and the proposed roll-out. (*Zack King / Melanie Smotrich - King*)

## 2. Neighborhood Clean Up Program

The Committee discussed the wording of the proposed Mission Statement for the Neighborhood Clean Up Program and made changes to the statement so that it reads as follows:

The WHWCNC Community Services Committee's "Neighborhood Clean-Up Program" will educate the residents of Woodland Hills about their responsibilities with regard to property maintenance so that all residents can enjoy a clean and safe community environment. The Neighborhood Clean-Up Program will help to build awareness amongst stakeholders regarding property owner responsibilities to maintain their premises. The Program will seek to foster assistance from the City of Los Angeles to distribute information to stakeholders about the resources available and, be a liaison with the City Council District 3 office.

**Action Item:** Revised Mission Statement will be placed on the Committee's May meeting. (*Bill Anderson*)

## 3. Senior Citizen Program

Kathy Davis reported on the WHWCNC's participation in the Senior Symposium that was held at One Generation in Reseda on 20 April. The event was well attended. The WHWCNC was one of the sponsors of the event. The Councils' table gave out grocery bags to Woodland Hills residents and featured several flyers which provided information on the Council. She thanked several Committee members for manning the WHWCNC's table at the event.

Bill Anderson reported that a draft questionnaire to survey Valley senior citizens about their service needs had been created. The Senior Symposium provided an opportunity to test the instrument. However, this attempt was only partially successful. Just 13 individuals provided information. From the data gathered it was apparent that the Symposium provided a skewed sample of seniors. For example, most respondents drove their own cars, even though most were over 70 years old. As finding a way to get a representative sample of seniors would be difficult for the Committee, it was suggested that sources for existing Valley centered information on seniors be explored.

Sean McCarthy reported that the United Chamber of Commerce of the San Fernando Valley in conjunction with Congressman Brad Sherman would offer a seminar about the Affordable Care Act in May.

**Action Item:** Contact One Generation to see what data they have on those seniors that participate in their programs. (*Bill Anderson*)

**Action Item:** Research any studies on senior citizen needs done by the City of Los Angeles. (*Bill Anderson*)

## 4. LA Dept. of Sanitation Plan for City Wide Exclusive Franchise System for Municipal Solid Waste Collection and Handling

The Committee discussed the proposed City of Los Angeles plan to create a franchise system for solid waste collection for multi-family and commercial properties. Currently, several hundred private companies do these collections. The City plan would reduce this number to a maximum of 15 franchisees. The Committee discussed creating a survey to assess the needs of local business with regard to such a franchise system. The survey results would be given to the City for its decision process. It was suggested the Council's Area Business Representatives could be enlisted to contact local businesses to encourage survey completion. The Woodland Hills Tarzana Chamber of Commerce should also be contacted for input.

Bill Anderson made the following motion:

**Motion RE: Neighborhood Council Community Needs Assessment**

The Woodland Hills Warner Center Neighborhood Council, as a part of its assessing of community needs, will ask stakeholders, specifically commercial property and multi-family residential owners, about their concerns and opinions about the franchising of trash hauling in Los Angeles for multi-family and commercial properties. The Neighborhood Council will conduct a survey. And further, the Neighborhood Council will request that someone from the Los Angeles Department of Sanitation come to a Neighborhood Council meeting to explain the franchise program.

Zack King seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously: 7 for; 0 against; 0 abstentions.

**Action Item:** The Motion is to be included in the agenda of the 9 May 2013 meeting of the Woodland Hills Warner Center Neighborhood Council and presented by the Committee Chair at that meeting. *(Bill Anderson)*

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**Action Item:** Research if a sub-committee of the City Council has done a study concerning the franchising proposal. *(Sean McCarthy)*

**5. New Business**

Sean McCarthy reported that location the housed the former Red Square nightclub (20001 Ventura Boulevard, Woodland Hills) was being gutted. He reported the location was open enabling him to walk in without hindrance. The “gold store” next door was empty. He also reported that there were weeds growing on these properties, the curb and the planter boxes. Additionally, there were broken curbs at the site and that tree roots had broken the sidewalk concrete. Also, there are empty tree wells on some stretches of Ventura Boulevard. The Committee discussed possible solutions which included sending a report on the problems to the office of the district 3 City Councilman and copying the City Building & Safety Department.

**Action Item:** Produce a written report describing the problems at the Red Square location and along various stretches of Ventura Boulevard. *(Sean McCarthy)*

Meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

Bill Anderson,  
Committee Chairman

**Disabilities Act Notification:**

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**Brown Act Notification:**

In compliance with Government Code 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting, may be viewed at [www.whcouncil.org](http://www.whcouncil.org).