

Cheviot Hills Homeowners' Association

P.O. Box 64458, Los Angeles, CA 90064 www.cheviot hills.org

Minutes for the Board of Directors Meeting, Wednesday, March 7, 2007

Directors present: Steve Andelin, Jeff Berman, Michael Beugg (treasurer), Alisa Griner, Mark Huberman, Kevin Hughes (president), Tony Padilla, Greg Pulis (vice president), Scott Schomer, and Jonathan Weiss (secretary).

Directors not present: Stacy Antler, Carol Bahoric, Peter Glassman, Kurt Kroner and Robert Simon.

About 10 members present.

1. Call to Order

Kevin Hughes calls the meeting to order at 7:46 p.m.

2. Report of Last Meeting

Minutes from the January 2007 and February 2007 board meetings are voted upon. January minutes approved. February meetings approved.

3. Communications

WGCA joins light rail coalition, "Neighbors for Smart Rail" (NFSR) (WGCA, CHHA, Tract 7260 and WOWHOA); lunch with California Country Club president Jennifer Hannon – still talking; NFSR meeting with lawyer Nick Brestoff and we need approval of \$1250 share of retainer for Brestoff to investigate our legal rights and strategy re light rail.

Kevin moved to retain Brestoff and pay share of his retainer. Carried.

CHHA mailing re light rail scoping meeting (and Karen Leonard, the "strategy of omission" and the "inequity" of a democratic body choosing to act on behalf of the

54% rather than the 26%).

Inge Quaglino and FOSP Santa Monica airport

Mark Huberman audiotaped February 7, 2007 board meeting; Kevin asked that no one secretly record anything.

David Kates and USC radio want to interview Kevin on Expo.

Wikipedia on "Light Rail" and do we bother correcting it? Kevin said it's incorrect, and people like Warren Olney refer to it. Mark said someone exposed a person writing it who turned out to be a 24-year-old kid posing to be a professor. Lucie said it's a PR deal, based on meeting she went to last night with Rosendahl & Zev, et al. Colleen Heller said she will get someone to do it within a week or so; slant is in a web they have woven. Very sophisticated; takes someone with a devious bent to misrepresent facts. Greg said to put down what is factual. Kevin asked that he be contacted before something is put up. Michael said there is a log with changes; record of disputation of points.

We say goodbye to Jonathan Weiss, Michael Beugg, Peter Glassman, Alisa Griner, Stacy Antler, Kurt Kroner and Mark Huberman.

4. Secretary's Report

Reports that nominees have been received and waiting for report to association.

5. Treasurer's report

Some dues checks have been received. \$[redacted]expenses; \$[redacted] income. \$[redacted] in our accounts.

6. Report of Standing or Special Committees

a. Neighborhood Protection (Jeff Berman)

McMansion ordinance. Hearings upcoming. Website has McMansion section with original proposed ordinance and one of our letters. Another has been sent.

Neighborhood council will discuss McMansion ordinance tomorrow. Jack Weiss' office will have representative here. Simplified summary of ordinance will be available before the hearings. Before the hearings, we will have a technical response. There is no organized opposition to the ordinance, yet. Jack Weiss' office has yet to take a position.

b. Community Relations (Jonathan Weiss & Peter Glassman)

Website is back up. New webmaster is Mitch Griner (website@cheviothills.org).

Stacy reported that election meeting has been set for March 27, 2007 (location, signs, mailing, dues payments, speaker on light rail, walking the neighborhood to hand out fliers re our Board's slate, newsletter).

Kevin said nominating committee has obligation to fill slate. Agreed that nominating committee would meet after board meeting.

Proposal to have someone speak at general election against rail.

Have to have people walk neighborhood in support of board slate. Someone has to be responsible for this.

Cheviot photographer Dick Wolfe and his ideas re renovating website. Colleen Heller reported that he has taken pictures of local institutions such as Overland Avenue School and the Palms Rancho Park Library. He is volunteering to rework the website because the closed gates on the website logo make it look like we are a closed community.

Barbara Kline and the need to create more of a community for neighbors whose children are grown.

c. Nominating Committee (Stacy Antler, Steve Andelin)

Fifteen nominees have been selected, then one (Gary Roth) advised that he had to withdraw yesterday, so we have one vacancy.

d. Light Rail (Colleen Mason-Heller)

Motion carried to ratify Colleen Mason-Heller as chair of Light Rail Committee.
Scoping prep meeting held at Westside Pavilion on Monday night;

Single postcard will go out on Monday before to get people to come out. Effort to get people to show up and get their comments in. Focus on growing coalition while working in Cheviot environment. Colleen was at Palms Neighborhood Council meeting. Their transportation chair is a member of Friends 4 Expo and Sierra Club member. There were about 15 people there. Three Friends 4 Expo pros in the audience. People didn't know who she was. They were trying to negotiate between the two of them a grade crossing at Overland. One in suit; one not. She gave people information on which rail line we are supporting and why. Will continue to do outreach. Working to broaden base. NFSR approach is to advocate for route all the way out Venice as well.

Larry Heller reported on first scoping meeting in Culver City (that Kevin & Greg were there) and that station shown at Overland. Questions weren't answered. Kevin said satellite maps, on one of them, proposed station was elevated at Motor at the overpass. At Overland, on both sides of Overland. Not clear if it's elevated. Jay Greenstein was there. He said politically it would be impossible to have it at-grade at Overland. Somebody told him heard from insider looking at elevating grade at Overland. LA Times Reporter Steve Hymon said that at-grade at Overland would be preposterous for commuting. Elevating train at Overland would look horrible and create a wall between us and Palms.

Lucie reported that Zev said at yesterday's meeting that the reason that Expo ROW is favored is because it is cheaper. But the factors just discussed make a significant difference. When Venice alternative all the way to the ocean was discussed, they'd never heard of it. There is a subway. Light rail would be duplicative. Eveloff has done research showing cost of ridership is cheaper when population denser.

Lucie said design build can't be trusted. They can change what is built after designed.

Kevin said Santa Monica is powerful. They have already bought land. Greg said that Venice is historically a 2 track ROW.

Colleen's goal is to be as clear as possible. Keep hearing from LRC that there will be grade separation. Can't do cut and cover because oil pipeline map shows oil

pipelines crisscrossing underneath Expo ROW from all of the way from Downtown. In 1972 there was explosion when oil pipeline hit on Venice Boulevard. Below grade is not an option because of that. Design build may have overriding considerations to not cut and cover.

Trying to build support along Venice Boulevard. That is why they are approaching Palms Neighborhood Council.

We are telling them to look at every single issue on both lines. Do the research; do the homework; make it make sense. Second thing is corollary – the more comments we get, the more the politicians stand up and take notice.

Steve says to rally support, we can approach the owners of multi-family residences. Rent will go up if the rail goes in. Locate the owners from property records; going to do everything to blanket the whole area.

Kevin reported that he met with Anna Borne, who was vice principal at Arroyo Seco School in Pasadena when Gold Line being built. She left before it was up and running. She agreed to contact her friend, the principal there to find out what effect the completed project has had on kids.

e. Traffic (Greg Pulis, Robert Simon)

Constellation Place lawsuit. Settlement conference scheduled for March 20th. Mary Leslie is representing us on the commission or advisory committee that Jack Weiss created to handle the city approved Constellation Place settlement money.

Pico apparently does not have to be widened. Hopefully, the money can go to NTMP. Greg is told by council office that the traffic light for the Fox west gate will not be approved some time soon. Have to watch it.

Motor Avenue counts are higher than they should be by about 300 at peak hours. Significantly higher than they were. DOT is supposed to be analyzing those numbers.

NTMP is coming (he keeps hearing).

3447 Motor, south of National, north of Palms. Department of planning recommended against it; developer delayed hearing. Greg wrote comprehensive letter discussing merits.

District 5 Homeowners Group has meeting on Saturday. Laura Chick will attend. Greg may attend. Carole has said she might.

Westside Coalition \$500 for incorporation. Entity was to be formed to handle settlement monies from JMB and St. Regis projects. Belief is that monies have already been approved.

Fox 11 News Motor Ave resident. Lucie said she has talked to Phil Shuman regarding phase 2 of mitigations and Trammell Crowe. He's doing a piece on how planning commission is pretty much broken.

Motor Ave. taxi stand. Cabs are parking on Motor waiting for calls.

f. Police and Fire Liaison (Alisa Griner)

Latest crime blog had neighborhood alert on burglaries. Stacy will continue the crime blog until Mark Roggencamp takes it over.

g. Trees & Streets (Stacy Antler)

No report.

h. Schools, Parks & Library (Carol Bahoric)

No report.

7. Unfinished business

None discussed.

8. New Business

None discussed.

9. Good of the association

None discussed.

10. Adjournment

Adjourned at 9:41 p.m.

Announce next Board Meeting (April 4, 2007) and adjourn meeting.