

**Hillside Federation
Minutes
January 7, 2015**

I. Call to Order - President Marian Dodge called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm.

II. Approval of Minutes: The November minutes were approved as submitted.

III. Officers' Reports

A. President's Report: Marian Dodge

Marian thanked Mark and Lois for providing coffee for the meetings and John Given, Executive Secretary for putting out the newsletter over the holidays.

Marian provided a summary of the work done by the Hillside Federation in 2014:

Hillside Federation wrote 34 letters on issues; she represented the Hillside Federation at 12 hearings; made 11 trips to City Hall and drove many miles representing the Hillside Federation

The Wildlife Conservation Board sent a letter of thanks for the Hillside Federation's support of the wildlife crossing at Liberty Canyon.

901 Strada Vecchia – A meeting with City Attorney Mike Feuer was held regarding possible criminal charges to be filed against developer Mohammed Hadid regarding the development at 901 Strada Vecchia in Bel Air. The Hadid development on Royalton and the status of the Hastian Trail case was discussed.

The February meeting of the Hillside Federation will be a CD# 4 Candidate Forum held at a special location at the Cinematographers Guild, 7755 Sunset Blvd. (Sunset & Genesee). So far, the confirmed participants are Wally Knox, Sheila Irani, Joan Pelico, Fred Mariscal, David Ryu, Jay Beeber, Steve Veres and Teddy Davis. The format and details for the Forum were discussed. Marian encouraged everyone to send questions for the candidates. In addition, Fire Chief Ralph Terrazas will be coming to the meeting for a 'meet and greet.'

Los Angeles River: Marian distributed a new map of the Los Angeles River prepared by the National Park Service and US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Claudia Freedle from the Studio City Residents Association announced that Marian Dodge was unanimously chosen to receive the Fran Quigley Award – the Associations' highest award which will be presented to Marian on Tuesday, January 13, 2015 at the Garland Hotel in recognition of her outstanding service to all our communities. Everyone was encouraged to attend.

B. Treasurer's Report: Don Andres

Don Andres up-dated everyone about the very successful Holiday Party. Over 50% of attendees were new attendees. Wendy made some suggestions for the 2015 Holiday Party. Don thanked Mark Stratton and John Given for the donation of wine.

Dues notices have been sent out to member groups. They are due March 1, 2015.

Guest speakers

Tim Pershing – Assemblyman Richard Bloom's office

Assemblyman Bloom was re-elected in the November election. Tim gave up-dates regarding Liberty Canyon Wildlife Crossing and legislation Assemblyman Bloom is working on. Hillside

Federation members were encouraged to email Tim with issues of concern for Assemblyman Bloom. Some of the concerns expressed by the members include the strengthening of the Alquist/Priolo Earthquake Fault Act; increasing the power to subpoena for the State Geologists office including access to investigations; empower the State Geologist to do his own investigation; increasing set backs from surface rupture fault lines; changing of the Owner Builder Exemption; concerns about the weakening of CEQA.

Samantha David – State Senator Ben Allen’s office

Samantha introduced herself to the Hillside Federation. Members were encouraged to contact her regarding issues of concern. Wendy asked that she convey to the Senator the same concerns about the issues brought up for Assemblyman Bloom’s attention including the Alquist/Priolo Fault Act; increasing subpoena power for the State Geologist and access to investigations; changing of the Owner Builder Exemption and concerns about the weakening of CEQA. Regarding CEQA, George Abrahams spoke about the change in the traffic metrics as an example of the weakening of CEQA. Wendy suggested that a committee be put together to address these CEQA issues.

IV. New Business

A. Mulholland Specific Plan Compliance - Rob Glushon

Attorney Rob Glushon spoke about his concerns about the lack of enforcement of the Mulholland Specific Plan and the role of the City Attorney’s office in the South Valley Area Planning Commission meetings among other issues. He is meeting with City Attorney Mike Feuer about (3) issues: 1) City Attorney’s office needs a better understanding of the Mulholland Specific Plan 2) CEQA and Categorical Exemption issues 3) Enforcement of conditions on projects.

Discussion regarding the City Attorney’s office Land Use Division and CEQA division; enforcement of voluntary conditions and the need for implementation of those conditions on development projects; role of City Attorney’s office representatives in Area Planning Commission meetings; police powers of the City Attorney’s office; appointment of members to Area Planning Commissions. Mr. Glushon will up-date Marian after his meeting with City Attorney Feuer.

B. High Speed Rail Project: Bill Eick, Dave DePinto, Kit Paull

Kit Paull from Kagel Canyon HOA, Bill Eick and Dave DePinto from the Shadow Hills Property Owners Association spoke about the High Speed Rail project – Palmdale to Burbank Project Section -and East Corridor Alternatives. The High Speed Rail Authority is proposing three East Corridor routes that would tunnel through the San Gabriel Mountains as alternatives to the original State Route 14 Corridor intended to connect the Burbank and Palmdale stations. These East Corridor routes would disrupt the environment and Rim of the Valley Corridors, wildlife, horse communities, deface open space; impacts to drinking water; negative impacts to the Angeles National Forest and negatively impact the newly designated San Gabriel Mountains National Monument. Congressman Adam Schiff has written a letter speaking out in opposition to the East Corridor routes. On Tuesday, January 13, 2015 @ 6:30 pm, a High Speed Rail Protest meeting will be held at All Nations Church.

MOTION: Wendy-Sue Rosen moved that the Hillside Federation to write a letter supporting the position of the Shadow Hills Property Owner's Association, Kagel Canyon Civic Association, Lake View Terrace Improvement Association, La Tuna Canyon Community Association, Rancho Verdugo Estates Homeowners Association and Representative Adam Schiff to remove the East Corridor alternatives and not have them be considered in any way in the EIR. Motion made and seconded. Motion passed.

V. Old Business

A. Recode LA: Carol Sidlow

The next meeting of the Zoning Advisory Committee for Recode LA will be on January 21, 2015. The 35-page report was distributed by Marian. There will be a two track process which will be looking at the Residential component and the Downtown component at the same time. All were encouraged to go to the website and sign up to comment.

B. Scenario Lane property: Marian Dodge

Marian reported that the property owner has demolished the existing house. The applicant has received a Lot Line adjustment.

C. 8150 Sunset Blvd.: Don Andres

Don attended the meeting where the City and developer briefed the Hollywood Hills West Neighborhood Council's (HHWNC) Planning and Land Use Committee about the project. HHWNC distributed a list of alternatives to the proposed development for attendees to vote on their top 3 choices regarding the development. Members discussed traffic impacts. The Draft Environmental Impact Report has been released with the comment period ending on January 20, 2015. Hillside Federation will re-send the previous letter written regarding the project.

D. Hollywood Sign Gate re-opening at Beachwood Canyon: Lucy Gonzalez

The new gate was opened on Monday; it was supposed to have been a quiet opening but was given a lot of press which only attracted more people. The emergency Preferred Parking District placard will take another 2 months with hopes of getting permanent ones soon. Enforcement is still an issue especially due to public safety concerns. George Abrahams reported that Tom LaBonge got an ordinance that allows the City to close park area streets in case of emergency. Lucy will provide up-dates to the Hillside Federation.

E. Sign Ordinance: Marian Dodge

The Board of Building and Safety Commissioners approved a modification to allow Clear Channel to wrap the digital billboards that the judge ordered turned off with vinyl advertising. PLUM directed the Planning Department to report on the possibility of allowing billboards outside of Sign Districts. PLUM is also thinking of allowing amnesty for unpermitted billboards. The Council File number for the Sign Ordinance is now 11-1705. PLUM proposed a number of amendments to the Sign Ordinance, available online at http://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2011/11-1705_misc_ltr_12-16-14.pdf.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Carol Sidlow,
Secretary

Members present:

Beachwood Canyon	George Abrahams
Bel Air Skycrest	Mark Stratton
Brentwood Hills	Eric Edmunds
	John Given
Brentwood Residents	Wendy-Sue Rosen
Cahuenga Pass POA	Krista Michaels
	Steven Kates
Canyon Back Alliance	Lois Becker
CASM-SFV	Craig Smith
Franklin Av/Hlwd Blvd	Yvonne Hessler
Hollywoodland	Lucy Gonzalez
Kagel Canyon	Kit Paull
Lookout Mt.	Steven Poster
	Carol Sidlow
Los Feliz Impvmt.	Marian Dodge
Nichols Canyon	Don Andres
N. Beverly/Franklin Can	Robert Levy
Oaks Homeowners	Caroline Schweich
Shadow Hills POA	Bill Eich
Studio City Res.	Claudia Freedle

Guests Present:

Sen. Ben Allen	Samantha David
Asm Richard Bloom	Tim Pershing
attorney	Rob Glushon
resident	Connie Levy
Pacific Palisades	Leah Rene