

CHEVIOT HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

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

Minutes for the Board Meeting Thursday, February 6, 2025 Griffin Club

Directors present: Bob Keehn (President), Jim Gilbert (Vice President), Marty Bischoff (Treasurer) Cindy Kane (Secretary), Renee Dernburg, Ellen Doyle, Steve Herman, Andrew Oelz, Greg Pulis, Larry Tabb

Directors not present: Gigi Decavalles-Hughes, Margaret Gillespie, Mike Mandel, Marcie Newby, Mark Sedlander

Guests: Mat Grubman, Samantha Nugent, Kelly Wiggins

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

I. President's Report:

A. Approval of minutes for January

The minutes were approved and will be posted to the website.

B. ALPR Cameras

An email was sent to donors of the ALPR camera fundraiser about our pivot to Flock Safety cameras. The director of the Los Angeles Police Foundation met with the Chief of Police and the LAPD Innovation group to make sure we would not be violating any city agreements by choosing Flock Safety. The council item for this first set of 11 cameras was reviewed and approved by the Public Safety committee. It should go to the full City Council for a vote soon, followed by installation as soon as that can be arranged with the Bureau of Street Lighting. The additional six cameras on the Pico & Overland borders are going to the Police Commission for approval.

Signage will happen after the cameras are installed. We will have to use city approved vendors. Money cannot be used from the fundraiser.

C. Security Patrol

Polly Blitzer introduced herself to the board. She has been involved in the security patrol sub-committee. Cindy provided some background on the situation. The conversation started when the community complained about our current patrol following the short-term overnight patrol by Armstrong. Dan Fishbach created/moderated a webinar to introduce 3 patrol companies (Armstrong, APS, SSA). The small committee solicited proposals from 4 companies: Armstrong, Operation Security, Inc, Post Patrol, and SSA. We already knew the APS pricing. After a thorough review of the proposals, it was clear that Post Patrol was a standout. Beverlywood has used them for a few years and coupled with their Flock Safety

cameras, they saw a 54% reduction in their burglaries (comparing 2024 to 2023 data). The Post Patrol for Cheviot Hills Neighborhood Association includes two 24/7 patrol cars with armed guards plus an 8-hour car. These cars would be solely designated for this area. The total amount is cost-prohibitive for the Association. Post said the same level of patrol could be achieved if 490 homes sign a private patrol agreement with Post.

There will be a follow up webinar next week. They will introduce themselves to the community.

There was discussion on the various ways to push out this information (via MailChimp, Block Captains, word of mouth). We need to improve our marketing efforts. Despite our outreach efforts last year, the neighborhood is still unaware of the Association or the security issue.

The board needs to discuss with Post what level of patrol we can provide to dues-paying members and conversely what we can do to endorse them in the community. In the interim, it is business-as-usual with APS. We are working under an old, outdated agreement. He never signed our contract revision. There have been some concerns about licensing.

What can the board do? We can encourage the community to join the webinar to hear from this third-party provider.

Polly stressed that given the level of continued burglaries/attempted burglaries, the current measures are not working. There is a groundswell of movement to change the status quo.

D. Fox Expansion

Marty needs the address to mail the retainer fee to Carstens.

E. Community Based Housing Initiative/Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RNHA)

Mike sent a message that there is a new bill in the California legislature, SB 79, introduced two weeks ago. It appears to be an attempt to allow rezoning of residential neighborhoods near transit corridors. United Neighbors is monitoring this bill. Once the bill makes its way out of committee and they have a better sense of the details, they may ask us for support in writing and calling legislators.

F. Westside Draft Plan

Cindy reached out to ask for an update.

G. Drill Site Update

January 16th meeting was cancelled due to the fires and has not been rescheduled.

H. Triangle Park Upgrade

The group has a preliminary proposal to draw up the final plans. It's going to cost \$5,000.

The group is going to try to fundraise to do the installation. To get the plans drawn, they are going to approach businesses. The proposal includes hedges, three entries, a walking path, a water fountain, seating spaces.

II. Secretary's Report/Membership

Membership – current count is 219 members

The small Membership committee met to discuss ideas on improving membership. Yard signs seem to help. Perhaps individual yard signs that indicate “proud supporter of the CHNA”.

Sponsoring more community events is a goal of the committee. The committee would like to send out a survey to assess what is important to the community. The group is also putting together gift baskets for new members. Mat Grubman indicated interest in joining the Membership Committee.

III. Financial Report

There were no questions about the financial report.

Ellen reported on our adoption of fire station 43. We partnered with International Hospitality Coalition and United Neighbors. Our board facilitated 11 meals from the Irish times to the Chinese and community kebab grill. Some were free and others were discounted. It cost our board \$427 out of our funds. Photos were put on the Cheviot Hills NA Instagram account. The fire fighters were very grateful for thee support.

IV. Public Comment/Other

Samantha Nugent reported about a pedestrian getting hit in the crosswalk at Manning and Dunleer. The driver stopped and several other people came to her aide. Many drivers run the stop signs.

A new 4-way stop sign was placed at Haddington and Cheviot.

CD5 has sent a message that they are beginning grid tree trimming starting February 18. They will carry out comprehensive tree trimming in the designated grids, including the removal of dead and dried trees as well as stumps. They will distribute door hangers within the area to keep residents informed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.