

**Hillside Federation**  
**June 3, 2015**  
**Minutes**

**1. Call to Order**

President Marian Dodge called the meeting to order at 7:14 pm. Members and guests introduced themselves.

**Guests: Councilmember-Elect David Ryu & Renee Weitzer**

Marian introduced special guests David Ryu, newly elected Councilmember from CD 4, and Renee Weitzer, former Chief Planning Deputy for Councilman Tom LaBonge. Renee was presented with an award from the Hillside Federation honoring her years of service to the City and the Hillside Federation spanning the Joel Wachs, John Ferraro, and Tom LaBonge years.

David Ryu introduced himself to the Hillside Federation and thanked Renee for her support and service to CD 4. David spoke about the election as being a big win for all CD 4 constituents and sending an encouraging message that voting matters. He plans to establish a transition team along with community members' participation with respect to staffing. Marian spoke about the Hillside Federation's mission and how the Federation can be used as an information resource, as 24 of the 44 member groups in the Federation are located in CD 4.

**Guest: Janet Turner:** for Congressman Lieu

Congressman Ted Lieu is a big supporter of the Rim of the Valley and is co-sponsoring Congressman Adam Schiff's legislation, although he has not yet voiced an opinion on which alternative he will support. Janet distributed a handout listing the various bills being proposed or co-sponsored by Congressman Lieu, including: reenactment of the Water Conservation fund (HR 1814), Red Rock Wilderness Act (co-sponsor), and the Solar Rebate Bill (HR 2502, co-sponsor).

**Guest: Sam Liu:** for State Senator Allen

The State budget needs to be passed by June 15, and the big winner will be more funding for education. State Senator Allen is working various pieces of legislation including the increase of renewable gas standards to at least 50%, and oil companies dumping dirty oil into aquifers. Senator Allen is open to suggestions for legislations that would help protect the mountains. Marian spoke about AB 1373 which would exempt private developers from putting up billboards along the 101 freeway and the importance of Senator Allen voting "no" on the bill, as it would set a precedent and wipe out all the gains that have been made in the City of Los Angeles with respect to billboard blight and jeopardize the City's current billboard ban. California has been a leader in not allowing billboards along freeways.

Carol brought up the issue of Los Angeles getting a fair share of the gas tax revenue and hopes that Senator Allen was following this important issue to the City of Los Angeles. Wendy asked about the support of Senator Fran Pavley's bill SB 32 which would designate the money that is supposed to be spent on programs to reduce the carbon footprint to be used to purchase open space. The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy has undertaken a study to show the rewards of reducing development in an area

and the regional impacts that follow.

**Guest: Daniel Tamm:** for Mayor Garcetti

Mayor Garcetti has appointed Deborah Ale Flint as the next Executive Director of Los Angeles World Airports including LAX, Van Nuys and Ontario.

A question was raised regarding the time-line status of high speed rail to LAX. Daniel will follow up and report back.

The Mayor's earthquake expert, Dr. Lucy Jones, has developed an Earthquake Preparedness Plan entitled "Resilience by Design." Details regarding this plan can be found on the website: [LAMayor.org/earthquake](http://LAMayor.org/earthquake). Everyone needs to be prepared as it isn't a case of "if" but rather "when" a major earthquake will occur. Daniel circulated an information sheet called "Home as your Disaster Kit" with various in-home earthquake preparedness solutions.

The Mayor will attend the "Save the Drop 101" event on Saturday, June 6, 2015, 9:00 am to noon at Los Angeles DWP Building, 111 N. Hope Street, Los Angeles. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Carol asked if the Mayor has seen Controller Ron Galperin's audit of the City Department of Transportation and if so, what were the Mayor's thoughts? Daniel mentioned that the Mayor is grappling with various Department issues: hiring, nature of work, scheduling, etc. Regarding the report's recommendations, Daniel will report back on the Mayor's response.

Other questions included the increase in DWP rates which may be coming in the next few months vs. public's cut back in water use and the possible raises for DWP employees. Daniel will bring this issue back to the Mayor. Wendy spoke about the Rim of the Valley Corridor study and the need for Los Angeles to weigh in to support Alternative D. Elke thanked the Mayor for attending the grand opening event of the L.A. Riverwalk in Sherman Oaks, and reported that the community was grateful for his participation.

## **II. Approval of Minutes**

The May minutes were approved as written.

## **III. Officers' Reports**

### **A. President's Report – Marian Dodge**

Marian updated members about several Assembly bills including AB 57, which would severely restrict local governments' ability to weigh in on cell towers, and AB 1373, which was previously discussed.

A portion of Mulholland Drive will be resurfaced on June 13-14 & June 20-21. The resurfacing schedule is as follows: June 13-14–Mulholland Drive from Woodrow Wilson Drive to Wrightwood Dr.; June 20-21–Mulholland Drive from Cahuenga Blvd. to Pyramid Place (near Runyon Canyon Park).

G2 Gallery in Venice will be having an exhibit of nature and wildlife photography called "Getting There – A Wildlife Crossing Over the 101" until June 7, 2015.

901 Strada Vecchia, Bel Air - Wendy gave an update about the Board of Building and Safety Commission's decision regarding an appeal from an Order to Comply by the project developer Mohammed Hadid. The Board of Building and Safety Commission voted to deny an extension of the permits. The case now goes to the City Attorney's office for possible prosecution. Carol Sidlow

mentioned the Clean Hands Ordinance which the City Council needs to revisit to address other enforcement issues.

B. Treasurer's Report: Don Andres

The Silver Lake Heritage Trust has joined the Hillside Federation bringing the current membership to 44 groups. This is the greatest number of member groups in years.

The Holiday Party will be December 10, 2015 at the Mulholland Tennis Club.

**IV. New Business**

A. Runyon Canyon Knolls property - Don Andres and Stacy Sillins

Stacy Sillins and Don Andres requested support for the purchase of an empty open space lot surrounded by Runyon Canyon. The City of Los Angeles and the Trust for Public Land have a signed agreement to purchase some land that is adjacent to Runyon Canyon with funds being raised through City Proposition K funds with the balance being provided by the Trust for Public Land. A grant submission will be made by early July and letters of support will be solicited.

**MOTION:** Don Andres moved that the Hillside Federation write a letter of support for the acquisition of open space in the area adjacent to Runyon Canyon. The motion passed unanimously.

**V. Old Business**

A. 10220 Scenario Lane - Katherine Bard

The neighbors successfully appealed a Lot Line Adjustment at a recent hearing before the West Los Angeles Area Planning Commission. Jamie Hall, the appellant's attorney, said the WLAAPC determined that the environmental for the project was inadequate. Katherine thanked the Federation for its assistance with the appeal.

B. Helicopter Noise - Bob Anderson, Gerry Hans

There have been 55 meetings with the Federal Aviation Administration over several years regarding this issue. The FAA issued a report stating that significant progress had been made towards a resolution. The Helicopter Noise Coalition subsequently sent a rebuttal letter to the FAA stating that significant progress had *not* been made. Without "significant progress" within a year, which has already passed, the FAA will be required to establish regulations on helicopters. The Helicopter Noise Complaint System is available on-line at <http://lahelicopternoise.org>, and by Phone at (424) 348-4354. The Hillside Federation has a link on the Federation's website.

**MOTION:** David Garfinkle moved that the Hillside Federation support the efforts of the Helicopter Noise Coalition. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Rim of the Valley Corridor Special Resource Study: Kim Lamorie

The slogan that has been adopted for the Rim of the Valley is "more parks for more people." Alternative C is preferred by the National Park Service, but Alternative D includes more acres and more benefits for wildlife connectivity. Comments must be submitted by June 30, 2015. An email will be circulated by Marian to the Hillside Federation groups to send comments directly to the National Park Service as the public needs to weigh in on this very important project and to support Alternative D.

The Rim of the Valley Coalition, a grassroots movement, is trying to keep a non-political policy view and to instead educate everyone including elected officials and property owners about Rim of the

Valley.

Wendy suggested that the Hillside Federation write a letter to Mayor Garcetti asking for the City of Los Angeles to support Alternative D.

**MOTION:** Wendy-Sue Rosen moved that the Hillside Federation write a letter of support for Alternative D and that the Hillside Federation join the Rim of the Valley Coalition. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Pacoima Strip Mine – Craig Smith

A guided tour of the Foothill Aggregate Reclamation Project (Foothill ARP) and the proposed aggregate mining project will be held on Saturday, June 20, 2015 at 10:00 am. The tour begins at El Cariso Park, proceeds by bus to the site, and returns to the park where guests will enjoy a box lunch picnic. Reservations are required. The proposed strip mining project would have an impact on hundreds, perhaps thousands, of homes in Sylmar and would forever change and scar the natural beauty of the gateway to the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument. To learn more about the project please visit <http://www.foothillarp.com/>.

E. Re:codeLA: Carol Sidlow

Carol encouraged everyone to go to the *re:code LA* website and stay informed. She and Marian are working on scheduling a special meeting of the Hillside Federation in late July with members of the Planning Department and the consultants for *re:code LA*.

F. Short-Term Rentals: John Given

John reported that Councilmembers Bonin and Wesson introduced a council motion on June 2 (14-1635-S2, second CM Koretz) calling for preparation of an ordinance that would authorize short-term rental of all or part of a host's primary residence, but would prohibit short-term rental of non-primary residence or rent-stabilization ordinance units, as well as capture transient occupancy taxes. This is a citywide issue, but several Federation member orgs have noted a particular problem with respect to short-term rental of "party" houses in hillside areas, which is both a nuisance and a public safety issue.

**VI. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Submitted by:

Carol Sidlow,  
Recording Secretary

**Members Present:**

|                       |                 |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Beachwood Canyon      | George Abrahams |
| Bel Air Skycrest      | Mark Stratton   |
| Benedict Canyon       | Kerry Welland   |
|                       | Nickie Miner    |
| Brentwood Hills       | John Given      |
| Brentwood Residents   | Wendy-Sue Rosen |
| Cahuenga Pass POA     | Steven Kates    |
| Canyon Back Alliance  | Lois Becker     |
| CASM-SFV              | Craig Smith     |
| Franklin Av/Hlwd Blvd | Don Andres      |
| Franklin Hills Res    | Charley Mims    |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Hollywood Dell Civic<br>Hollywoodland   | Alexa Iles<br>Chip Clements<br>Jim Van Dusen  |
| Kagel Canyon<br>Laurel Canyon   | Kit Paull<br>Jamie Hall<br>Tony Tucci   |
| Lookout Mountain<br>Los Feliz Impvmt.<br>Oaks Homeowners  | Carol Sidlow<br>Marian Dodge<br>Gerry Hans<br>Wayne Schlock                                     |
| Res. of Beverly Glen<br>Roscomare Valley<br>Save Coldwater Cyn!<br>Sherman Oaks<br>Studio City Res. | Stephen Benson<br>Steve Twining<br>Heidi Mackay<br>Elke Heitmeyer<br>Alan Dymond<br>Beth Dymond |
| Tarzana POA<br>Upper Nichols Canyon   | David Garfinkle<br>Stacy Sillins  |

**Guests:**

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|---|---|
| Cong. Ted Lieu's office<br>Sen. Ben Allen's office<br>CD 4-elect<br>staff | Janet Turner<br>Samuel Liu<br>David Ryu<br>Renee Weitzer<br>Catherine Landers<br>Julia Duncan |
| Mayor's office  | Daniel Tamm   |
| Helicopter Coalition<br>Cahuenga Pass POA                                 | Bob Anderson<br>Karen Riesenfeld  |
| Scenario Lane   | Katherine Bard  |
| N. Vista St.  | Leigh French  |
| CLAW  | Alison Simard<br>Skip Haynes  |
| residents   | Joan Kessler<br>Warren Kessler<br>Richard Rosenbloom  |
| Howloud, Inc.   | Brendan Farrell   |