

**Hillside Federation
July 18, 2018
Minutes**

I. Call to Order

President Charley Mims called the meeting to order at 7:09. Members and guests introduced themselves.

Guest: Council District 4 Planning Deputy Emma Howard

Emma comes from the LA County planning office. Enough changes have been made to the Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) Ordinance to require it to return to the City Planning Commission (CPC). Tiny houses like an RV on a concrete pad are prohibited in hillsides. Since the city has still not passed its own regulations, the default state law regulations remain in effect.

Wendy-Sue Rosen commented that because California's fire season is now year-round ADUs in hillside areas are a serious public safety issue. Jamie Hall commented on the need to preserve wildlife corridors in the hillsides and ensure ADUs do not interfere with the habitat or movement of wildlife. Everyone should send their comments to the CPC.

Guest: CD 5 Planning Deputy Hagu Solomon-Cary

Hagu worked in the City Planning Department for 4 years. She worked on the Baseline Hillside Ordinance.

Steve Twining asked about the status of the long awaited Ridgeline Ordinance.

II. Approval of minutes

The June minutes were approved as corrected.

III. Officers' Reports

A. President's Report – Charley Mims

Marian Dodge announced that former Director of City Planning, Michael LoGrande, is now a developer for a huge project along the LA River near the 6th Street Bridge.

The statewide proposition to split California into three states (Proposition 9, also known as Cal 3) was challenged in a lawsuit filed by attorney Carlyle Hall on behalf of the Planning & Conservation League. The judge agreed the proposition was over-reaching so it will not be included on the November ballot.

B. Treasurer's Report – Don Andres

Don updated the Federation accounts. He announced the Holiday Party on Thursday, December 13 at the Mulholland Tennis Club.

IV. Old Business

A. Accessory Dwelling Unit Ordinance – Charley Mims

(This item was covered during Guest Emma Howard's comments and Q&A.)

B. Hadid Hearing update – Steve Twining

There is still no decision from the ZA hearing regarding 901 Strada Vecchia. On June 26 the Board of Building & Safety Commissioners discussed the required erosion control plan yearly mitigation. CM Koretz spoke to request that Hadid tear the house down.

IV. New Business

A. Mission Canyon Park – Gabriella Garry and Mark Stratton

The project plans for Mission Canyon Park, to be developed on an old landfill site, are available at www.missioncanyonpark.com. The MRCA has funding for a passive trail park on about 300 acres of open space. The parking lot on Sepulveda Boulevard is currently a Caltrans laydown yard (aka storage yard). The project may provide for an MRCA Ranger residence in a trailer, and include water tanks for fire safety. Landfill cover cannot be disturbed. The MRCA is reviewing the draft with the county and working

with local homeowner associations. The methane levels at the site are low. There is a 45-day comment period for the project's Mitigated Negative Declaration.

Mark shared local community concerns about the impact of additional traffic on Mulholland Drive. A long-term traffic solution is needed for the Mulholland Institutional Corridor because two schools want to add high schools to their campuses. Gabriella thinks having more access points would alleviate the concentration of traffic. Jamie suggested a management program to limit overuse. Wendy-Sue Rosen noted that parents drop off their kids off next to the proposed parking lot. Patricia Bell Hearst wants no overnight parking in Mountaingate. John Given requested a longer comment period. (*Ed.: The comment period deadline has been extended and will now end October 31, 2018*).

The first phase of the project would be a parking lot at the bottom at the Sepulveda side of the park. The permitting should start next year.

Wendy commented that there is a small parking lot near her that is well managed with few problems. Steve Twining requested that traffic studies must be done when schools are in session. The MRCA is very aware of traffic issues.

Charley Mims summarized the views presented as being in support support parks and open space but needing to be balanced with the concerns of residents.

A. Bellagio Road Tree removal – Linda Whitford

Linda is speaking as a private individual because the Bel Air planning committee hasn't met yet. Bel Air/Beverly Crest NC supported her request that the country club should not have been given an exemption. The project requires a more extensive environmental review. She offered the use of an PSHB (polyphagous shot hole borer) expert, but the country club declined. Urban Forestry supports the removal of protected trees. Jamie Hall is representing Linda. It is an opportunity to educate Urban Forestry.

MOTION: Wendy-Sue Rosen moved that the Hillside Federation urge the Board of Public Works to consider the expert opinion of a PSHB specialist and reject the categorical exemption from environmental review as inadequate. Nothing on the property should be touched until the study is done. The motion passed.

C. "Love Street" Signs in Laurel Canyon – Jamie Hall

Laurel Canyon is proud of its musical history; however the festival planned for this Sunday, July 22, would have a huge impact on the neighborhood. The City plans to add a statue of Jim Morrison which would continue to attract more traffic. Yvonne Hessler commented that the festival is on a very narrow street, and the nearby residents will not have access to emergency vehicles. John Given asked Jamie to describe whether any environmental review had been done (no).

Numerous members asked why Councilmember Ryu's office did not consult with the Federation regarding the plans for the event and street renaming. Charley Mims stated he cannot imagine closing Laurel Canyon because there is no other access.

MOTION: Jamie Hall moved that the Federation oppose the designation and installation of "Love Street" signs until appropriate studies and/or analysis have determined that impacts to traffic, public safety and welfare of the community are properly mitigated. The motion passed.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:56.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Benson, Secretary

There is no August meeting; the next meeting will be September 5, 2018.

Members in Attendance:

Bel-Air Assn	Linda Whitford
Bel Air Hills Assn	Steve Twining

	Robin Greenberg
Bel Air Skycrest POA	Mark Stratton
Brentwood Hills HOA	John Given
Brentwood Residents	Wendy-Sue Rosen
Canyon Back Alliance	Tom Freeman
	Lois Becker
Franklin/Hlwd Bl West	Don Andres
	Yvonne Hessler
Franklin Hills Res Assn	Charley Mims
Kagel Canyon Civic	Kit Paull
Lake Hollywood	David Benz
Laurel Canyon Assn	Jamie Hall
	Cathy Wayne
Los Feliz Impvmt Assn	Marian Dodge
Nichols Canyon NA	Julie Kremkus
Oak Forest	Bruce Hollihan
Oaks Homeowners	Bob Young
Res of Beverly Glen	Stephen Benson
Sherman Oaks HA	Jay Weitzler
Studio City Res Assn.	Claudia Freedle
Upper Nichols Cyn	Joan Cashel

Guests:

MRCA	Gabriella Garry
CD 4 Planning	Emma Howard
CD 5 Planning	Hagu Soloman-Cary
Westland School	Carole Barber
Chair Emeritus	Patricia Bell Hearst