

# Monterey Hills Local Issues Minutes

December 3, 2020

## **Agenda Item 1: Call to Order**

## **Agenda Item 2: Approval of Minutes**

- Approval of October Minutes

## **Agenda Item 3: Old Business: Budd Weiner Park**

- Susie Lopez of Council District 14's (CD14) office informed us that we are currently waiting for the Budd Wiener Park improvements to be finished. The shaded brown benches have been delayed, but they should be completed in February of 2021. First, the benches will be installed, and then the shade portions will be installed. Community members are concerned because the temporary benches are unshaded and are too hot to sit on when the sun is out. Recs and Parks are aware of the irrigation problems, and they are watering the park manually, and the irrigation is on the long to-do list they have. CD14 is working with sanitation to get new trash cans throughout the district. Trash cans have been requested on Monterey Rd and Via Marisol. We have asked for new trash cans for our park.

## **Agenda Item 4: Presentations from Public Officials**

- Susie Lopez of CD14 informed us that the Via Marisol project is currently under construction. There have been delays due to funding, but \$2.3 million have been secured, the project should be completed in March of 2022. A community member is concerned about the irrigation and updates in the park as there are many holes in the ground from gophers and large portions of the grass are dead; manual watering is not enough for the grass. Another community member is concerned with the homeless encampments on Huntington in El Sereno. Councilmember de Leon attended a site visit two weeks ago and is meeting with other elected officials. Homelessness is one of his priorities; EXODUS and LA Sanitation offer services, but many homeless have rejected them. It was also mentioned that Fuego Tech couldn't be put on a schedule to visit up here, but we will be placed on their radar. We can also use the 311 app when cleaning is needed. There are some locations where weeds are out of control, including the slope behind Marshall Villas. Ms. Lopez has a contact with LAFD and will reach out to her. DOT is

currently short on staff and is not taking crosswalk or red curb requests, but CD14 is working with the mayor's office.

- Senior Lead Officer Gus Camacho of LAPD was unable to attend the meeting this month.

#### **Agenda Item 5: POST Alarm Systems Report**

- Dan Kaufman was unable to attend the meeting this month, but will send a report.

#### **Agenda Item 6: Parcel S Update: Chris Anzalone (owner)**

- Mr. Anzalone does not have any updates due to COVID-19. They are looking to figure out what they can do regarding planting because of the gophers. They may or may not do raised beds. They are looking at economically viable crops. They want to do something exciting but also financially self-sufficient. A community member is concerned about securing the land as people come up here to loiter, it is currently unsecured, but he plans to obscure it somehow. People are dumping trash on Parcel S; Mr. Anzalone would like to be contacted if any is found, and he will send someone to clean it up. Another community member is concerned about the resident coyotes on Parcel S, and he has no plans to exterminate or remove them. A community member knows that Councilmember de Leon favors keeping it green space and wanted updates on that. Ms. Lopez informed us that he would need to hear a proposal and will schedule a meeting once there is a plan. There isn't much that he can do now as it is private property.

#### **Agenda Item 7: CERT Report: Patrick Botz-Forbes**

- They relaunched the Neighborhood Team Program. There are document packages on creating your team for Map Your Neighborhood and Ready Your LA Neighborhood. We will be on our own for several days during a disaster, and the fire department will prioritize large complexes first. You can go to [ntp-la.org](http://ntp-la.org) to sign up for the email list if you are interested in being a team leader. There is a yearly drill where programs will work all through the city to prepare as if there was a real disaster.

#### **Agenda Item 8: ASNC Community Impact Statement (CIS) Hermon Boundary with Monterey Hills: Lynda Valencia**

- It has recently come to the attention of the ASNC and the Monterey Hills community that Monterey Hills and Hermon's boundary is much further up the hill than we had previously believed. The boundary is at the Cabrillo Hills driveway, which is right in the heart of Monterey Hills.

- Since 2015 the community has been misled about what was done and what is happening with the boundary. A meeting with a representative from the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment informed the community that Monterey Hills had given a portion of our land to Hermon back when the Hermon Neighborhood Council or HNC separated from the ASNC. If we would like to reclaim our land, we would need to work that out with Hermon the next time that the bylaws are updated in late 2021. Ms. Valencia wrote a Community Impact Statement or CIS, which shows the original boundary and the boundary as it is now. When the board that approved Hermon's subdivision was looking into the land, they did not contact the ASNC or notice what neighborhood councils the boundary changes would affect. There were no mentions of this boundary being changed with the HNC formed, even though multiple ASNC board members were from Hermon. The separation of Hermon from the ASNC isolated Monterey Hills from the rest of the ASNC. Many community members are very upset over this misdirection from the ASNC and Former Councilmember Huizar's office.
- Monterey Hills and the ASNC were initially told that the vote for Hermon to separate from the ASNC would be separate from the vote on the boundary change when they were voted for at the same time. The rules for voting in this election are different than the rules for a major election, you could vote if you were under 18, and if you didn't live in Hermon or Monterey Hills, you just needed to be a stakeholder in the community. Community members have asked for assistance from Councilmember de Leon's office. Ms. Lopez said that she would inform him of the issue.
- There were also concerns that most Neighborhood Councils cover around 30 thousand people, while the HNC represents 3 thousand Angelenos. Community members want to organize and get the word out about the boundary issues as most people did not even know that this had occurred. The HNC also wants to rename their portion of Via Marisol to Hermon Road. Community members are concerned about this change's cost and how it will affect the community, especially those who live in Monterey Hills.

**Agenda Item 9: Monterey Hills Petition Update: Constance Villalvazo**

- Ms. Villalvazo created a petition regarding the boundary change that occurred in 2017 with the aid of Former Councilmember Huizar's office. The ASNC had no proof that the boundaries and bylaws were changed until recently. The ASNC cannot act on this issue;

private citizens must be the ones to take action. It is time to speak up as this boundary issue will affect traffic on the hill and property values. Anything that people can do to help get the word out is needed. You can sign the petition at [change.org/savethehill](https://change.org/savethehill), and you can contact Ms. Villalvazo at [constancev@berkeley.edu](mailto:constancev@berkeley.edu).

**Agenda Item 10: General Public Comment**

- There were no public comments.

**Agenda Item 11: Board of Directors Opening**

- There is one open position for the ASNC Board.

**Agenda Item 11: Adjournment**

- The next meeting will be Thursday, January 28, 2021.