

# Beachwood Canyon Neighborhood Association

## Annual meeting

February 21, 2008

### Minutes

Call to Order, introduction of board members. Board members present: Larry Markes, Jack Fitzgerald, Gary Wilmes, Mary Anne Nelson, Nina Van Tassell, George Abrahams, Missy Kelly, Fran Reichenbach.

### Elections

Since there were no nominations from the floor or write-in candidates, it was Moved/Seconded/carried (Missy/Fran) that the board adopt the slate by acclimation.

### Crime Update

Officer Irvin Isabella said that there has been a rash of burglary from motor vehicles in upper Beachwood. A parolee was arrested and the number of incidents has lessened. In the area just east of us (Van Ness/Franklin) there has been this situation as well so a decoy patrol car has been placed in the area.

Barham and Lake Hollywood – one night there were 17 burglaries from motor vehicles. Two arrests were made and the investigation is still ongoing.

Officer Shea and Sevdahlian want to do a sting detail on trash day to address the many complaints of strangers picking trash in our area. They don't know when they will do this sting but it will be a joint task force to move transients from the area and then from freeway overpasses (which is where they go when they are moved out of the hillsides).

Beachwood Drive just north of Franklin is the highest crime area in Officer Shea's patrol area.

Several people mentioned speeding cars in our neighborhood. Officer Isabella will see that patrol cars will be monitoring the stop signs on Beachwood Dr. West Traffic will be notified. One neighbor mentioned that Belden Drive has loads of speeding cars.

Theft of UPS and other packages are a concern. Officer Isabella will tell Officer Shea about that. People should tell their UPS driver and their Postal Carrier about this so they can be on the lookout.

George asked about the current state of officer deployment. Isabella says that the department is spread pretty thin.

Senior Lead Officer Mike Shea's e-mail is: [22343@lapd.lacity.org](mailto:22343@lapd.lacity.org) and his phone number is: 213-793-0710.

### Development

#### **Cahuenga Peak Issue:**

Larry showed the L.A. Times photos of the area next to the Hollywood Sign (Cahuenga Peak) now on sale for 22 million dollars. Larry read Tom Labonge's statement of intent to preserve that area. The question of access was brought up. Larry says that there is an old lawsuit that was settled back when Howard Hughes owned the land and this is being explored to see if this suit still holds with the land. He feels that some developer will buy the lots and put the roads in and build huge estates on it.

#### **2620 Beachwood Dr:**

The owners are proposing three large multi-story condominiums to be placed on the land where one single family dwelling stands. The condos will have very little space between one another with the one in the rear to be cut into the hillside requiring a retaining wall. The design is Mediterranean.

#### **2756 Westshire Dr:**

This open space parcel across from 2751 Westshire is coming before the Zoning Administrator on March 11<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. and the project has setback and other serious issues in dispute. The Hollywoodland Design Review board's recommendations to the designer/owner have not been applied to the design. Neighbors will appear to discuss this issue.

## Website

Fran asked that Soren Kerk, neighbor and webdesigner present her proposal to the board in order to redesign the neighborhood website. People shared what they would like to see in a neighborhood website: hearing notices, development updates, historic photos, city services listings and city officials access information, neighborhood calendar, etc.

Motion: BE IT RESOLVED, that BCNA retain a professional website designer to update BCNA's website in accordance with the proposal submitted by Soren Kerk dated February 26, 2008, with the cost for said services not to exceed \$2,000 without further action by the Board of Directors. Motion made and seconded (Missy/George) carried unanimously.

## FS 82 Relocation

A hearing before the Area Planning Commission meets on March 25<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m. (200 N. Spring Street – City Hall) in the 10<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room. BCNA maintains that to move the firefighters AWAY from our hillside homes will add response time. Even two minutes more response time is too much when Proposition F promised IMPROVED response time. We hope all will appear before this Commission to express your concerns.

## Public Comment

New member Larry of Belden Drive had the misfortune of having a car careen into his garage doing a considerable amount of damage. While settling with the insurance company, it was and is still necessary to board up his garage. He received the following anonymous letter:

*"Dear Homeowner,*

*Please be aware of the following if you are planning on enclosing your garage: What is a Zoning Violation? Garage Conversions. Every single family residence built after 1955 and located on a lot of less than one acre is required to maintain covered off-street parking facilities.*

*The city has been contacted regarding this matter and we anticipate your cooperation.*

*Your neighbors"*

Fran felt that this notice was probably sent by a rogue board member of the Hollywoodland Homeowner's Association – probably not their whole board. Ann Hall suggested that Larry contact Hollywoodland Homeowner's Association through their website and tell them how insulted and offended he was having received such a threatening letter with no signature or contact information. Larry expressed feeling like the Gestapo had taken over Hollywoodland.

Meeting was adjourned