



**WESTWOOD
HIGHLANDS
ASSOCIATION
LATE SUMMER
2007**

www.westwoodhighlands.org

vp@westwoodhighlands.org

Westwood Highlands Association Meetings –
Sept 18, Nov 20 7:30 p.m. at 120 Brentwood

WESTWOOD HIGHLANDS 11th ANNUAL GARAGE SALE –
Saturday and Sunday, Sept 15 and 16

Just open your garage door. Unload no longer needed items. Possibly download your neighbors' items. Buyers will be circling the neighborhood. Once again our association will place adds in the newspapers for the event and this year Monterey Heights is planning their neighborhood garage sale on the same weekend. If anybody would like to volunteer to put up signs Saturday morning, contact Robert Wisotzkey @ 333-1866.

Welcome New Neighbors

Westwood Highlands directors welcome all new homeowners and residents to Westwood Highlands. Please contact WH Vice President Charlie Leach so he can drop off a packet containing the WH Covenants, Controls, and Restrictions. These CC&Rs summarize the rights, privileges and restrictions of homeowners. This packet also includes: helpful local information as well as gift certificates and discounts to local merchants. Please contact Charlie at crleach@sbcglobal.net.

Tree-Lined Monterey Blvd. still Unfinished

Westwood Highlands Association has been lobbying our supervisor but so far, the center median of Monterey Blvd., from Ridgewood to Yerba Buena remains bare. The reason, 'no money.'

Helpful Links

Westwood Highlands Association
www.westwoodhighlands.org
West of Twin Peaks Central Council
www.westoftwinpeaks.org
San Francisco City Government Services
www.sfgov.org
San Francisco News/Weather/Traffic/SF Chronicle, etc. www.sfgate.com

Westwood Highlands Border Markers to be Refinished

They're rusty.

Westwood Highlands Block Party -- Recap

Here's what we've learned from our May 12 bi-annual block party:

- the weather can be bad but neighbors will still attend and have fun.
- A person can get a bad sunburn on their face even if it's foggy (me)
- Brentwood Avenue is less windy than Mangels
- Street musician piano players are not always reliable
- September is a better weather month than May
- The police department no longer drops off street barricades, you have to go pick them up yourself
- Personal vehicles work as well as street barricades
- Westwood Highlands directors are the best in the business

Welcome Back Web Lady Jennifer Dees

We welcome Jennifer and her family back to Westwood Highlands after a few years living on the East Coast. Jennifer had continued to maintain our website even in her absence. Check it out. www.westwoodhighlands.org. I think it's one of the best neighborhood websites.

Remaining 2007 Westwood Highlands General Meetings

All residents are welcome to the WHA meetings. Your input is encouraged. We won't rope you into anything, unless you want. Location: 120 Brentwood Avenue, 7:30PM
Dates Sept 18 and Nov 20 (Tuesdays).
Free Cookies

Housing Element Update

As many of you know, in 2004, Westwood Highlands Association and 14 other citywide neighborhoods formed a group called *San Franciscans for Livable Neighborhoods* and filed a lawsuit against the City in an effort to stop the Planning Department's 'Housing Element' (HE) from going forward without an Environmental Impact Report (EIR). HEs are city policy documents which become part of the city's General Plan for ten years. EIRs identify potential impacts on items such as safety, congestion, noise, parking and traffic.

This particular HE called for legalization of secondary (in-law) units and increased density and height, particularly around transit corridors like Ocean Avenue and West Portal. It also allowed reduced or eliminated parking requirements for new construction...basically any developer's dream scenario but a nightmare to residential home owners in an already congested city.

The good news is, On Aug 1, the State Court of Appeal ruled in favor of our coalition of neighborhoods. The other good news is that this ruling has positive implications on other high density projects in the city such as Market Octavia, Eastern Neighborhoods, and Balboa Park if it is ruled that these projects are dependent on the 2004 Housing Element.

The not so good news is that the City is appealing the decision. however, according to *San Francisco for Livable Neighborhoods* very able attorney, Kathy Devincenzi, the chance of the State Supreme Court agreeing to hear the City's appeal is slim, and probably none. More later.

West of Twin Peaks Central Council Report

In June, the Council celebrated its 70th year of neighborhood advocacy with a party at the Forest Hill Clubhouse. This gala was attended by Mayor Newsom, Supervisor Elsbernd, Congresswoman Fiona Ma, former State Senator Judge Quentin Kopp, former Congressman Charlie Meyers, Barbara Kaufman representing Governor Schwarzenegger, and representatives for U.S. Senators Feinstein and Boxer, and U.S. Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi. The Council is currently involved protesting the new water rates and how private homes are the only residences that will be subject to the new two-tiered rate system. The Council is also involved in determining, which, **if any**, of the competing parking initiatives on the November ballot it should endorse.

Tree Report

Planted in the 1920s, the Blackwood Acacia trees have become the symbol of Westwood Highlands. Unfortunately the oldest of the Blackwood Acacia trees are dying off. WHA will continue to remove these dead and dying trees, roots and all free of charge and replace them with the trees that are suitable for this climate. Unfortunately there are very few trees that do well in our neighborhood and Blackwood Acacia is still one of the best choices.

If you have a dead or dying Blackwood Acacia tree, please contact director Anya LeGault. anya_legault@hotmail.com

Tagging and graffiti of public property

A number of stop signs and fire hydrants have been marked with graffiti or tagged. These should be reported to the Department of Public Works at 28-CLEAN (282-5326). More info in the next newsletter.

Illegal In-Law Units

The WHA directors continue to enforce Westwood Highlands CC&Rs, established in 1924, including article IV that restricts the use of each lot in Westwood Highlands to one family. DBI.Complaints@sfgov.org. ph 558-6088 (anonymous calls are ok)

WHA Directors

David Bisho, President
Charlie Leach, Vice President
Jane Vincent Corbett, Secretary
Anya LeGault, Treasurer
Vince Scardina, Parliamentarian
Webmaster: Jennifer Dees
Editor Robert Wisotzkey

Dues

Thanks to all those that have paid their 25.00 yearly dues already; for those that haven't, please pay them. All funds are used to preserve Westwood Highlands, keep property values high, maintain our non-profit status, remove trees, plant trees, maintain border markers, and pay dues to the West of Twin Peaks Central Council (since 1936). A detailed treasurer's report will be in the January newsletter.

