



**NORTH HILLS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**  
**General Board Meeting Minutes** Thursday, June 15, 2017  
New Horizons, 15725 Parthenia St., North Hills CA 91343

NHWNC (and all other) Meeting Minutes are a summary; Minutes were not, are not and are never meant to be an exact, verbatim, word-for-word transcript or comprehensive record of what was said at a Meeting. Exceptions: Motion(s) (included as stated at the Meeting, or, if not stated, as written on the Agenda); quotes (words that have quotation marks ("")) at the beginning and ending of a word or words); and Agenda wording copied into the Minutes.

**1. Welcome and Pledge of Allegiance.**

President Dan Gibson called the Meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

**2. Roll Call and announcement of Quorum and Voting Eligibility.**

Roll Call was taken by the Secretary. Ten of the 13 Board Members were present at the Roll Call: Dan Gibson (President), Dave Brown (Secretary), Maggie Elliott, Garry Fordyce, Punam Gohel, Carol Hart, David Hyman, Madlena Minasian (Treasurer) and Kreshell Ramey. Sam Kwasman arrived later. Jay Beeber (Vice-President), Armando Diaz and Antonino Lovato (all excused) were absent. The NHWNC quorum (the minimum number of Board Members needing to be present to take binding votes on Agendized Items) is seven (see <https://lacity.quickbase.com/db/bj3apxsp3?a=q&qid=32&qskip=0&qrppg=1000&dlt=su46~>), so the Board could take such votes. Quorum was announced. Mr. Brown reported that all Board Members were eligible to vote. All 13 of the 13 Board Seats were filled (by election or appointment). No Board Seat was vacant. Also attended: 26 Stakeholders and guests.

**3. Announcements and Comments – President.**

Mr. Gibson thanked Stakeholder Helen Donovan for providing document copies and Mr. Brown for providing and operating the sound system. City decisions are awaited regarding the last Meeting's funding allocations.

**4. Discussion and possible action to approve the May 18, 2017 General Board Meeting Minutes.**

Mr. Gibson requested and it was agreed to TABLE this Item.

**5. Discussion and possible action to approve the May 31, 2017 Special Board Meeting Minutes.**

Mr. Gibson requested and it was agreed to TABLE this Item.

6. **Discussion and possible action** to approve the June 7, 2017 Special Board Meeting Minutes.

Mr. Gibson requested and it was agreed to TABLE this Item.

7. **Public Agency Speakers and Announcements.**

Julio Anleu, Field Representative for LAUSD Board Member Monica Ratliff (ofc. 818.232.5445; cell 818.935.7049; Julio.Anleu@lausd.net; <http://Ratliff.LASchoolBoard.org>), reported and offered help. Erich King, Public Safety Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilman Mitch Englander (818-882-1212; Erich.King@LACity.org; <http://CD12.LACity.org>), reported that “rumble strips” will be installed on Chatsworth St. from Topanga Canyon Blvd. to Canoga Ave; “it’s an industrial area . . . the business in the area are all in favor of it . . . They’re a lot more cost-effective than speed bumps . . . [they] will be implemented Citywide.” National Night Out [<https://natw.org>] will be Tuesday, August 1st; he described participants of the family event at Norhtridge Park.

Brian Stege, Field Representative for State 46th District Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian (818-376-4246; Brian.Stege@asm.ca.gov; <http://asmdc.org/members/a46>), reported that the Assemblymember co-authored AB562, the single-payer health insurance legislation and will have more self-defense classes. Semee Park, Director of Operations, L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) (818-374-9898; Semee.Park@LACity.org; [www.EmpowerLA.org](http://www.EmpowerLA.org)), reported on the Civic Youth Program. Glenn Bailey, of VANC (Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils; VANC@EmpowerLA.org; <http://empowerla.org/vanc-2>), reminded about the September 9<sup>th</sup> Congress of Neighborhoods; registration starts August 1<sup>st</sup>. VANC (Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils; VANC@EmpowerLA.org; <http://empowerla.org/vanc-2>) meets second Thursday nights; their Transportation and Planning Forum will be November 9<sup>th</sup>.

8. **General Public Comments Member**

\_\_\_ There were no announcements at this time.

9. **Discussion and possible action** to ratify the President’s recommended Chair and Member appointments and changes to Standing and Ad Hoc committees.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Ms. Hart): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council removes David Hyman from the Beautification & Infrastructure Committee.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Gibson explained that this is “due to quorum issues” because Ms. Elliott became a Board Member.

**MOTION PASSED;** zero opposed; zero abstained.

## **10. Committee Chair Reports**

- a. Executive Committee -- Dan Gibson  
Mr. Gibson indicated that he will report next month.
  
- b. Outreach Committee -- Sam Kwasman  
Later, copies were distributed of an “April 22, 2017 – Open House Expenses” list for the event here at New Horizons and Mr. Kwasman reported that the Committee ended the Fiscal Year under budget.
  
- c. Beautification -- Carol Hart  
Ms. Hart reported that the Committee is working on organizing cleanups.
  
- d. Emergency Prep/PS -- Dave Brown  
Mr. Brown reported that the Neighborhood Council Emergency Preparedness Alliance will create preparedness recommendations. Also, a CERT [Community Emergency Response Team, 818-756-9674; [www.cert-la.com](http://www.cert-la.com), [lafdcert@LACity.org](mailto:lafdcert@LACity.org)] Level Three class starts.
  
- e. Planning and Land Use -- Jay Beeber  
Mr. Gibson indicated that there will be a report at the next monthly meeting.
  
- f. Rules & Elections -- Punam Gohel  
Mr. Gohel reported that Bylaws revisions were submitted.
  
- g. Education -- Garry Fordyce  
Mr. Fordyce reported that the “Vintage NASA Night was very impressive.” The NHWNC had allocated a \$1,300 Neighborhood Purposes Grant for the event.
  
- h. Budget & Finance -- Madlena Minasian  
Ms. Minasian awaits DONE [the L.A. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment]’s Treasurer training.

*Board Member Sam Kwasman arrived at this time (7:48), making 10 Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).*

## **11. Homelessness Liaison Report – Kreshell Ramey**

Ms. Ramey reported that L.A. Family housing (818-982-4091) released the Homeless Count: in L.A. County, 57,794; in L.A. City, 34,189; 7,627 were counted in the Valley area. The Jones Act “allows people to sleep on the sidewalk 9 p.m. to 6 a.m.” Mr. Gohel reminded that services are available at the 2-1-1 phone number.

## **12. Website Report – Dave Brown**

Mr. Brown reported that the recent worldwide computer virus had “no lasting negative effects” on the website and that “we are currently under” the budgeted amount.

13. **Discussion and possible action** to approve the NHWNC May 2017 Monthly Expense Report.

Copies were distributed of the “Monthly Expenditure Report” for May 2017, and receipts, invoices and/or and statements.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Ms. Ramey): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves its Monthly Expenditure Report for May 2017.

**MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION** (by Mr. Gibson); no opposition.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with nine in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Elliott, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Hyman, Kwasman, Minasian and Ramey); one opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Fordyce); zero abstained.

14. **Discussion and possible action** to appoint 2 Budget Representatives from North Hills West. These representatives can be stakeholders as well as Board Members.

Mr. Fordyce and Mr. Gohel volunteered.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Ms. Minasian): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council appoints two Budget Representatives: Garry Fordyce and Punam Gohel.

**MOTION PASSED**; zero opposed; zero abstained.

15. **Discussion and possible action** to approve the NHWNC Self Assessment Survey for Fiscal Year 2016-2017.

*[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #21.]* There was extensive discussion of Item #'s 15-18. See below Item #18.

16. **Discussion and possible action** to approve the NHWNC Outreach Survey for Fiscal Year 2017-2018.

Copies were distributed of possible Survey answers. See below Item #18.

17. **Discussion and possible action** to approve the NHWNC Strategic Plan for Fiscal Year 2017-2018.

Copies were distributed of the Strategic Plan, and Mr. Kwasman and others listed many NHWNC outreach activities in the last year. See below Item #18.

18. **Discussion and possible action** to approve the NHWNC Budget for Fiscal Year 2017-2018.

Mr. Gibson reminded that “the budget is subject to be changed . . . we have \$42,000.” Ms. Minasian reminded that Committees will submit funding requests and that the budget can be adapted.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Ms. Minasian, seconded by Mr. Gohel): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves its Self Assessment Survey for Fiscal Year 2016-2017; its Outreach Survey, Strategic Plan and Budget for Fiscal Year 2017-2018; and will allocate \$23,000 for outreach; \$7,000 for Operations; \$3,000 for Neighborhood Purposes Grants; \$8,000 for Community Improvement; and \$1,000 for recurring monthly expenditures for its Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Budget.

**DISCUSSION:** it was confirmed that all Board Members were eligible to vote.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the nine eligible voters present with all nine in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Elliott, Fordyce, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Hyman, Kwasman and Minasian); zero opposed; zero abstained.

19. **Discussion and possible action** on the possibility of a request to move the North Hills West community west of the 405 San Diego Freeway into either the Northridge or Granada Hills Community Planning Area. Currently the North Hills West community is designated as part of the Mission Hills- Panorama City-North Hills Community Planning Area. However, the North Hills West community is quite different in land use from communities on the east side of the 405 freeway. Those communities have more intense land use which is more commercial and dense apartment housing. The land use in the North Hills West community is more closely aligned with land use in the Northridge and Granada Hills Community Planning Areas. The PLUM Committee passed a motion in support of the above recommendation to begin exploring this possibility.  
*[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #22.]*

**MOTION** (by the Planning and Land Use Management Committee): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council refers to its Planning and Land Use Management Committee to explore the possibility of moving the North Hills West community west of the 405 San Diego Freeway into either the Northridge or Granada Hills Community Planning Area and review and report back any consequences associated with such a move.

**DISCUSSION:** Stakeholder Anita Goldbaum believed that inclusion in the Northridge Community Plan [<https://planning.lacity.org/complan/pdf/nrdcptxt.pdf>] could work, but not in the Granada Hills/Knollwood Community Plan [<https://planning.lacity.org/complan/pdf/ghlcptxt.pdf>]. Stakeholder Peggy Burgess opposed either because she believed “it’s not going to work.” Mr. Fordyce said “we would have more in common with Northridge” than with Granada Hills.

**MOTION to TABLE** (by Mr. Fordyce, seconded by Ms. Elliott): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council TABLES this Motion.

**MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION** (by Mr. Gibson); no opposition.

**MOTION to TABLE FAILED** with four in favor; five opposed; one abstained (the NHWNC counts abstentions as “yes” votes).

**MOTION PASSED** with nine in favor; one opposed; zero abstained.

20. **Discussion and possible action** to ask for support from residents in North Hills West who may become aware of any large parcels of property that are for sale and to notify the Neighborhood Council of such. The following motion was approved by the PLUM committee: Move that the Neighborhood Council include in outreach to the community including but not limited to newsletters, e-blasts, posting to NHWNC website, posting to the Nextdoor website, and announcements at Board Meetings a request from community members to notify the board when they become aware of any large parcels of property that are for sale and/or might be developed.

**MOTION** (by the Planning and Land Use Management Committee): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will ask for support from residents in North Hills West who may become aware of any large parcels of property that are for sale and to notify the Neighborhood Council of such; the NHWNC will include in outreach to the community including but not limited to newsletters, e-blasts, posting to NHWNC website, posting to the Nextdoor website, and announcements at Board Meetings a request from community members to notify the board when they become aware of any large parcels of property that are for sale and/or might be developed.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Gibson clarified that this is for any significant size project.

**MOTION PASSED** by a hand vote with eight in favor; two opposed; zero abstained.

21. **Discussion and possible action** regarding a motion to send a letter to Los Angeles elected officials and Planning Officials asking for a more open and transparent planning process with regards to updating the City’s General Plan and Community Plans. Request to authorize the PLUM committee chair and other interested stakeholders to meet with our City Council representative and/or planning staff to begin discussions on the eventual update to our community plan and how it may impact the North Hills West community. There has been a proposal by City officials to lump together the entire South Valley into a mega-district to encompass the first 5-6 updated Community Plans. No Neighborhood Councils within these 5-6 Valley-area Community Plans, huge areas, were asked if they were willing to be lumped together for the purpose of planning their futures around Measure M transit projects and a fixed rail line that does not yet exist.

**MOTION** (by the Planning and Land Use Management Committee): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will send a letter to Los Angeles elected officials and Planning officials asking for a more open and transparent planning process with regards to updating the City’s General Plan and Community Plans, and authorizes its Planning and Land Use Management Committee Chair and other interested Stakeholders to meet with our City Council representative and/or planning staff to

begin discussions on the eventual update to our community plan and how it may impact the North Hills West community.

**MOTION to TABLE** (by Mr. Fordyce): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council TABLES this Motion.

**MOTION to TABLE FAILED** for lack of a second.

**MOTION PASSED**; zero opposed; zero abstained.

*Board Member Kreshell Ramey left at this time (9:12), making nine Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).*

*The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #15.*

22. **Discussion and possible action** for the NHWNC to [see the below Motion].  
[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #23.]

**MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Hyman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council supports a Motion passed by the Neighborhood Council Emergency Preparedness Alliance on January 28, 2017. This Motion supports the inclusion of \$192,000 as a multi-departmental budget item in the 2017-18 City budget to cover the cost of 4 staff and related expenses. Two staff members for the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment and two for the Emergency Management Department, who will work on preparing a disaster preparedness plan which will lead to preplacement of supplies for first responders and training of individuals at the neighborhood level.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Brown explained that “these are full-time jobs.”

**MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION** (by Mr. Gibson); no opposition.

**MOTION PASSED**; zero opposed; zero abstained.

23. **Discussion and possible action** to support the work of the Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates and their White Paper dated 3/8/2017 and approve the filing of a Community Impact Statement for Council File: 17-0600. For more information please click here: <http://ncbala.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/SEmpowerLA117030812520.pdf>

**MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Brown): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council supports the work of the Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates and their White Paper dated 3/8/2017 and approves the filing of a Community Impact Statement for Council File 17-0600.

**MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION** (by Mr. Gibson); no opposition.

**MOTION PASSED**; zero opposed; zero abstained.

**24. Board Member Comments**

There were no comments at this time.

**25. Requests For Future Agenda Items**

There were no requests at this time.

**26. Motion to Adjourn**

**MOTION to ADJOURN** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Ms. Minasian).

**MOTION to ADJOURN PASSED**; zero opposed; zero abstained.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 9:46 p.m.

*The first paragraph of some Items, Motions/Resolutions and other wording may have been copied from the Agenda. Minutes written by DL, possibly edited by NHWNC. The NHWNC Minutes page is <http://www.nhwnc.net/agendas-minutes/minutes-and-agendas>.*

These draft minutes, as corrected,  
were approved at the July 20, 2017 General Board Meeting