



NORTH HILLS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
General Board Meeting Minutes, Thursday, March 21, 2019
at New Horizons, 15725 Parthenia St., North Hills, CA 91343
Approved 4/25/2019

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 7:07 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. Twelve of the 13 Board Members were present at the Roll Call: Dan Gibson (President), Jay Beeber (Vice-President), Dave Brown (Secretary), Madlena Minasian (Treasurer), Pat Crone, Maggie Elliott, Garry Fordyce, Punam Gohel, Carol Hart, Sam Kwasman, Carlos Pelaez and Kreshell Ramey. David Hyman arrived later. No Board Members 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 the Bylaws at <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 Seats were vacant. Also attended: 28 Stakeholders and guests.

3. Announcements and Comments – President.

Mr. Gibson thanked resident Helen Donovan for printing materials, Mr. Brown for providing and operating the sound system, and the Minutes Writer. He announced that the next Board Meeting will be April 25th because this facility will be unavailable on the usual third Thursday, which would be April 18th.

4. Public Agency Speakers and Announcements.

[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #5.] Kelly Gonez, LAUSD District Six Board Member (ofc. 213-241-6388; Kelly.Gonez@lausd.net; <http://achieve.lausd.net/gonez>), reported that she is the first to visit all 165 schools in District Six. She noted local achievements and projects including at Monroe High School. She co-sponsored and explained Measure EE, which will be on the June 4th Special Election ballot and introduced her Director of Community Relations, Cara Onofre. Ms. Gonez answered questions about Measure EE and other issues. Alan Sellers, LAPD Devonshire Division Senior Lead Officer (ofc. 818-832-0633; cell/text phone

818-325-7749; 31934@LAPD.LACity.org; http://www.LAPDOnline.org/devonshire_community_police_station), “on behalf of Efren Corral” (ofc. 818-634-0579; 35472@LAPD.LACity.org), cited the latest crime statistics. He reported that “Devonshire is doing really well,” though “we have a lot of property crime.” The LAPD/CD12 HOPE Team “has been very successful” regarding providing homeless services. Mr. Gibson reminded that an anti-theft steering wheel Club is available for attendees.

5. General Public Comment

Carolina Goodman, of the League of Women Voter of Los Angeles [<http://lacilo.ca.lwvnet.org>], reviewed matching funds local legislation regarding “dark money.” Stakeholder Anita Goldbaum commented that, for safety and security reasons, she is opposed to the Library [Mid Valley Regional Library, 16244 Nordhoff St.] parking lot being available for overnight parking. Also, the Valor Academy Hearing was “cancelled at the request of the applicant.” Heather Hudson Beeber encouraged voting for her husband, Board Member Jay Beeber, for CD12 Councilman (Jay4LA.com; Jay@Jay4LA.com; 818-205-4790). Resident Fran Potaski wanted the NHWNC to Agendize considering issuing a Community Impact Statement regarding City Council File 17-1421 regarding illegal fireworks use reduction. Glenn Bailey, of VANC (Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils; VANC@EmpowerLA.org; <http://empowerla.org/vanc-2>), reported that their recent Mixer had “successful attendance.”

6. Report from Budget Advocates

Brian Allen, a Budget Advocate [<http://ncbala.com>], reported that “the Budget Advocates recently held a meeting with the Mayor.” He encouraged reading the Advocates’ recently released White Paper of City budget recommendations.

7. Update from Homelessness Liaison Kreshell Ramey

Ms. Ramey reported that there would be a March 30th meeting of the Kiwanis Club.

Board Member David Hyman arrived at this time (8:10), making all 13 Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).

8. Update from Ad-committee chair Carol Hart concerning Haskell/Aqueduct parking issues.

Ms. Hart objected to the LADOT parking study because, Stakeholders agreed, the study was done at lunchtime when it is far less busy than weekday early mornings or evenings.

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

There were no appointments or changes at this time.

10. Discussion and possible action to approve the January 17, 2019 General Board Meeting Minutes.

Copies were distributed of draft January 17, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes.

MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Kwasman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its January 17, 2019 General Board Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED unanimously; zero opposed; zero abstained.

- 11. Discussion and possible action** to approve the February 21, 2019 General Board Meeting Minutes.

Copies were distributed of draft February 21, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes.

MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Ms. Elliott): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its February 21, 2019 General Board Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED unanimously; zero opposed; zero abstained.

- 12. Discussion and possible action** to approve the January 2019 Monthly Expenditure Report. (available on NC Funding System online portal: <https://cityclerk.lacity.org/NCFundPortal/Dashboard.html>)

Copies were distributed of the January “Monthly Expenditure Report,” and a receipt(s), statement(s) and/or invoice(s).

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Ms. Hart): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves its Monthly Expenditure Report for January 2019.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Allen urged waiting to approve the MER due to a payment concern.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 13 eligible voters present with all 13 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Beeber, Brown, Crone, Elliott, Fordyce, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Hyman, Kwasman, Minasian, Pelaez and Ramey); zero opposed; zero abstained.

- 13. Discussion and possible action** to approve the February 2019 Monthly Expenditure Report.

Copies were distributed of the February “Monthly Expenditure Report,” and a receipt(s), statement(s) and/or invoice(s).

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Kwasman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves its Monthly Expenditure Report for February 2019.

Board Member Sam Kwasman stepped out at this time, making 12 Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the 12 eligible voters present with 11 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Beeber, Brown, Crone, Elliott, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Hyman, Minasian, Pelaez and Ramey); one opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Fordyce); zero abstained.

14. (available on NC Funding System online portal: <https://cityclerk.lacity.org/NCFundPortal/Dashboard.html>)

It was noted that the above was meant to be part of Item #13.

15. **Discussion and possible action** to approve the expenditure of up to \$60.00 per month for the purchase of an Adobe Creative Cloud subscription on a month-by-month basis through the end of the fiscal year. The subscription would belong to NHWNC. If this proves to be both useful and cost-effective, the subscription can be renewed or expanded to cover entire FY 2019-2020.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Ms. Ramey): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the expenditure of up to \$60.00 per month for the purchase of an Adobe Creative Cloud subscription on a month-by-month basis through the end of the fiscal year.

Board Member Sam Kwasman returned to the room at this time, making all 13 Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).

DISCUSSION: Ms. Hart and Mr. Brown explained that “this would be a subscription service.” There was extensive discussion of options and merits.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the 13 eligible voters present with 12 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Beeber, Brown, Crone, Elliott, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Hyman, Kwasman, Minasian, Pelaez and Ramey); one opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Fordyce); zero abstained.

16. **Discussion and possible action** to approve specific expenditures from the previously allocated budget of \$15,000 for election outreach materials and services.

Copies were distributed of price quotes from AM Direct, City Print Shop, Chase Avenue Production, Prairie Press and Minuteman Press, and of “Postage Pricing Research.” Ms. Hart reviewed the quotes. There was extensive discussion of where to advertise and promote the NHWNC election. Mr. Gibson TABLED this Item until later. [*This Agenda Item was continued after Item #19.*] There was extensive discussion about the quotes and amounts.

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Ms. Crone): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council selects AM Direct to be the vendor for postcards and The Westsider Newsletter, 5,000 of each, for a total amount not to exceed \$5,000.

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

- 17. Discussion and possible action** to approve the expenditure of up to \$2,200.00 for the purchase of a mid-range, large format, laminator for the creation of durable NHWNC signage and outreach materials.

Mr. Gibson requested and it was agreed to TABLE this Item. No Motion was made or vote taken.

- 18. Discussion and possible action** to [see the below Motion].

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Kwasman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the expenditure of up to \$200.00 to “tune up” and optimize the performance of the NHWNC laptop used by the Treasurer.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Brown explained that this was “specifically dedicated for the Treasurer’s use” and would ready the computer for possible use by a new Treasurer after the NHWNC election. Mr. Fordyce believed it better to buy a new computer. Mr. Gibson noted that this computer was bought in 2014.

Mr. Gibson requested and it was agreed to TABLE this Item. No vote was taken.

- 19. Discussion and possible action** to [see the below Motion]. NHWNC previously approve the expenditure of up to \$350.00 per monthly board meeting for one security officer at the Special Board Meeting of December 4, 2018. Sgt. Torres has since proposed that Devonshire Division assign two security officers for the NHWNC meeting at \$95.00 per hour for each officer. Therefore, 2 officers x \$95.00 an Hr x 4 hours = \$760.00.

[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #20.]

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Gohel): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves an expenditure of up to \$760.00 per monthly board meeting for security to be provided by LAPD Security Services Division.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Gibson and other Board Members explained that the City required this option that must include two Officers. Ms. Goldbaum noted that this would cost approximately 23% of the NHWNC’s annual budget. There was extensive discussion of expenditure merits.

Board Member Madlena Minasian left at this time (9:45), making 12 Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).

Officer Sellers explained reasons that two Officers would be better and that “it’s how we train.”

FUNDING MOTION FAILED by a roll call vote of the 12 eligible voters present with six in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Beeber, Brown, Crone, Gibson, Gohel and Kwasman); six opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Elliott, Fordyce, Hart, Hyman, Palaiez and Ramey); zero abstained.

Board Members Kreshell Ramey had left by and Maggie Elliott and Carlos Palaiez left at this time (9:55), making nine Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).

20. Discussion and possible action regarding the Board’s position on Senate Bill 50 (Weiner), a proposal to eliminate much of the current zoning rules near transit stops and other designated areas. The Board will discuss possible action to submit a Community Impact Statement (CIS) to the LA City Council to include in the City’s 2019-2020 Legislative Program OPPOSITION to SB50. Senate Bill 50 (Weiner), has been introduced in the California State Legislature that would override local zoning regulations and require approval of high density, increased height, development projects in any zone, including single family residential zones, within a half mile of a “job-rich area” or “major transit stop”. The bill raises height limits to 45 feet, about four stories, within a half-mile radius of a major transit stop, and 55 feet or five stories within a quarter mile radius of a major transit stop. It also eliminates minimum parking requirements for new developments. The text of the bill can be found here: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201920200SB50 Recommendation from the PLUM Committee – By unanimous vote, the PLUM committee recommends that the board approve this item.

Mr. Beeber explained the issue, believing that “this is an assault on our single-family neighborhoods.” Ms. Goldbaum said “it takes away local control” of zoning.

MOTION (by the Planning and Land Use Committee): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will submit a Community Impact Statement (CIS) to the LA City Council to include in the City’s 2019-2020 Legislative Program OPPOSITION to SB50, or in the alternative, a CIS supporting any City Council Motion opposing SB50 and authorizing letters to be sent to our elected officials representing this area regarding the NHWNC’s opposition to SB 50.

MOTION PASSED unanimously; zero opposed; zero abstained.

21. Committee Reports

There were no reports at this time.

22. Adjournment

MOTION to ADJOURN (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Beeber).

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

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 10:20 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>.