



NORTH HILLS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
Regular Board Meeting Minutes, Thursday, June 15, 2023
New Horizons, 15725 Parthenia St., North Hills, CA 91343
Minutes Approved 10/19/2023

Document copies were available at <https://www.nhwnc.net/event/board-meeting-2023-06-15>.

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. Call to order and Welcome.

President Madlena Minasian called the Meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call, Determination of Quorum, Voting Eligibility Report and call for agenda item(s) recusals.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said. Roll Call was taken by the Minutes Writer. All 10 of the 10 Board Members were present at the Roll Call: Dave Brown (Secretary), Pat Crone (Treasurer), Maggie Elliott (Vice-President), Linda Erdman, Garry Fordyce, Punam Gohel, Carol Hart, David Hyman, Madlena Minasian (President) and Kreshell Ramey. No Board Member was absent. The NHWNC Board quorum (the minimum number of Board Members needing to be present to take binding votes on Agendized Items) is seven (see the Bylaws link at www.empowerla.org/nhwnc), so the Board could take such votes. Quorum was announced. Mr. Brown confirmed that all Board Members' trainings were compliant and they were eligible to vote. Board Seats were vacant; to apply, email Secretary@nhwnc.net. Also attended: 12 Stakeholders and guests.

3. President's Comments, Announcements, and Meeting Logistics – Madlena Minasian, President.

- Ø Must submit Speaker Card to speak on an agenda item. Raise your hand to be recognized for Q&A about a Presentation.
- Ø Call for new Board Members: We're currently seeking applicants for two (2) vacant Board Seats. One (1) Residential until 2025 & One (1) General until 2025; to apply, click the Link.
- Ø The July 20th Board Meeting will have a Board Members' affirmation.
- Ø Budget Day will be June 17, 2023, 9:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. via Zoom. Register: Link
- Ø Board members, please announce when you are leaving the meeting before adjournment.

Ms. Minasian noted the above. Also, several programs are available at the local Library. Also:

- 1) Coffee with a Cop 6/20 @ 11am @ Starbucks on Reseda
- 2) LA City career fair 6/29
- 3) Fireworks by-back program 7/1 9am - 12noon. Gift card in Mission Hills
- 4) Thank you Letter received from Vintage School Robotics program Samantha
- 5) we are constantly updating our website with information, and events. Visit the NHWNC website for all upcoming events.

4. Elected Officials, Public Agency Speakers, Field Representatives and Public Service Announcements.

- a. Mayor Karen Bass - Mayor LACity / West Valley Area Representative - Erin Seinfeld.
Ms. Seinfeld [323-552-6730; Erin.Seinfeld@LACity.org; <https://www.lamayor.orgWestValleyAreaRep>], was not present and there was no report.
- b. City Council District 12 John Lee - CD12 / Field Representative – Lorena Espinal.
Lorena Espinal, a Field Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilmember John Lee [818-882-1212; Lorena.Espinal@lacity.org; <https://councildistrict12.lacity.gov>], reported on upcoming events and described service work.
- c. L.A. County Supervisor District 3: Lindsey Horvath.
No representative was present and there was no report.
- d. State Senate District 20: Caroline Menjivar.
Andres Garcia, a District Representative for State 20th District Senator Caroline Menjivar [ofc. 818-901-5588' Andres.Garcia@sen.ca.gov; <https://senate.ca.gov/Menjivar>] was not present and there was no report.
- e. State Assembly District 40 a40 – Pilar Schiavo / Field Representative - Gaby Gurrola.
Gaby Gurrola, a Field Representative for State 40th District Assemblymember Pilar Schiavo [661-286-1565; gaby.gurrola@asm.ca.gov, <https://a40.asmdc.org/>], distributed copies of a list of the Assemblymember's recent legislative action and a brochure listing State Agencies and Departments. She reported on upcoming events and described challenges providing services to homeless people who don't want them. She will report back regarding funding to provide services to migrants bused here from other states.
- f. U.S. Congress District 32: Brad Sherman.
No representative was present and there was no report.
- g. LAUSD School Board District 3: Scott Schmerelson.
No representative was present and there was no report.

- h. LAPD Devonshire Division Senior Lead Officer (SLO) - Jerome Knopp
37244@lapd.online; <https://www.lapdonline.org/lapd-contact/valley-bureau/devonshire-community-policestation/>

[This Item was addressed after Item #4. j.] Mikkie Loi, Community Relations Volunteer, LAPD Devonshire Division (http://www.LAPDOnline.org/devonshire_community_police_station), reported crime statistics for Jerome Knopp, an LAPD Devonshire Division (east of CSUN) Senior Lead Officer [Desk: (818) 832-0633; Cell: (323) 382-1526]. National Night Out will be Tuesday, August 1st at Northridge Recreation Center. Ms. Loi described volunteer opportunities affiliated with the Police; email Volunteer@LAPDOnline.

- i. Mid Valley Regional Library - Mid Valley Library
No representative was present and there was no report.
- j. L.A. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment / NEA - John Darnell
John Darnell, a Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate of the L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) [213-978-1551; john.darnell@lacity.org; <https://empowerla.org>], thanked Board Members for their service and will check on fixing the Community Impact Statement filing portal; a number of Board Members reported problems with it.
- k. To find your elected representatives, City agencies, departments, etc.:
Neighborhood Info. Additional neighborhood information: KnowYourCommunity.

Ms. Minasian noted the above.

5. General Public Comments on Non-Agenda items within the jurisdiction of the NHWNC.

Resident Jeff Bankston was concerned about increased Van Nuys Airport plane traffic increasing the chance of collisions. Guest Glenn Bailey reported that the NCs Congress is soliciting allocations; he'll provide a list of contributing NCs.

6. Discussion and possible action to approve the May 18, 2023 Board Meeting Draft Minutes.

No corrections or amendments were made.

MOTION (by Ms. Minasian, seconded by Ms. Hart): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its May 18, 2023 Regular Board Meeting.

MOTION PASSED by a voice vote of the ten eligible voters present with nine in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Brown, Crone, Elliott, Erdman, Gohel, Hart, Hyman, Minasian and Ramey); one opposed ("No" or "Nay") (Fordyce); zero abstained.

7. Discussion and possible action to approve the May 23, 2023 Board Meeting Draft Minutes.

No corrections or amendments were made.

MOTION (by Ms. Minasian, seconded by Ms. Hart): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its May 23, 2023 Regular Board Meeting.

MOTION PASSED by a voice vote of the 10 eligible voters present with eight in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Crone, Elliott, Erdman, Gohel, Hart, Hyman and Minasian); zero opposed; two abstained (the NHWNC does not count abstentions as votes) (Fordyce and Ramey).

8. **Discussion and possible action** to approve the May 2023 Monthly Expenditure Report.

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Minasian, seconded by Ms. Erdman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Monthly Expenditure Report for May 2023.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a voice vote of the 10 eligible voters present with eight in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Crone, Elliott, Erdman, Gohel, Hart, Hyman and Minasian); one opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Fordyce); one abstained (the NHWNC does not count abstentions as votes) (Ramey).

9. **Discussion and possible action** to add NHWNC Standing Rules:

- a. Board Members must advise the President ASAP when they arrive late or leave early.

MOTION (by Ms. Minasian, seconded by Ms. Crone): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council adds a Standing Rule that Board Members must advise the President ASAP when they arrive late or leave early.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Ramey was concerned about it. Ms. Minasian noted that “it’s a common courtesy.” Mr. Fordyce believed it to be “micromanagement.”

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Ms. Minasian): **PASSED**; zero opposed; zero abstained.

MAIN MOTION PASSED by a voice vote of the 10 eligible voters present with eight in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Crone, Elliott, Erdman, Gohel, Hart, Hyman and Minasian); two opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Fordyce and Ramey); zero abstained.

- b. Board Members must let the President know ASAP if they are unable to attend Board Meetings.

MOTION (by Ms. Minasian, seconded by Ms. Hart): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council adds a Standing Rule that Board Members must let the President know ASAP if they are unable to attend Board Meetings.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Ms. Minasian): **PASSED**; zero opposed; zero abstained.

MAIN MOTION PASSED by a voice vote of the 10 eligible voters present with eight in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Crone, Elliott, Erdman, Gohel, Hart, Hyman and Minasian); two opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Fordyce and Ramey); zero abstained.

Board Member David Hyman left at this time (7:18), making nine Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven). The next Item addressed was Item #11.

10. Guest Speakers and Informational Presentations.

A. Presentation from SoCal SFV Community Group Consultant Timi Romolini regarding Van Nuys Airport Expansion.

Ms. Romolini showed slides and presented. She described Airport operations and expansion plans, and health concerns from increased air traffic. She said that all Neighborhood Councils oppose this because of 1) an unauthorized increase in air traffic; and 2) a lack of physical connections for planes to use clean energy services. She noted that there was no competitive Request for Proposal, and other project concerns. She believed that the project report omits critical information, and that the City Council could but isn’t taking control of the process. Mr. Fordyce thought that Ms. Romolini, as a consultant, was a paid lobbyist, and he claimed that she is; she confirmed and explained that she was not a paid lobbyist. She explained many airport and aviation concepts and procedures.

1. Discussion and possible action to submit an amendment to Community Impact Statement (CIS) supporting Council File CF 22-1489 Van Nuys Airport (VNY) / Development Projects / Community Impact / VNY Citizens Advisory Council.

MOTION (by Ms. Minasian, seconded by Ms. Erdman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will submit an amendment to Community Impact Statement (CIS) supporting Council File CF 22-1489 Van Nuys Airport (VNY) / Development Projects / Community Impact / VNY Citizens Advisory Council.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a voice vote of the nine eligible voters present with all nine in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Crone, Elliott, Erdman, Fordyce, Gohel, Hart, Minasian and Ramey); zero opposed; zero abstained.

2. Discussion and possible action to approve emailing the linked letter regarding systemic issues at LAWA, a Rejection of the Bonseph Helinet Lease proposal, and support for a Moratorium on aviation development/redevelopment at VNY airport.

Ms. Minasian noted that a draft letter was on the NHWNC website.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Ms. Minasian): **PASSED**; zero opposed; zero abstained.

MOTION (by Ms. Minasian, seconded by Ms. Erdman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves emailing the linked letter regarding systemic issues at LAWA, a Rejection of the Bonseph Helinet Lease proposal, and support for a Moratorium on aviation development/redevelopment at VNY airport.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a voice vote of the nine eligible voters present with all nine in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Crone, Elliott, Erdman, Fordyce, Gohel, Hart, Minasian and Ramey); zero opposed; zero abstained.

- 11. Discussion and possible action** to approve the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year Administrative Packet, including the Budget.

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Minasian, seconded by Ms. Crone): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year Administrative Packet, including the Budget.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Fordyce asked what the Minutes Writer does and claimed that the NHWNC has never had an Administrative Assistant.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a voice vote of the nine eligible voters present with seven in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Crone, Elliott, Erdman, Gohel, Hart and Minasian); one opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Fordyce); one abstained (the NHWNC does not count abstentions as votes) (Ramey).

The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #10.

- 12. Discussion and possible action** to purchase Neighborhood Watch signs, NTE \$1,000.

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Minasian, seconded by Mr. Gohel): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will purchase Neighborhood Watch signs, NTE \$1,000.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Brown explained that the signs “would replace” old faded signs. The cost includes installation.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a voice vote of the nine eligible voters present with seven in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Crone, Elliott, Erdman, Gohel, Hart and Minasian); one opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Fordyce); one abstained (the NHWNC does not count abstentions as votes) (Ramey).

- 13. Discussion and possible action** to purchase a three-year AppleCare warranty for a MacBook Air laptop, NTE \$200.

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Minasian, seconded by Ms. Crone): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will purchase a three-year AppleCare warranty for a MacBook Air laptop, NTE \$200.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Ms. Minasian): **PASSED**; zero opposed; zero abstained.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a voice vote of the nine eligible voters present with seven in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Crone, Elliott, Erdman, Gohel, Hart and Minasian); zero opposed; two abstained (the NHWNC does not count abstentions as votes) (Fordyce and Ramey).

14. Discussion and possible action to purchase NHWNC stickers, NTE \$450.

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Minasian, seconded by Ms. Ramey): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will purchase NHWNC stickers, NTE \$450.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Minasian explained the need.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a voice vote of the nine eligible voters present with all nine in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Crone, Elliott, Erdman, Fordyce, Gohel, Hart, Minasian and Ramey); zero opposed; zero abstained.

15. Discussion and possible action to purchase microphones and additional equipment for the Board meet-ing sound system, NTE \$5,000.

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Minasian, seconded by Ms. Hart): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council purchase microphones and additional equipment for the Board meeting sound system, NTE \$5,000.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Minasian explained that the equipment would be owned by the NHWNC. Equipment used at this time belonged to New Horizons. Mr. Fordyce claimed that “we have no documentation.” The process was explained to him.

Board Member Kreshell Ramey stepped out of the meeting at this time, making eight Board Members present online (the NHWNC quorum is seven).

MOTION PASSED by a voice vote of the eight eligible voters present with seven in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Crone, Elliott, Erdman, Gohel, Hart and Minasian); one opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Fordyce); zero abstained.

- 16. Follow-up** regarding status of the Neighborhood Purposes Grant of \$1,500 approved at the April 21, 2022 General Board meeting for Volunteers Cleaning Communities (VCC) for tools and supplies.
- a. Discussion and possible action to appoint a Board Member(s) to be the liaison(s) to the VCC.
Ms. Minasian explained the need. Ms. Elliott and Mr. Brown volunteered.

MOTION (by Ms. Minasian, seconded by Ms. Crone): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council appoints Maggie Elliott and Dave Brown to be the liaisons to Volunteers Cleaning Communities (VCC).

DISCUSSION: Mr. Bailey reported that “several Neighborhood Councils” have the issue of not knowing what VCC did with their supplies. Ms. Minasian reported that VCC Founder Jill Mather [JillMather@earthlink.net] hasn’t responded to several attempts to contact her.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Ms. Minasian): **PASSED**; zero opposed; zero abstained.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a voice vote of the nine eligible voters present with all nine in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Crone, Elliott, Erdman, Fordyce, Gohel, Hart, Minasian and Ramey); zero opposed; zero abstained.

Board Member Pat Crone left at this time (8:25), making eight Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).

17. Discussion and possible action to find more locations for NHWNC meetings.

MOTION (by Ms. Minasian, seconded by Ms. Hart): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will find more locations for NHWNC meetings.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Fordyce indicated that he will report back on the availability of the North Hills Foursquare Church. Mr. Darnell explained the procedure for finding a meeting place. Board Members noted the lack of publically-owned facilities in North Hills.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Ms. Minasian): **PASSED**; zero opposed; zero abstained.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a voice vote of the eight eligible voters present with all eight in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Elliott, Erdman, Fordyce, Gohel, Hart, Minasian and Ramey); zero opposed; zero abstained.

18. Discussion and possible action regarding the appointment of one or two Budget Representatives.

It was noted that Ms. Crone is a Budget Representative and Mr. Fordyce is a Budget Advocate. Ms. Minasian TABLED this Item.

19. Board Member announcements.

Ms. Hart described CSUN Urban Planning Professor Craig Olwert’s student group projects. Mr. Brown described fireworks and Vehicle Code violations enforcement work. Ms. Ramey had emailed Ms. Seinfeld regarding homelessness and reported that the City is identifying land for affordable housing.

20. Discussion and possible action on NHWNC/Committee/Ad-hoc/Liaison/Coalition/CIS filers appointments to add/remove.

There were no appointments or changes at this time.

21. Committee, Ad-hoc, Coalition, Liaison and CIS filer Reports.

Liaisons.

a. DWP Advocacy and MOU Oversight Committee

Ms. Erdman reported.

b. Board of Neighborhood Commissioners

Ms. Minasian reported that the Commissioners had a retreat on 6/4. They talked about establishing Commissioners' priorities i.e, why are we serving as Commissioners? How can we improve our commitment and be better representatives? What role do we want to play within BONC going forth? Identification of topics for future agenda items such as identify possible areas that may require a Commission, attention or action. The Commission will discuss deadlines for their various goals.

c. Budget Advocates Region 2

Mr. Fordyce mentioned Budget Day speakers.

d. Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition

Ms. Minasian reported that LANCC met 6/3/23 presentation re: density bonus and transit-oriented communities incentive project. Report from LANCC's WG4CC committee update on the Declaration of NC Bill of Rights. Update on SB411 & status report on the revised code of Conduct. Informative meeting feel free to listen to the meeting recording about the guest speaker presentation. She noted that 18 Valley NCs are having affirmations, not elections.

e. Neighborhood Council Emergency Preparedness Alliance

f. Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance

g. Plan Check Neighborhood Councils

h. Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils

Ms. Minasian reported that VANCC met was on 6/8/23. Guest speakers CD6 candidates Imelda Padilla & Merisa Alcaez. Guest speaker Rick Cole, Chief Deputy Controller. Election update as of this meeting 18 Valley NCs will not have elections due to not enough candidates. On 7/31 @6:30pm via Zoom Election Feedback. Very informative meeting I encourage all to listen to the recording if you weren't able to attend.

i. West Valley Neighborhood Alliance on Homelessness

j. 2022 Congress of Neighborhoods videos and upcoming 2023 Congress

22. Requests for Future Agenda Items.

There were no requests at this time.

23. Upcoming events: In-person unless otherwise noted.

Ø Sepulveda Basin Vision Plan June 20th 6PM to 8PM Mid-Valley YMCA 6901 Lennox Ave.

Ø LADWP Chatsworth Nature Preserve East Day Open House June 24th 4PM to 8PM.

Ms. Minasian noted the above.

24. Thank outgoing Board Members for their service to our community.

Ms. Minasian thanked Ms. Hart and Mr. Hyman.

25. Finishing Roll Call & Adjournment.

Eight of the 10 Board Members were present at the Finishing Roll Call: Dave Brown (Secretary), Maggie Elliott (Vice-President), Linda Erdman, Garry Fordyce, Punam Gohel, Carol Hart, Madlena Minasian (President) and Kreshell Ramey. Pat Crone (Treasurer) and David Hyman were absent.

Ms. Minasian declared the Meeting **ADJOURNED** at 8:56 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 the NHWNC. The NHWNC Board Meeting Minutes page is <http://www.nhwnc.net/agendas-minutes/minutes-and-agendas>.