



NORTH HILLS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
General Board Meeting Minutes, Thursday, August 20, 2020

DRAFT Minutes [to be replaced by "Approved _[Month]_ _[date]_, 202_[year]_"]

In conformity with the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 (March 17, 2020) and due to concerns over COVID-19, this duly noticed meeting was held entirely online and telephonically.

Document copies were available at <https://www.nhwnc.net/agendas/august-20-2020-general-board-meeting-agenda>.

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 & Call Meeting to Order.

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

2. Roll Call, Determination of Quorum, and Voting Eligibility.

Roll Call was taken by the Secretary. Ten of the 13 Board Members were present online at the Roll Call: Heather Hudson Beeber, Jay Beeber, Gil Brenner, Dave Brown (Secretary), Pat Crone (Vice-President), Maggie Elliott, Carol Hart (President), David Hyman, Madlena Minasian (Treasurer) and Carlos Pelaez. Punam Gohel arrived later. Dan Gibson and Kreshell Ramey 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 confirmed that all Board Members' trainings were compliant and they were eligible to vote. All 13 of the 13 Board Seats were filled (by election or appointment). No Board Seat was vacant. Also attended: approximately 23 Stakeholders and guests.

3. Announcements and Opening Comments – President.

Ms. Hart made announcements; the 3-1-1 City phone services number works.

4. Public Agency Speakers and Announcements.

L.A. City District 12 Councilman John Lee (818-882-1212; Councilmember.Lee@LACity.org; www.CD12.org), reported that "our office is still open . . . we put more money into overtime for [LAPD] Devonshire Division . . . [and] sidewalk cleaning . . . zero-interest loans" are available for small businesses ("15

employees or less”). He encouraged signing up for the newsletter and visiting the Facebook page [<https://www.facebook.com/CouncilmemberJohnLee>]. He said hate-related graffiti would not be tolerated and would be cleaned within two hours of his Office being notified. Regarding homelessness, he said “the plan is to get them all into Project Room Key housing.”

Efren Corral, an LAPD Devonshire Division Senior Lead Officer (office 818-634-0579; 35472@LAPD.online; http://www.LAPDOnline.org/devonshire_community_police_station), encouraged installing vehicle anti-theft devices. Violent crime is down 18.8% from last year, though lately increased. Many assaults are family violence-related. The #1 issue in Devonshire is cars being stolen from and stolen.

Michael Menjivar, Deputy Director of Community Engagement for Kelly Gonez, LAUSD District Six Board Member (818-358-5042; ofc. 213-241-6388; Michael.Menjivar@lausd.net; <http://achieve.lausd.net/gonez>; social media handle @KellyForLASchools), can answer school-related questions. After Item #10, Ms. Gonez encouraged signing up [at <https://achieve.lausd.net/domain/833>] for their newsletter, described District work and answered questions about continuing education during the COVID-19 crisis.

Matt Hernandez, Public Safety Deputy for Councilman Lee (Matthew.Hernandez@LACity.org), reported.

Board Member Punam Gohel arrived at this time (8:00), making 11 Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).

5. General Public Comment

Stakeholder Anita Goldbaum wanted elected officials to post their votes on their websites. Mr. Bailey, a Budget Advocate [<http://ncbala.com>], reported; he can be emailed at GlennBaileyNCBA@yahoo.com. Their next meeting will be September 10th. The next Congress of Neighborhood Councils will be online Saturday, September 26th, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.; registration is open at <https://www.NCCongressLA.com>. The Mayor will speak and there will be three workshop sessions.

6. Discussion and possible action to approve the July 16, 2020 Meeting Minutes.

MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Ms. Beeber): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its July 16, 2020 General Board Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 11 eligible voters present with all 11 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Ms. Beeber, Mr. Beeber, Brenner, Brown, Crone, Elliott, Gohel, Hart, Hyman, Minasian and Pelaez); zero opposed; zero abstained.

7. Report form Budget Advocate Glenn Bailey and NHWNC Budget Representative Pat Crone.

Mr. Bailey reported that the Advocates will issue periodic reports. He encouraged input regarding “the City budget and City services.” The City has “a placeholder budget.”

8. 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.

Ms. Hart encouraged for a Board Member to replace her as Outreach Committee Chair.

9. Discussion and possible action to approve the July 2020 Monthly Expenditure Report.

Ms. Hart requested and the Board agreed to defer this Item to next month’s meeting.

10. Reaffirm any outstanding invoices from Fiscal Year 2019-2020.

Ms. Minasian and Ms. Hart explained challenges

11. Proposed New addition, as a Standing Rule: C. Agenda requests / proposals should include sufficient information to enable wording for an agenda item. Supplemental information / documentation sufficient for agendized discussion should also be provided in time to accompany the agenda posting.

It was confirmed that the Board can amend Standing Rules at any time.

MOTION (by Mr. Beeber, seconded by Mr. Brenner): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will add a new Standing Rule, starting with the wording “Agenda requests / proposals should include sufficient information to enable wording for an agenda item. Supplemental information / documentation sufficient for agendized discussion should also be provided in time to accompany the agenda posting.”

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 11 eligible voters present with all 11 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Ms. Beeber, Mr. Beeber, Brenner, Brown, Crone, Elliott, Gohel, Hart, Hyman, Minasian and Pelaez); zero opposed; zero abstained.

12. Proposed New addition, as a Standing Rule: E. Because NHWNC now has staggered elections with 1/2 the Board seats renewing at each election, any filled vacant seat in either group shall stand for election at the next opportunity. The Board seat duration description (2 or 4 year) remaining unchanged.

Mr. Gohel explained that this is to “clarify the language” of the Bylaws. Mr. Beeber was concerned about doing this as a Standing Rule rather than as a Bylaws revision. Ms. Hart read from the Bylaws.

MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Mr. Gohel): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council proposes, as a Standing Rule, to clarify Bylaws Section 6, Subsection E by adding the wording “Because NHWNC now has staggered elections with 1/2 the Board seats renewing at each election, any filled vacant seat in either group shall stand for election at the next opportunity. The Board seat duration description (2 or 4 year) remaining unchanged.” This shall be contingent upon Empowerla and City approval.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 11 eligible voters present with all 11 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Ms. Beeber, Mr. Beeber, Brenner, Brown, Crone, Elliott, Gohel, Hart, Hyman, Minasian and Pelaez); zero opposed; zero abstained.

Board Member Carlos Pelaez left at this time (9:13), making 10 Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).

13. Neighborhood Council Elections:

The City Clerk has made recommendation for an all Vote-By-Mail NC election in 2021. See City Council File: CF 20-0963.

<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=20-0963>. Include CF 20-0963 on subsequent GBM agendas as a potential action item. Following General Board discussion and approval, file a Community Impact Statement.

Mr. Bailey indicated that the City Council supports the City Clerk’s report recommending Vote-By-Mail. Ms. Crone was concerned that ballots would only be available by downloading from the Internet, which would “disenfranchise a whole lot of people.” Mr. Beeber believed that in-person voting “would not be a problem.” Ms. Beeber believed few people would sign up to receive ballots. Ms. Goldbaum believed online voting would be too complicated. Ms. Hart recommended and the Board agreed to refer this to the NHWNC Rules and Elections Committee. No Motion was made or vote taken.

14. Illegal Fireworks and expired City Council file # CF 17-1421. Discussion & possible motion to compose a Community Impact Statement regarding the expired file. Discussion regarding additional motions intended to mitigate the negative effects of illegal fireworks.

Ms. Hart noted that “there was an unprecedented number of fireworks this year.” Mr. Brown recommended that illegal fireworks possession and use be considered felonies, not misdemeanors; that Police be able to cite the owners of properties on which fireworks are ignited; that fines for possession of illegal fireworks need to start at \$1,000, not \$50; and that fines for selling illegal fireworks should start at \$50,000. Mr. Gohel reported that the LAPD Mission Division Quality of Life Committee has been “dealing with this problem for eight years . . . we want to collect all the stories”;

he encouraged emailing IllegalFireworksReporting@gmail.com. Ms. Hart recommended and the Board agreed to refer this to the Emergency Preparedness and Public Safety Committee. No Motion was made or vote taken.

- 15. CF 20-0656 mot 05-27-2020. Motion to approve submission of a CIS** on CF 20-0656 "Safer At Home Order / COVID-19 Pandemic / Los Angeles Department of Water and Power / Residential and Commercial Utility Bills Impact" [Last changed 07/01/20]. https://clkrep.lacity.org/online/docs/2020/20-0656_mot_05-27-2020.pdf. Thank Councilmember Lee (Mover) and the LA City Council for quickly approving this motion. The motion asks that the LADWP adjust their rates to historic average levels to offset the higher cost of water and power at a time when people are forced to use more water and power while sheltering at home rather than going to school, work, malls, restaurants, libraries, or movie theaters. The motion also calls up the LADWP to provide information on the impact of COVID-19 and the Safer at Home Order on residential water and power usage.

Ms. Hart explained the issue and that City Councilman Lee proposed the Motion. She recommended and the Board agreed for a draft a Community Impact Statement to be posted on the NHWNC website and for this to be Agendized for next month's Board Meeting. No Motion was made or vote taken.

- 16. Motion to approve submission of a CIS** on CF 20-0836 "Information Technology Systems Modernization / Innovative Technologies / Telecommuting Networks / Cloud Computing / Cyber Threats Protection / COVID-19 Pandemic" [Last changed 07/30/20]. https://clkrep.lacity.org/online/docs/2020/20-0836_mot_06-24-2020.pdf. Thank Councilmember Lee (Mover) and the LA City Council for quickly acting on this motion which began in the COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee but has now been referred to the Information, Technology, and General Services Committee. This CF has the potential to effect the delivery of all City Services as it calls for building out and updating the City's out-of-date legacy IT systems and the infrastructure required for cloud computing and telecommuting both of which are even more critical in times of crisis.

Ms. Hart noted that Councilman Lee proposed the Motion; she explained the issue.

MOTION (by Mr. Beeber, seconded by Ms. Hart): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will submit a Community Impact Statement in support of Council File 20-0836 "Information Technology Systems Modernization / Innovative Technologies / Telecommuting Networks / Cloud Computing / Cyber Threats Protection / COVID-19 Pandemic" and thank Councilmember Lee (Mover) and the LA City Council for quickly acting on this Motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 10 eligible voters present with all 10 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Ms. Beeber, Mr. Beeber, Brenner, Brown, Crone, Elliott, Gohel, Hart, Hyman and Minasian); zero opposed; zero abstained.

17. Committee & Liaison Reports

Mr. Brown, Public Safety: the Valley Disaster Preparedness Fair (www.ValleyDisasterFair.com) will be Saturday, October 10, 2020, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. “entirely online” with demonstrations of emergency preparedness items and training sessions.

Ms. Beeber, Homelessness: she was concerned about how and whether funding is being appropriately used from Measure HHH and other sources, and about violence committed by some homeless people.

Mr. Beeber reported that State legislation would allow bypassing environmental review for transit projects; “be aware, they’re constantly changing the rules.”

Ms. Beeber, Planning and Land Use: State Senate Bill 1120 “allows for one single-family property to have four market-rate homes put on it, no garage, no yard” or “an eight-unit apartment building. . . . this is going to totally change” neighborhoods. She encouraged visiting www.LivableCalifornia.org.

Mihran Kalaydjian, a Porter Ranch NC Board Member, announced an LAUSD School Board candidates debate scheduled for September 30th from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

18. Board Member announcements and requests for future agenda items.

Mr. Brown announced an August 22nd event.

19. Motion to adjourn

Ms. Hart declared and the Board agreed to **ADJOURN** the Meeting at 10:28 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>.

North Hills West NC GBM Board Vote Count Summary , MAY 21, 2020

AGENDA ITEM #	2 Roll Call	6 passed	8	9	10	11 passed	12 passed	13	14	15	16 passed	
Carol Hart	X	X				X	X				X	
Pat Crone	X	X				X	X				X	
Madlena Minasian	X	X				X	X				X	
Dave Brown	X	X				X	X				X	
Heather Beeber	X	X				X	X				X	
Jay Beeber	X	X				X	X				X	
Gil Brenner	X	X				X	X				X	
Maggie Elliott	X	X				X	X					
Dan Gibson	Absent											
Punam Gohel	Arr 7:50	X				X	X				X	
David Hyman	X	X				X	X				X	
Carlos Peleaz	X	X				X	X				X	
Kreshell Ramey	Absent											
Maker, 2nd by:		CH/HB				JB/GB	CH/PG				JB/CH	
TOTAL: Quorum is 7	10	11	0	Tabled	0	11	11	> R&E Comm	> EP/PS Comm	Table	10	
Agenda item description	Roll Call	July 16, 2020 Minutes	Committee Liaison changes	July 2020 MER	Reaffirm outstanding invoices	Standing Rule Agenda Requests	Standing Rule election subject to DONE / Clerk review	CIS NC elections VBM	CIS illegal fireworks	CIS LADWP rate fix	CIS upgrading City IT infrastructure	