



NORTH HILLS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
General Board Meeting Minutes, Thursday, January 20, 2022
Approved February 17, 2022

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.

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 7:04 p.m.

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

Roll Call was taken by the Minutes Writer. Eleven of the 13 Board Members were present online at the Roll Call: Sam Acosta, Dave Brown (Secretary), Pat Crone (Vice-President), Maggie Elliott, Garry Fordyce, Dan Gibson (Treasurer), Punam Gohel, Carol Hart (President), David Hyman, Madlena Minasian and Kreshell Ramey. Angel Collins and Carlos Pelaez were absent. The NHWNC quorum (the minimum number of Board Members needing to be present to take binding votes on Agendized Items) was 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. All 13 of the 13 Board Seats were filled (by election or appointment). No Board Seat was vacant. Also attended: at least 15 Stakeholders and guests.

3. Announcements and Opening Comments – Carol N. Hart, President.

A. Update on the proposed Community Partnership between NHWNC & LAHSA – Annual Homeless Count (AHC) in and around the community of North Hills West, with a new date of Tuesday, February 22nd.

Ms. Hart noted the above.

B. Community Outreach & Public Information Table outside of the Mid-Valley Library Saturday, February 5th. C. Stakeholder request that Board Members turn on the video cameras when possible. If not, please post headshot for stakeholders to have a visual reference as to who each of our board members are connecting their faces to comments and suggestions made.

Ms. Hart noted the above. Ms. Crone announced that Haskell St. parking permits start January 24th. Mr. Gohel encouraged everyone to work together.

4. Public Agency Speakers and Announcements.

A. Elected Officials' Field Representatives.

Erin Seinfeld, West Valley Area Representative for Mayor Eric Garcetti (323-552-6730; Erin.Seinfeld@LACity.org; <https://www.lamayor.org/WestValleyAreaRep>), reported on availability of small business grants and Metro transportation discounts. COVID-19 Coronavirus testing has been “turned over to the County Health Department”; she can help connect to them. Information on bin collection service delays is at <https://www.lacitysan.org>.

Kelly Gonez, LAUSD District Six Board Member and Board President [ofc. 213-241-6388; Facebook and Instagram: @KellyForLASchools; Twitter: @Kelly4LASchools; Kelly.Gonez@lausd.net; Newsletter <https://achieve.lausd.net/domain/833>; <http://achieve.lausd.net/gonez>; Charity Castro, Policy & Advocacy Deputy cell 818-200-9599, Charity.Castro@lausd.net], reported on “extensive measures” that LAUSD has taken in response to COVID-19 “to keep the community as safe as possible . . . students . . . are still required to be tested weekly” and masks must be worn at schools [see <https://achieve.lausd.net/covidvaccineappt>]. She described extensive community outreach regarding the Superintendent search; Alberto Carvalho will start March 1st. Enter the art contest at bit.ly/bd6artcontest2022; the topic is “Gratitude and Appreciation.”

Osvaldo Ramirez, Field Representative for U.S. 29th District of California Congressman Tony Cardenas [ofc. 818-221-3718; cell 818-388-0685; Osvaldo.Ramirez@mail.house.gov; <http://cardenas.house.gov>], reported on legislation. See CovidTests.gov to order free at-home COVID-19 tests. To schedule a meeting with the Congressman, email ca29.dcscheduler@mail.house.gov.

B. City Agencies, including the City of Los Angeles' Department of Neighborhood Empowerment.

[*This Item was addressed after Item #5.*] John Darnell, a Neighborhood Council Advocate, L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) [213-978-1551; John.Darnell@LACity.org; www.EmpowerLA.org], reported that the City's Neighborhood Councils election report is available.

5. Guest Speaker Public Service Announcement & Informational Presentations.

A. From yet another multi-lot development to nomination as a Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monument, Project Coordinator, Debora Masterson, will discuss the historical preservation project of an earth 20th century home on Plummer Street in North Hills East. It could work here too! (PowerPoint presentation)

Ms. Masterson (deborawkart@gmail.com) showed slides and presented. The house at 15526 Plummer St. was identified by the City as “a historic resource.” Stakeholder Cody Fuhrman believed the home could become a museum. There were many commenters. For more information about nominating a historic site or creating a historic zone, contact the L.A. Office of Historic Resources <https://planning.lacity.org/preservation-design/program-overview>.

6. Report from Budget Advocates – Glenn Bailey and/or NHWNC Budget Representative Pat Crone.

Mr. Bailey, a Budget Advocate [LABudgetAdvocates@gmail.com; www.BudgetAdvocates.org], reported that the Advocates continue to meet with City Departments regarding their budgets. Budget Day will be Saturday, June 18th with City officials.

7. General Public Comment

Stakeholder Jeff Bankston reported that his truck was broken into again and that more copper street wiring was stolen. Mr. Darnell advised Board Members not to get involved in legal matters.

8. Discussion and possible action: new standing agenda section “Consent Calendar Recommendations” Consent calendar items are considered to be non-controversial such as Previous Meeting Minutes and Previous Months’ MERs will be treated as one agenda item. Any Board member or stakeholder may request that an item be removed. There will be no discussion of these items unless an item is removed from the consent calendar, in which case it will go to the end of New Business and be considered as time allows. (Dave Brown, NHWNC Secretary) MOTION: The NHWNC Board approves the use of a ‘Consent Calendar’ for all outstanding items i.e. • Discussion/ Motion to approve the December 2021 Monthly Expenditure Report and Balances (MER) • Discussion/Motion to approve the November 18 & December 16, 2021 General Board Meeting Minutes.

Mr. Brown explained what a Consent Calendar Motion is. It was agreed not to have a Consent Calendar Motion.

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Ms. Elliott): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Monthly Expenditure Report for December 2021.

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

The following correction to the November 18, 2021 General Board Meeting Minutes was requested: page four, Item #9: “Monthly Expenditure Report for August 2021” should read “Monthly Expenditure Report for October 2021.”

MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Ms. Crone): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its November 18, 2021 General Board Meeting as corrected.

MOTION WITHDRAWN (by Ms. Hart).

Ms. Hart **POSTPONED** the above Item.

MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Ms. Elliott): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its December 16, 2021 General Board Meeting as written.

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

Guest Steve Thomason was concerned about continued certain input from one Board Member.

Board Member Madlena Minasian left at this time, making 10 Board Members present online (the NHWNC quorum was seven).

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 10 eligible voters present with all 10 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Acosta, Brown, Crone, Elliott, Fordyce, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Hyman and Ramey); zero opposed; zero abstained.

9. **Treasurer’s Report**: Discussion and possible action: Update to Administrative Packet (Budget) for FY 2021-2022.

Mr. Gibson said there were “no changes at this time.”

10. **Discussion and possible action**: NHWNC presence and participation in LAHSA’s Annual Homeless Count -Our official presence in support of volunteer efforts demonstrates NHWNC’s commitment to being part of the solution and the fundamentally just and humane principle - Everyone counts. Motion: The NHWNC allocates up to \$100 for light refreshments to be served at an outreach table / booth set-up at the North Hills West Deployment Site at New Horizons for the AHC volunteers.

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Ms. Crone): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council allocates up to \$100 for light refreshments to be served at an outreach table or booth set-up at the North Hills West Deployment Site at New Horizons for the Annual Homeless Count volunteers.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 10 eligible voters present with all 10 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Acosta, Brown, Crone, Elliott, Fordyce, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Hyman and Ramey); zero opposed; zero abstained.

Neighborhood Purposes Grant Applications to be considered (if any): NPG Applications and Support documents available on our website at: www.nhwnc.net, Final amounts, if any, will be determined by board vote. - NONE AT THIS TIME –

- 11. Discussion and possible action** to reimburse NHWNC Secretary Dave Brown (as per NC Funding Policy 3.0 - Board Member Reimbursements) \$753.39 for the reinstatement, renewal, and secure maintenance of the NHWNC website domain.

Mr. Brown showed a slide listing expenses.

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Ms. Elliott): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the expenditure of \$753.39 for the reinstatement, renewal, and secure maintenance of the NHWNC website domain.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Hart explained the technical reasons for the need; she already discussed this with the City Clerk's NCs Funding Unit. Mr. Brown further explained some of the long history.

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

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Mr. Gohel): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the reimbursement of NHWNC Secretary Dave Brown (as per NC Funding Policy 3.0 - Board Member Reimbursements) \$753.39 for the reinstatement, renewal, and secure maintenance of the NHWNC website domain.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Hart reported that she was told to make the above two Motions. Mr. Gibson further explained it. Mr. Gohel supported Mr. Brown's work to keep the website going.

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

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

- 12. Discussion and possible action** to accept the resignations tendered by NHWNC Board Members.
A. Treasurer and General Board Member, Dan Gibson effective February 17, 2021.

Ms. Hart announced the above.

MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Mr. Gibson): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council accepts the resignation of Treasurer and General Board Member Dan Gibson effective February 17, 2022 at 11:59 p.m.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 10 eligible voters present with all 10 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Acosta, Brown, Crone, Elliott, Fordyce, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Hyman and Ramey); zero opposed; zero abstained.

- B. Board Member Carlos Pelaez, Past Beautification & Infrastructure and Ad Hoc Parking Committee Chair

Ms. Hart announced the above.

MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Mr. Gohel): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council accepts the resignation tendered by NHWNC Board Member Carlos Pelaez.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 10 eligible voters present with all 10 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Acosta, Brown, Crone, Elliott, Fordyce, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Hyman and Ramey); zero opposed; zero abstained.

- C. Two Board Seats, will be vacated, therefore an application [https://clerk.lacity.org/sites/g/files/wph1491/files/2021-04/ENG_2021_NC_Candidate_Filing_Application_with_Board_Affirmation%20\(1\).pdf](https://clerk.lacity.org/sites/g/files/wph1491/files/2021-04/ENG_2021_NC_Candidate_Filing_Application_with_Board_Affirmation%20(1).pdf) for new Board Member appointment may be submitted to secretary@nhwnc.net

Ms. Hart encouraged recruiting new Board Members.

- 13. Discussion and possible action:** Nomination of New Board Treasurer. NOTE: Multiple candidates are possible as both board members and stakeholders are free to submit nominations.
- A. President Hart nominates Sam Acosta based upon his professional expertise and upstanding character.

Ms. Hart relayed that she was advised by Mr. Darnell to delay this nomination.

- B. The floor will be open to hear any other nominations.

This Item was not addressed.

- 14. Review** of Board Member Attendance Policy – Per current Bylaws (approved 11/12/20) “Upon a Board Member missing three (3) consecutive or a total of five (5) Board Meetings during any twelve (12) month period, the Presiding Officer shall notify the Board member that their seat has been declared vacant and that the

Member is removed from the Board.” To ensure full accountability & for future reference see: <https://www.nhwnc.net/compliance>.

This Item was not addressed.

- 15. Nomination** of Committee Chairs, Members, and various NC Liaisons - Discussion & possible action Stakeholders are welcome to nominate themselves or others. This includes but is not limited to: Data Liaison Appointments: (Carol Hart & Dave Brown have volunteered. We still need 1 additional person who will be granted both access and the authority to compile reports using available city-curated data.).

A. Sam Acosta – Emergency Preparedness and Public Safety Committee Member (Maggie Elliott).

It was noted that Mr. Acosta already is a Committee Member.

B. Resignation of Current EP & PS Committee Chair (Maggie Elliott)

See the below Item.

C. Nomination of New EP & PS Committee Chair (Sam Acosta, nominated by Maggie Elliott)

MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Ms. Ramey): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council accepts the resignation tendered by NHWNC EP & PS Committee Chair Maggie Elliott and appoints Sam Acosta as the new Chair.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 10 eligible voters present with all 10 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Acosta, Brown, Crone, Elliott, Fordyce, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Hyman and Ramey); zero opposed; zero abstained.

D. Announcement: tentative monthly meetings to be held on the 4th Thursday of each month. Next meeting will be held next Thursday, January 27th at 7 pm. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86099079314>

- 16. Discussion and possible motion** to include “The Pledge of Allegiance” prior starting the NHWNC meeting (right after -Roll call.) A virtual display of the US and California flags could be screen shared in lieu of doing so in person. It can be recited by one board member or all board members in unison. As citizens of this nation, “The pledge of Alliance” reminds us that we must be one nation, working united, committed to liberty, and equality for all citizens; in our community, our State and our country.” (Sam Acosta)

This Item was not addressed.

- 17. Budget Expenditure Recommendation** for Additional Outreach Materials – Discussion and possible motion to set aside up to \$1000 for the purchase of promotional outreach items. List of recommended items includes updated

brochures, committee outreach fliers, possible promotional materials with NC Logo - pot holders, bottle openers, textured lid-opening pads, 2022 calendars, “what to do/who to contact in an emergency” refrigerator magnets, notepads, boxed water, small snacks (pre-packaged cookies, pretzels, candy, protein bars.) Also recommend purchase of two large banners with grommets to be hung from canopy or truck sides, during clean-ups neighborhood beautification projects to promote more stakeholder engagement. Promotional items are intended strictly for NHWNC co-sponsoring events/community outreach items. This will enable quick response for a “pop-up” outreach table at community events/activities, invitation working days, etc. in addition to calendared events. We recommend the purchase of small more practical items that are both durable and useful - likely to be retained by stakeholders so our logo & website will continue to attract more attention.

This Item was not addressed.

- 18. Budget Expenditure Recommendation** for Additional Outreach Materials – Discussion and possible motion to set aside up to \$300 for the purchase of small to medium “grab and go” storage totes for rapid deployment of outreach volunteers at community events. Totes would hold the aforementioned promotional outreach items.

This Item was not addressed.

- 19. Californians for Community Planning Initiative** - Discussion and possible motion to approve generation of an Open Community Impact Statement - asking City Council [and other elected officials] to support putting this initiative on next November's Ballot. The following PLUM Committee motion [for Board recommendation] passed unanimously on December 2, 2021: MOTION (by Ms. Crone, seconded by Mr. Cockerell): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council recommends that the Board support the Californians for Community Planning Initiative to be on the November 2022 ballot. Board Motion: The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will submit an OPEN CIS requesting City Council and other elected officials support placing the Californians for Community Planning Initiative on the November 2022 ballot.

This Item was not addressed.

Rules & Elections Committee Recommendations (to be presented monthly on an “as available” basis):

Community Impact Statement Proposals: CFMS = Council File Management System (LA City Clerk). Discussion and possible motion to approve generation of a Community Impact Statement on:

- 20. Council File 19-0603** - Expansion of Fire District 1 Feasibility Study – Discussion and possible action: (postponed)
A. Motion: NHWNC will issue a CIS approving the expansion of Fire District 1.

This Item was not addressed.

B. Motion: NHWNC will issue a CIS opposing the expansion of Fire District 1.

This Item was not addressed.

C. Motion: NHWNC will issue a CIS - opposing unless amended - the expansion of Fire District 1. NOTE: The Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance voted unanimously to oppose expansion. Some feel that this would be a boon to developers opening the door to the use of more climate-damaging concrete and steel construction used in the building of higher density structures in what are currently low-density residential neighborhoods. Fire and Safety Codes are already in place to ensure public safety. The study is already complete. A 47-page report was generated by the Department of Building & Safety: https://clkrep.lacity.org/online/docs/2019/19-0603_rpt_dbs_%205-27-21.pdf. A 2-page Public Safety Committee Report: https://clkrep.lacity.org/online/docs/2019/19-0603_rpt_ps_6-2-21.pdf. <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2021-08-21/california-burning-is-it-time-to-rethink-forest-management>

This Item was not addressed.

21. Council File 20-0668-S7 Discussion and possible motion to approve generation of a Community Impact Statement on Los Angeles City Council Redistricting Commission / City of Los Angeles / Council Districts / Recommended Map: <https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=20-0668-S7>

This Item was not addressed.

22. Committee & Liaison Reports (if any) Discussion and possible action on the formation of new Ad Hoc changes to Standing and Ad Hoc committees as well as NHWNC Liaisons Legislative Tracking Committee.

This Item was not addressed.

23. Board Member Announcements and Requests for Future Agenda Items.

This Item was not addressed.

24. Motion to adjourn

Ms. Hart **ADJOURNED** the Meeting with no opposition at 10:08 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>.

AGENDA ITEM # 7:00P-10:08P cap 32	2 Roll Call, Eligibility	8.1 Approve Nov 18, 2021 minutes	8.2 Approve Dec 16, 2021 minutes	8.3 Approve Dec 2021 MER	10 Approve \$100 for light refreshments Homeless Count Feb 22	11.1 Approve Payments to registrars to re-engage NC website	11.2 Approve Board member Reimbursement for web renewals 11.1	12 Accept scheduled resignation of Boardmember Dan Gibson
CAROL HART	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
PAT CRONE	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
DAN GIBSON	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
DAVE BROWN	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SAM ACOSTA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
ANGEL COLLINS	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
MAGGIE ELLIOTT	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
GARRY FORDYCE	X	X	X	N	X	N	N	X
PUNAM GOHEL	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
DAVID HYMAN	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MADLENA MINASSIAN	X	X	O	X	O	O	O	O
CARLOS PELEAZ	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
KRESHELL RAMEY	X	X	X	N	X	A	A	X
Maker, 2nd by:			CH-ME	CH-ME	CH-PC	CH-ME	CH-PG	CH-DG
TOTAL: Quorum is 7	11		10 Y	9 Y, 2 N	10 Y	8 Y, 1 N, 1 A	8 Y, 1 N, 1 A	10 Y
Agenda voted item description X=Yes, N=No, A=Abstain, R=Recuse, O=Absent I=Ineligible	Roll Call	Table			CP @ New Horizons 6pm to 11pm	register.com , invoices follow agenda on website, total \$753.39	Dave Brown \$753.39	Effective Feb 17, 2022 11:59pm

12 Accept resignation of Boardmember Carlos Peleaz	15 Committee assignments
X	X
X	X
X	X
X	X
X	X
O	O
X	X
X	X
X	X
X	X
O	O
O	O
X	X
CH-PG	CH-KR
10Y	10 Y
Effective Jan 20, 2022	Emergency Preparedness & Public Safety Chair, Maggie Elliott to Sam Acosta.