



NORTH HILLS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

General Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 17, 2014

at New Horizons, 15725 Parthenia Street, North Hills CA 91343

NHWNC (and all other) Meeting Minutes are a summary, not an exact, verbatim, word-for-word transcript of what was said at a Meeting. The only two exceptions are the Motions shown in italics and quotes shown with quotation marks (“ ”) at the beginning and ending of a word or words. The Minutes are not, nor were they ever meant to be, a comprehensive record of what was said about an issue or project.

1. Welcome, Flag Salute, Roll Call and announcement of quorum.

President John McGovern called the Meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. Roll Call was taken by the Secretary. Ten of the 13 Board Members were present at the beginning of the Meeting: John McGovern (President), Dan Gibson (Vice-President), Carol Hart (Secretary), Dave Brown, Armando Diaz, Garry Fordyce, Punam Gohel, David Hyman, Mike Khalid, and Nancy Xander. Board Members absent: Debra Perkins (Treasurer) (excused), Carlos Maya (excused) and Ed Serrano (unexcused). The NHWNC quorum (the minimum number of Board Members needing to be present to take binding votes on Agendized Items) is seven (see <http://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/NorthHillsWestNC-Bylaws.pdf>), so the Board could take such votes. All 13 of the 13 Board Seats were filled. No Board Seats were vacant. Also attending: 24 Stakeholders and guests.

Mr. Diaz explained that the website was “hacked into three or four weeks ago . . . we are working” to fix it. He advised to use <http://NorthHillsWestNC.empowerla.org>, which is working well, rather than www.northhillswestnc.empowerla.org, which is not working properly at all.

2. General Public Comment

Elliott Durant of Nextdoor.com explained that “Nextdoor is a private social network... it’s free.” The Mayor, the LAPD and some Neighborhood Councils are participating. He explained that “the difference between us and Facebook and others is that you must verify that you live in your neighborhood.” He described the verification process. Stakeholder Candy Lee was concerned about “parking restrictions that are no longer viable on” Tupper between Haskell and the Freeway and asked that this be agendized for the next General Board Meeting. Stakeholder Rusty Feyer was concerned with illegal sign postings around the neighborhood. She also expressed concern about loud activity (car engines revving and tires squealing) until 2:00 a.m. in and around a nearby group home.

3. Public Speakers

DONE Rep.: Melvin Canas, Neighborhood Empowerment Analyst, DONE, (818-374-9953; cell 323-972-7782; Melvin.Canas@LACity.org; www.EmpowerLA.org), was not present and there was no report.

CD 12 Rep.: Ron Rubine, Field Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilman Mitch Englander (818-882-1212; Ron.Rubine@LACity.org), was not present and there was no report.

BONC Report - Lydia Grant: (Board of Neighborhood Commissioners) reported that the Agenda posting policy changed and they are addressing "bad behavior." She encouraged waiting to allocate website funding. In response to illegal sign-postings she recommended contacting the Department of Building and Safety (Call 311.) and offered an innovative solution: Invite commercial enterprise sign posters to come give a presentation about their business during a General Board Meeting. This would offer everyone involved an opportunity to be heard and resolve issues amicably.

John McGovern read a prepared statement to clarify board and committee structure.

[*The following was said after Agenda Item #5. a. funding Motion and the discussion.*]

Pamela Bolin, a Neighborhood Councils Budget Advocate, described their work and reminded the Board of the need to appoint two Budget Advocates for North Hills West Neighborhood Council. She relayed that Deputy Rick Cole wants Neighborhood Councils to ask Stakeholders for their City Budget reduction ideas.

US Congressman Tony Cardenas office representative Brian Gavidia, was not present and there was no report.

Representatives from other public agencies.

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>), encouraged contacting him with concerns.

4. Board Reports

President (McGovern): Update on Board phone number.
Mr. McGovern is working with Verizon on a "Board phone."

Vice President (Gibson) Mr. Gibson indicated there was no report.

Secretary (Hart)

Ms. Hart "culled . . . 479" Stakeholder email addresses and is "building a database... Stakeholders are happy to be contacted."

Treasurer (Perkins): approval of monthly expenditure reports and other pending financial matters. Ms. Perkins was not present and there was no report.

5. New Business

a. Discussion and possible Motion [see below]. Includes discussion on alternate allocations for Budget categories. (Debra Perkins)
Copies of the NHWNC Budget and "2014/2015 Strategic Plan" were distributed.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. McGovern, seconded by Ms. Xander): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves its fiscal year 2014-2015 Budget package.

DISCUSSION: Mr. McGovern explained that five Board Members submitted Budget requests and that "we will be making changes later on." Stakeholder Mary Armenteros believed that too much was budgeted for outreach and not enough for community projects. Ms. Hart "would like to see more durable goods . . . and fewer consumables" for more of the event expenses. She and Mr. McGovern clarified that Committees can discuss budget needs and bring them to the Board for further consideration.

AMENDMENT to the MOTION (by Mr. Fordyce, seconded by Ms. Hart): to add the phrase “with \$8,000 reallocated out of the Category 200 Outreach into Category 300 Community Improvement.”

DISCUSSION: Ms. Armenteros recommend reallocating \$10,000. There was more discussion of the possible reallocation and the consensus was to keep the amount at \$8000, as per the above wording.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Mr. McGovern); there was no objection.

AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with all ten in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Diaz, Fordyce, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Hyman, Khalid, McGovern and Xander).

AMENDED FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with all ten in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Diaz, Fordyce, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Hyman, Khalid, McGovern and Xander).

b. Motion [see below].

MOTION (by Mr. McGovern, seconded by Mr. Gibson): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves its June 4, 2014 Special Board Meeting Minutes.

MOTION to TABLE (by Mr. McGovern, seconded by Mr. Gibson): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council TABLES approval of its June 4, 2014 Special Board Meeting Minutes.

MOTION to TABLE PASSED with no objection.

c. Motion to approve the June 19, 2014 General Board Meeting Minutes.

MOTION to TABLE (by Mr. McGovern, seconded by Mr. Gohel): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council TABLES approval of its June 19, 2014 General Board Meeting Minutes and its June 25, 2014 Special Board Meeting Minutes.

MOTION to TABLE PASSED by a voice vote with no objection.

d. Motion to approve the June 25, 2014 Special Board Meeting Minutes.
See above Item #5. c. (Tabled)

e. Motion [see below].

MOTION to TABLE (by Mr. McGovern, seconded by Mr. Gibson): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council TABLES approval of its July 2, 2014 Joint Special Board and Committee Meeting Minutes.

MOTION to TABLE PASSED by a voice vote with no objection.

f. Motion [see below] (Debra Perkins)

MOTION (by Mr. McGovern, seconded by Ms. Hart): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council selects Board Members Debra Perkins and Punam Gohel as its Budget Representatives to represent North Hills West Neighborhood Council and attend Budget Day on August 16 at LA City Hall.

DISCUSSION: Mr. McGovern indicated that Ms. Perkins said she would attend and that Stakeholders are welcomed.

MOTION PASSED by a voice vote with no objection.

- g. Presentation by Lydia Grant, discussion and possible Motion to support the Volunteer award program. No funding necessary. (Nancy Xander)
Lydia Grant, BONC [L.A. Board of Neighborhood Commissioners] Commissioner [ofc. 213.978.1551; cell 818.470.6629; Lydia.Grant@LACity.org; Commissioners@EmpowerLA.org; www.EmpowerLA.org], distributed copies of program information, and described it and how to participate. She said “it’s a great way to recognize veterans . . . senior citizens . . . volunteers . . . families” and can indicate the value of Neighborhood Councils to the City; “it’s a great outreach tool.” She suggested an Annual Recognition Event with slide shows of people volunteering throughout the community. At the first event you can sign-up new volunteers. Mr. Fordyce requested and Ms. Xander agreed to Agendize this for the next Outreach Committee Meeting.
- h. Presentation by Mike Kabo, program chair for the Granada Hills Street Faire, and Motion to approve a Neighborhood Purpose Grant for \$2,500 in support of the Granada Hills Street Faire to be held October 11, 2014. Recommendation approved by the Outreach Committee on July 2, 2014. (Nancy Xander).
Mr. McGovern requested and it was agreed to TABLE this Item.
- i. Presentation, discussion and possible Motion [see below]. (Nancy Xander)
Ms. Xander explained that “Valley Park church has offered us their facility at no charge.” Stakeholder Jaynee Thorne described a music band that could perform.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. McGovern, seconded by Ms. Xander): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves up to \$5,000 to hold a North Hills West Community BBQ. Funding request to cover food and a live band at the Valley Park Church on September 6, 2014.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Armenteros and Mr. Fordyce believed the event would not have enough outreach impact to justify the allocation. Stakeholder Anita Goldbaum believed that there was not enough time to organize the event. Ms. Thorne described her experience organizing events, suggested promotional ideas and volunteered to help. Mr. McGovern clarified the location as “next to the Library on Nordhoff.” Ms. Xander said the time would be “afternoon to evening... we have to be completely out by 9:00 p.m.” and “it will be a barbeque presented by the Neighborhood Council . . . not a pot luck.” Mr. Brown pointed out that “this might be a significant opportunity to do some extensive outreach” that could include government agencies.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Mr. McGovern); there was no objection.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with all ten in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Diaz, Fordyce, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Hyman, Khalid, McGovern and Xander).

- j. Discussion and possible Motion to approve up to \$500 for National Night Out – Devonshire Division to be held August 5, 2014 at Devonshire Division of LAPD station, Devonshire Street, Northridge. Discussion and assignment of staffing for this event. (Dave Brown)

Mr. Brown explained that the event would be at the Northridge Park Recreation Center, 18300 Lamarsh Ave. and the movie “Frozen” will be shown outside.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. McGovern, seconded by Mr. Hyman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves up to \$500 for National Night Out – Devonshire Division to be held August 5, 2014 at the Northridge Park Recreation Center, 18300 Lamarsh Ave., Northridge.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Brown added that the NHWNC would have to bring its own table and chairs; the Park is one block from the LAPD Station; and that around seven Neighborhood Councils are funding the event.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with all ten in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Diaz, Fordyce, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Hyman, Khalid, McGovern and Xander).

- k. Discussion and possible Motion to approve up to \$500 for National Night Out – Mission Hills Division to be held on August 5, 2014 at Mission Hills Division of LAPD station, Sepulveda Blvd., Mission Hills. Discussion and assignment of staffing for this event. (Dave Brown)

Mr. Brown explained that this event will be held at 5:00-8:00 p.m. at Brand Park between Columbus and Arleta Streets. “The stage will be in the west end . . . all the parking is along the street and to the east.”

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. McGovern, seconded by Mr. Gohel): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves up to \$500 for National Night Out – Mission Hills Division to be held on August 5, 2014 at Brand Park between Columbus and Arleta Streets, Mission Hills.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Xander said the allocation could be “from Events and Refreshments.” Mr. Brown added that “all we have to do is bring our tablecloth.”

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Mr. McGovern); there was no objection.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with all ten in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Diaz, Fordyce, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Hyman, Khalid, McGovern and Xander).

- l. Discussion and possible Motion [see below]. Recommendation approved by Outreach Committee on July 2, 2014. (David Hyman)

Mr. Hyman explained the outreach opportunity at the Library’s “Saturday movies . . . 25 to 50 people attend.”

FUNDING MOTION (by the Outreach Committee): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves up to \$200 to provide refreshments for Library Movies.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Hyman explained that it “could be \$25-\$50 per movie” allocation.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Mr. McGovern); there was no objection.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with nine in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Diaz, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Hyman, Khalid, McGovern and Xander); one abstained (Fordyce).

Mr. McGovern explained in response to a question that he “will Agendize for the next Meeting . . . per the Bylaws . . . to remove Ed Serrano.” Mr. McGovern is waiting for the City Attorney to authorize the letter.

m. Discussion and possible Motion [see below]. (Dave Brown)

Mr. Brown explained that the signs are available in sizes 12” x 18’ and 18” x 24” at a cost of “\$45 per installation . . . the specifications . . . are available online . . . the remaining 11 signs are ready to install.”

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Gohel): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves up to \$500 for installation of the remaining 11 North Hills West Neighborhood Watch signs

DISCUSSION: Mr. Brown explained that “four agencies” must approve sign locations. Submit sign location requests to NWatch@NHWNC.net.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Mr. McGovern); there was no objection.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with all ten in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Diaz, Fordyce, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Hyman, Khalid, McGovern and Xander).

n. Discussion and possible Motion [see below]. (Dave Brown)

Mr. Brown explained that the signs have “proven to be moderately popular.”

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. McGovern, seconded by Ms. Xander): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves up to \$1,000 to purchase and install additional North Hills West Neighborhood Watch signs.

DISCUSSION: There was discussion that the funding would be allocated from the Community Outreach Budget. Mr. Brown added that competitive bids were \$97 and \$125 per installation.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Mr. McGovern); there was no objection.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with all ten in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Diaz, Fordyce, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Hyman, Khalid, McGovern and Xander).

- o. Discussion and possible Motion to approve up to \$500 for a NHWNC Board retreat. Time, date, location, additional details to be determined.
Mr. McGovern requested and it was agreed to WITHDRAW this Item.
- p. Discussion and possible Motion to approve up to \$500 to support and participate at the Emergency Preparedness Fair to be held on September 27, 2014 at Fire Station 87.
(Dave Brown)
Mr. McGovern requested and it was agreed to WITHDRAW this Item.
- q. Discussion and possible Motion [see below]. (Nancy Xander)

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. McGovern, seconded by Ms. Xander): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves up to \$4,000 for a Westsider Newsletter to be mailed to all business and residential stakeholders in North Hills West.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Xander encouraged Stakeholders to participate with the Outreach Committee. The allocation would be for one issue.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Mr. McGovern); there was no objection.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with all ten in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Diaz, Fordyce, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Hyman, Khalid, McGovern and Xander).
- r. Discussion and possible Motion to approve up to \$600 to collect Real Estate information on new residents to North Hills, and to send neighborhood welcome packages to those houses. (Mike Khalid)
Mr. Khalid explained that “we have already started compiling information” and the NHWNC would “invite them to our Meetings.” Mr. McGovern requested and it was agreed to TABLE this Item.
- s. Discussion and possible Motion to approve up to \$500 for the North Hills West Neighborhood Council holiday party refreshments for our December 18, 2014 Meeting.
(Nancy Xander)
Mr. McGovern requested and it was agreed to WITHDRAW this Item.
- t. Discussion and possible Motion to approve up to \$1,000 for additional outreach promo items for events – trifold and fans. Current inventory includes 112 fans and 100 trifold brochures. Five banners with various website addresses and 1 pop up banner. (Nancy Xander)
Mr. McGovern requested and it was agreed to WITHDRAW this Item.
- u. Requesting bids for NHWNC website creation/development/maintenance and consolidation of existing NC web addresses in one fully functional website. Bid deadline is July 31, 2014. Submit bids to Technology Committee chair Armando Diaz (adiaz.nhwnc@gmail.com) for review and recommendations from this Committee.
Mr. McGovern noted the above and that “we have four to five people that have communicated” and provided “bids and information.”

6. Board comments

Mr. Hyman read aloud a letter to the NHWNC from Vicky Magaw, Senior Librarian, Mid Valley Regional Library (818-895-3650; <http://www.lapl.org/user/82/contact>;

<http://www.lapl.org/branches/mid-valley>) thanking the NHWNC for its \$3,000 in funding and describing recognition of the NHWNC in the Library.

Ms. Xander requested sending pothole repair requests to CMaya.nhwnc@gmail.com.
Mr. Fordyce requested an official accounting of all actual expenditures for the 2013-2014 fiscal year, as a reference for the Board to use in working-out their responses to the Strategic Plan portion of the Annual Budget package.

Mr. McGovern reminded that tables the NHWNC co-funded with the Library are held there and only used by the Library and the NHWNC.

Lydia Grant reminded those in attendance that the BONC meeting originally scheduled on August 5th was postponed to August 7th and that it will be held on the lot of CBS studios. She also mentioned her July 29th, Roundtable event, and the VANC mixer.

7. Motion to adjourn

MOTION to ADJOURN (by Mr. McGovern, seconded by Ms. Xander).

MOTION to ADJOURN PASSED by a voice vote with no objection.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 9:48 p.m.

Minutes written by DL, edited by NHWNC.