

Thursday 8-20-2015 DRAFT MINUTES FOR NORTH HILLS WEST  
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETING  
New Horizons - Sam's Cafe 15725 Parthenia Street North Hills 91343  
(Krista Martin, Minute Recorder)

**7:12 PM** - Roll Call

Attendees:

Present: McGovern, Gibson, Hart, Brown, Gohel, Hyman,  
Phelps, Fordyce, Mick, Khalid, Xander

Absent: Diaz, Santos

Quorum (7 of 13), 11 Board members present of 13

**7:14 PM**

Senior Lead Officer Effren Corral, Devonshire

1. Spoke about latest trends, and responded to a variety of questions.

Ron Rubine - Council District 12 Mitch Englander's Office

1. Provided fliers focusing on homelessness in L.A.
  - a. They are focusing on sheltering people.
  - b. Spoke about LA housing services authority
2. Upcoming Event re: Housing the Homeless, SFV Rescue Mission
  - a. Date: Sept. 9th, from 5 to 7 PM, 8756 Canby Ave, Northridge
  - b. Constituents of North Hills welcome to attend.
3. High Capacity Gun Purchases
  - a. Spoke about closing loophole so that people can no longer possess magazines. Not just that they won't be allowed to buy them.
  - b. It's a symbolic legislative effort to curtail incidents.
  - c. City Council is considering exemptions for some (e.g. former LAPD officers, City Attorneys, others who have put themselves in "harm's way".)
4. Drones – Safety Hazard
  - a. Motions have been introduced concerning drone use under auspices of FAA.
5. Uber, LIFT and airport issues in front of council.
6. Stakeholder (Jim Cockrell) commented.
7. Parking Issues on Aqueduct Street
  - a. People are doing things on their own
  - b. Requesting parking restrictions.
  - c. Problem that people can't put cans out on trash day because of non-residents parking.

- d. Mailman not leaving mail on Aqueduct because of non-resident parked cars blocking mailboxes.
- e. Stakeholder Jim – “first time I’ve heard hostilities in voices.” Doesn’t want “good people in jail because they have no place to park.”
- f. Ron says he’d send email to “Mitch” the following day (Fri. Aug. 21).

**7:31 PM**

Glenn Bailey

1. Annual Budget Day
  - a. It’s at end of June.
  - b. Now have a year-long process so if have a problem that effects a department re: money (sidewalks, potholes etc.) they are authorized by city charter to offer input and advice.
  - c. Sat. Oct. 17th regional budget day
    - i. Broudy center in Van Nuys for all neighborhood councils and stakeholders.
    - ii. Express priorities and make sure your community is represented.
  
2. Annual congress of neighborhoods
  - a. Takes place once a year at city hall.
  - b. September 26<sup>th</sup> is date. Registration open today (brought flyers).
  - c. Now have 40 workshops because of increased attendance.
    - i. Many fill up.
    - ii. Capacity based on registration.
    - iii. Urges go on line.
  
3. Spoke about Northridge East Neighborhood Council e-mail blasts. And that he also serves on that Neighborhood Council.
  
4. Neighborhood Watch sign – just wanted to show it to council.
  - a. He worked on it.
  - b. It’s larger than regular one. Largest allowed.
  - c. Design already approved.
  - d. Finding a company to produce it \$22 per sign.
    - i. This amount is 1/3 of cost but company is not in CD12 or valley.
    - ii. 100 signs coming up on 100 blocks.
    - iii. The hardware and strapping and installation cost additional.

**7:38pm**

Brian Gavidia – Congressman Tony Cardina’s (congressman’s) office.

1. Will be continuing meetings with NC next week.
  
2. He’ll be hosting job fair in Pacoima, at Pacoima Charter School. 9am – 1pm.
  
3. He’s looking for students to participate in youth advisory council.
  - a. So they can tell congress what they want and need and what needs to be approved.

- b. Open to college, middle school, high school students and even those in technical schools.
4. IRAN deal
- a. congressman still hasn't made a decision.
    - i. Toughest in his career.
    - ii. Still looking at it.
    - iii. Experts met with Presidents and those from President's administration.
    - iv. As soon as he knows what congressman's stance is he'll let us know.
    - v. Contact info: 8134 Van Nuys Blvd, Panorama City 818781-7407  
brian.gavidia@mail.house.gov.      Congress.house.gov.

**7:42pm**

North Hills Wellness Center

- 1. Opening is no longer 22<sup>nd</sup> of August.
- 2. Had amazing community response.
- 3. Interviewing more staff to tend to the community.
- 4. Some services being offered:
  - a. General Medicine
  - b. Women's health
  - c. Prenatal
  - d. Pediatric teen clinic
  - e. Dental
  - f. Optometry
  - g. and more.
- 5. Valley Community Healthcare
  - a. Serving San Fernando Valley for 40 years.
  - b. David Hyman will handle dates and provide updates.

**7:49pm**

Scott Schmerelson representative - School Board Member

- 1. First time working for the school district.
- 2. Seeking input from stakeholders.
- 3. Neighborhood purpose grants help local schools.
- 4. Superintendent search input welcome.

Events

- a. Spelling bees (Winnetka doing it).
- b. Valley wide science fair.

5. Safe routes to school.
  - a. There's federal money to fix routes to school.
6. School board member Schmerelson
  - a. Is very active.
  - b. Will swap places with him next time.
7. Passed out event flier.
  - a. Event on 19th in office in valley.
  - b. Want to be active and invite people over.

### **7:52pm**

Jay Handel – Empower L.A.

1. Need to form NHWNC election committee soon.
  - a. Urges that it's on next agenda to be in committee.
  - b. The city has theory that board members are supposed to find people to run against us. You have to get candidates.
    - i. Candidates are what bring the people.
    - ii. If people want to get involved and think they can make a difference then they want to come.
    - iii. When people work together then it's good for the community.
  - c. Will have training sessions for candidates.
  - d. Will have information on website.
  - e. Those who aren't candidates will be good committee members.

### **7:56pm**

Kathy Cryer - Art council

1. Event Sept. 16-30th at Canoga Park youth's art center.
  - a. Have almost 20 artists participating and nearly 40 pictures.
  - b. Idea is to examine creation process – inspiration imagination.
  - c. There are receptions that are free.
    - i. Performing arts with Dylan Thomas founder of center stage will be talking about the creation process.
    - ii. Cindy Burnett who was the past president of American institute of Designers at the closing reception.

### **7:58 PM**

Anita – Stakeholder

1. Reminded board members that there are goals, visions, etc. for making approvals.
2. Recommends that there be an inventory of city property that council is in charge of.
  - a. e.g. computers, printers, telephones, clean up equipment.
  - b. Questions where they are.
  - c. Questions which people are responsible for such items.

**8:02pm**

Budget Discussion

1. Treasurer was absent from this meeting.
2. Correct form sent after the last meeting.
  - a. Some changes were made.
  - b. The numbers have not changed.
  - c. The forms were changed.
3. BUDGET – approved July 30th.
4. Disapproving comments
  - a. Budget has items that never happened last year.
  - b. Doubts expressed that certain items in the budget will happen this year.
    - i. e.g. blood drive, pet health care.
    - ii. No one has done that or worked with our schools.
5. Response to comments.
  - a. It was a copy over from form of last year.
  - b. It's irrelevant because it has nothing to do with numbers on the forms.
  - c. The events mentioned above and others were cancelled for various reasons.
    - i. Not because of funding.
    - ii. Because of such reasons as lack of volunteers.
    - iii. It was just not possible to have the events then.
6. EMPOWER LA Rep.
  - a. Don't get yourself boxed into details.
    - i. e.g. each individual event.
    - ii. Difference between allocation and expenditure.
    - iii. Have a bulk category section.
    - iv. Have committee members bring numbers actual numbers to the board.
7. VOTE
  - a. Council Member Gary moves that bulk categories be done.
  - b. Seconded.
  - c. Vote proceeded.
  - d. Empower L.A. Rep. comments on vote.
    - i. Whenever a vote concerns the budget. Since Jan. 2014, everything must be a roll call vote.
  - e. NHWC member Gary moved that the fiscal budget for fiscal year 2016 should be lump sum categories with no details attached.
  - f. Seconded by Carol.
  - g. No abstentions.
  - h. No one opposed.
  - i. 11 approvals, no abstentions. Budget numbers by category agreed upon.

## 8:15pm

### Budgetary Strategic Plan Self-Assesment

1. Not due until September 1<sup>st</sup>
2. Empower L.A. Rep. is self-assessment board.
  - a. Suggests two budget items go out and then do vote on self-assessment forms.
  - b. Some NHWNC members did don't know about it.
  - c. Jay says it should be known.
    - i. The strategic plan is done by the executive board.
    - ii. Strategic plan is done by whoever president designates.
3. Empower L.A. Rep. in answer to NHWNC member
  - a. 2015-16 – budget should be based on a big vision scale.
  - b. Budget can be discussed, debated and changed.
4. Empower L.A. Rep.
  - a. Get more people involved.
  - b. Get times in place.
  - c. Board Members
    - i. Wants a full board at all times.
    - ii. Members should be energetic members.
    - iii. There must be effective sufficient outreach.
    - iv. Want sufficient possible board members numbers to choose from.
    - v. Issues with last board comment.
5. A board member posed questions.
  - a. Question of definition of “request for action” explained.
  - b. Questions why 9 plus- committee meetings to be held.
  - c. Question if whether there is an intention to change that?
6. President's response
  - a. Nine **plus** is goal for the committee meetings for this year.

## 8:37pm

### Vote on Budget Package

1. Entire Package brought forth for vote.
2. NHWNC members saw numbers from prior meeting and but since that time now see changes in this meeting.
3. Empower L.A. Rep. comments.
  - a. Every board member should be going to Empower LA.
  - b. There's no reason for someone to say they've never gotten a form or seen it.
  - c. Grayce Liu sent it to every board member.

- i. Question of Dan and Mick, are you going to the website where it is located? Grayce Liu with Empower LA said would double check that newest members are on the roster.
  - ii. Can go to EmpowerLA.com and you can input your email address to get the newsletter which touches on everything.
- 4. Empower L.A. Rep. comments on best practice.
  - a. Anything you are going to physically work on make sure is within a 72 hour package.
  - b. Having all documents with everything in advance, can save you 20 minutes.
  - c. There's not a requirement of a word document.
  - d. Otherwise it is to be read verbatim word by word so everyone understands what the document is so there's no confusion.
- 5. Empower L.A. Rep. comments on board member Garry's method of communication.
  - a. He can't just yell out on the microphone.
  - b. He is out of order.
  - c. He must raise his hand and be recognized by the Chair.
- 6. Empower L.A. Rep. comments about the Chair.
  - a. The Chair is overly generous in reopening for comments and comments.
  - b. Empower L.A. Rep. says he himself is a whole lot less generous with board members who are going to interrupt his proceedings.
- 7. Empower L.A. Rep. comments on Parliamentary procedures.
  - a. They are clear.
  - b. Members don't get a chance to have another bite at the apple until everyone has the chance.
  - c. It doesn't make sense to continue to beat a dead horse.
  - d. If the chair has made a ruling, you need to move forward and need to do so in an orderly manner.
- 8. Empower L.A. Rep. comments to the all board members.
  - a. Every board member has a responsibility to go to the table and look at documents.
  - b. But best practice is to have the package provided 72 hours in advance.
  - c. It's more about efficiency.
- 9. Budget Vote brought forth again.
  - a. Motion made.
  - b. Nancy seconded motion.
  - c. No abstentions.
  - d. NHWNC member Garry opposed budget package.
  - e. Hands raised for vote - 10 out of 11 voted in favor. Budget is passed.

Stakeholder Comment Section of meeting began.

- 1. Magnetic signs suggested by a Stakeholder.

- a. Magnetic signs can be split in two. Thus they can be placed on two cars.
- b. Another stakeholder comments on how the signs are not that expensive.
- c. Comment about problems putting signs on cars while the cars are being driven.
  - i. Board Member Chair said they will not going to be put on vehicles while they are being driven.
  - ii. Signs will be placed on vehicles while they are parked and only for events (e.g. cleanups).
- d. Quantity of 4 should be initially sufficient.
- e. Vendor & pricing information shall be obtained.
- f. NHWNC member Gary makes a motion to postpone getting signs until city attorney comments.
- g. The motion is not seconded.
- h. Mike Lee – mentions T-Shirts were used as advertising for those who were doing north hills west event.
- i. President made a motion for a vote to get magnetic signs.
- j. Nancy seconded motion.
- k. Vote by show of hands.
- l. 10 in favor.
- m. NHWNC Gary opposed.
- n. Motion passes.

**9:05 pm**

Dave talks about CERT classes

1. Discussed that CERT classes cover fundamentals of first aid.  
The initial CERT level 1 class is typically 17 1/2 hours over 6 or 7 weeks.
2. Discussion about costs.
  - a. Dave thought a dollar amount was approved at \$1,500 out of the 2014 budget.
  - b. Dave says it'll be \$75 per student. Lake Balboa and Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council costs are the same amount.
  - c. (new member wondering if we are partnering with other councils).
    - i. President says yes.
  - d. Mike said that in addition to the backpack of EP stuff, you also get a beautiful certificate from the mayor that says you are a Certified CERT trainee.
3. President motions to support NHWNC sponsoring then changes mind.
  - a. President says that we'll hold it off on CERT training due to getting ready to for emergency preparedness fair.
4. Have about 6 members interested in taking CERT Class.
5. It's open to stakeholders.
6. Dave says there's a significant incentive involved once a Neighborhood Council class has been completed and all Board members certified.
7. President says CERT matter should be put off till next month.



## 9:11 pm

### Map your Neighborhood

1. DAVE explained what it was and the need for it.
2. President makes a motion for this to be done.
3. Punam seconds the motion.
4. Stakeholder Anita asks for clarification.
  - a. President says that someone formal should come out to give more information.
  - b. Dave says there's a Red Cross version where we would attend a presentation then we would get together and present the program to the final users.
  - c. The So. Cal Preparedness Foundation is when you have professional presenters, and you only have to gather the people together.
5. President tables Item Number 8 on agenda (Map your Neighborhood)

## 9:18 pm

### Item Number 9

1. Dave says almost everything is now available on website, and gave highlights.

## 9:21 pm

### NHWNC member Nancy

1. Thurs. Sept. 3rd. 6:30pm to 8pm Outreach Committee meeting.
2. Lots of planning left to do for BBQ.
  - a. e.g. Flyer printing, port-a-potty bids.
  - b. For those who weren't at BBQ feel it's worth the money to have LA DWP there the event for \$300+.

### BEN

1. Received letter from library regarding donation.
  - a. Books will have a sticker showing that it was funded by the Neighborhood Council.
    - i. President wants the sticker scanned and put on the website.
      - 1) Dave will do this.
      - 2) Gary says he wants it scanned and sent via email.
        - a. President says this will be done.

### DAVID PHELPS

1. Will be going to homeless event at SFV Rescue Mission on Wed. Sept 9<sup>th</sup>.
2. Flyers are on table.

### NHWNC member Phelps

1. Asked that there be a standing agenda item - "what's a hot topic in community" – comments followed.
  - a. One is watershed approach to adjust what we do with runoff water so that it follows more natural pattern than just out to ocean. So we can save it and keep it in our own water table. Will give website so people can go see it for themselves.
  - b. Comment for another hot topic that stakeholders may be impacted by vendors on sidewalks and parks. Concerns expressed by many about health issues for those with vending doing so without proper permits. It's going for legalization. There are many coming in opposition to that.
    - i. Cityclerk.lacity.org where she suggests stakeholders go to oppose.
    - ii. She clarified that she was not making motion but just a comment to make it an agenda item. So that we can regularly weigh in on community impact statements.

(CIS) Community Impact Statements: Jay Handle – Empower LA

1. Suggests committee of at least 3 people.
2. Motions can be taken for a debate on hot topic uses such as the food vendors.
  - a. When you bring both sides of the food issue into the room you can have a very lively discussion.
  - b. There was a huge one in West L.A.
  - c. It's only one of a lot of topics.
  - d. Got to his website.
  - e. He said "We've already done a committee where we look at them [hot topics] and debate them.
  - f. You can have up to 5 people do a CIS filing.  
Then you can make the file statement.
    - i. The more you do it gives you more points downtown.
    - ii. VANC (Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Council) and LANC (Los Angeles Alliance of Neighborhood Council Coalition) get queued into it every month.
    - iii. Every neighborhood council should have people there to represent their council.
    - iv. It is the second Saturday of every month and meeting of all councils and motions come up and it goes out to votes.
    - v. Suggests three people be designated to go to those things - A NHWNC CIS committee that watches what issues come up, "scrubs them", then brings them back to the board.

**9:36 pm.**

Motion made to adjourn. Dan Gibson seconds adjournment.  
Meeting adjourns per unanimous vote.