



NORTH HILLS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
General Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 21, 2016
New Horizons, 15725 Parthenia St., North Hills CA 91343

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 and Flag Salute and Roll Call for announcement of quorum.

President John McGovern called the Meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. Roll Call was taken by the Mr. McGovern. Eight of the 12 Board Members were present at the beginning of the Meeting: John McGovern (President), Dan Gibson (Vice-President), Dave Brown, Armando Diaz, Garry Fordyce, Mike Khalid, Daniel Mick and Nancy Xander. Carol Hart (Secretary) arrived later. Four Board Members were absent: Punam Gohel (excused), David Hyman (excused), David Phelps (excused) and Patrick Santos (Treasurer) (excused). 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. Twelve of the 13 Board Seats were filled (by election or appointment). No Board Seats were vacant. Also attending: 23 Stakeholders and guests.

2. Motion to review and approve prior Board Meeting Minutes.

Mr. McGovern requested and the Board agreed to TABLE this Item to the next General Board Meeting.

3. Public Agencies - Speakers

A. U.S. Congressman Tony Cardenas - Brian Gavidia

Brian Gavidia, Field Representative for U.S. 29th District of California
Congressman Tony Cardenas (818-504-0090; Brian.Gavidia@mail.house.gov;
<http://cardenas.house.gov>), was not present and there was no report.

B. Councilman Englander's office - Ron Rubine

CD 12 Rep.: Erick King, Public Safety Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilman Mitch Englander (818-882-1212; Erick.King@LACity.org; <http://CD12.LACity.org>), reported that an Aqueduct St. "overnight parking district" was approved and will be installed. [*This Agenda Item was continued after Item #8.*] Ron Rubine, new District Director for Councilman Englander (Ron.Rubine@LACity.org), described work regarding the Porter Ranch / Aliso Canyon natural gas leak.

C. DONE REP: Melvin Canas

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.

D. BONC REP: Lydia Grant

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), was not present and there was no report.

Other official agencies

Julio Anleu, Field Deputy for LAUSD Board Member Monica Ratliff (ofc. 818.241.6388; cell 818.935.7049; Julio.Anleu@lausd.net; <http://Ratliff.LASchoolBoard.org>), reported that they "hired a new Superintendent . . . Michelle King." He encouraged submitting the "School experience survey" [at http://notebook.lausd.net/portal/page?_pageid=33,1052381&_dad=ptl] by Feb. 11th; "it's completely anonymous." There will be a Town Hall Meeting with Ms. Ratliff and Ms. King.

Molly Taylor, Independent Election Administrator (IEA) of DONE [the L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment; 818.374.9898; Molly@EmpowerLA.org; www.EmpowerLA.org], introduced herself and is available to help now and with the Election Saturday, April 9, 2016 [2:00 – 8:00 p.m. at The Onion, 9550 Haskell Ave., North Hills, CA 91343].

4. Public Comments

Joe Shammass, Candidate for Congress, introduced himself. His main interests are veterans, education, healthcare and seniors. Stakeholder Mary Armenteros believed that some funding should be reallocated.

5. Discussion and possible motion to rescind a ban voted on by a previous Board to hold monthly meetings at the VA facility in North Hills, CA. 91343

MOTION (by Mr. McGovern, seconded by Mr. Gibson): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council rescinds a ban voted on by a previous Board to hold monthly meetings at the VA facility in North Hills, CA. 91343.

DISCUSSION: Mr. McGovern explained the issue and that there is no current plan to meet there. Former NHWNC Board Members Ms. Armenteros and Anita Goldbaum had supported the ban, explained the reason and encouraged continuing to meet here at New Horizons. Mr. McGovern relayed Stakeholder complaints that the NHWNC does not meet in the VA area and that this facility has not always been available. He noted other meeting location options including Monroe High School. Mr. Gibson said “it’s a practical matter [to] free up . . . meeting space.” Mr. Fordyce explained that the ban had been to protest difficulties with VA care of veterans.

MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the eight eligible voters present with seven in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Diaz, Gibson, Khalid, McGovern, Mick and Xander); one opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Fordyce); zero abstained.

6. Discussion and possible motion to have a Family Fun Day in the Park and reallocate funds from the Spring Easter Egg Hunt which was recommended by the outreach committee on January 07, 2016 meeting

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. McGovern, seconded by Ms. Xander): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will have a Family Fun Day in the Park and reallocate funds from the Spring Easter Egg Hunt which was recommended by the outreach committee on January 07, 2016 meeting.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Xander explained the event. Ms. Goldbaum encouraged instead using the funds for a newsletter. Ms. Armenteros believed “it’s not meeting the purpose of Neighborhood Council funding.” Mr. Khalid said he is designing a newsletter and “will give it to Nancy when it is print-ready.” He encouraged submissions, saying “we’re going to have a newsletter.” Stakeholder Kathy Cryer relayed that the Committee discussed the event as a way for the community to meet new Board Members after the election. There was discussion of how the event could be economically held.

MOTION to TABLE (by Mr. McGovern, seconded by Ms. Xander): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council TABLES this Item.

MOTION to TABLE PASSED; zero opposed.

7. Motion to allocate \$3,000 to cover election related costs for an election coordinator to facilitate meetings and debates and outgoing newsletters to the public

[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #9.]

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. McGovern, seconded by Mr. Khalid): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council allocates \$3,000 to cover election-related costs for an election coordinator to facilitate meetings and debates and outgoing newsletters to the public.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Taylor announced that Fran Piazza resigned as the IEA. She described Election Coordinator responsibilities. She noted that the NHWNC will have an online voting option. Board Members spoke of the short time before the Election and their lack of time to help ensure that there are many candidates and voters, and whether it would be worth hiring a Coordinator. She and Jay Handal, Citywide Neighborhood Councils Elections Director from the City Clerk's Office, answered questions (he by phone) regarding the Coordinator's role and the hiring process. Ms. Taylor added that the Election Coordinator would "work closely with your Election Committee and your Outreach Committee."

AMENDED FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Xander, seconded by Mr. Fordyce, accepted by Mr. McGovern and Mr. Khalid): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council allocates \$2,000 to cover election-related costs for an election coordinator to facilitate meetings and debates and outgoing newsletters to the public.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Mr. McGovern); no opposition.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the nine eligible voters present with all nine in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Brown, Diaz, Fordyce, Gibson, Hart, Khalid, McGovern, Mick and Xander); zero opposed; zero abstained.

8. Discussion and possible motion to vote on a request for support from Hauser Trucks; located at Roscoe and Woodley Place located in North Hills, to continue their sales operation of trucks and RV'S to the public. Recommendation by the Land Use Committee will be given at this meeting for a Board vote for a hearing date of February 02, 2016

Project representative Rosemary Medell described site history. The Conditional Use Permit issued in 2007 is due to expire this year; they are requesting an "unlimited term." She said that "they have demonstrated that they are willing to comply with all conditions" and that neighbors with 500 feet of the site "have been noticed" by the City Planning Dept. Mr. Gibson explained that the NHWNC Planning and Land Use Committee met last night and reviewed the application, concluding "conditions . . . seem to be met." He reported that "the Committee voted unanimously" to support the application with the condition that the conditions in the application would change "if the property is transferred to somebody else." Owner Robert Hauser said the site is zoned C-2 and they "need a Variance to sell trucks there . . . we've been there

since 1982; we've been in business since 1951." Mr. McGovern noted that the City is scheduled to do repair and maintenance on Woodley Place. There will be a February 5th City Hearing.

MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. McGovern): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council supports the request for Hauser Trucks to extend the zoning Variance that they've had in place since 2008 with the condition that that Variance applies only to the existing business owner.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Hauser said that "it used to be a gas station . . . we put up an eight-foot high engineered wall to seal off our property from the neighborhood."

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the eight eligible voters present with all eight in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Brown, Diaz, Fordyce, Gibson, Khalid, McGovern, Mick and Xander); zero opposed; zero abstained.

9. Motion to allocate \$2,500.00 for NHWNC flag banners that need replacing on light poles throughout North Hills. Beautification Committee

Mr. McGovern explained that the existing banners "have been getting blown away." This allocation would replace "the main ones."

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. McGovern, seconded by Mr. Diaz): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will allocate \$2,500.00 for NHWNC flag banners that need replacing on light poles throughout North Hills.

DISCUSSION: Mr. McGovern noted that the banners were installed in 2011 and that Stakeholders have requested that the damaged banners be removed or replaced. Ms. Armenteros believed the banners to not be useful. Board Members spoke both for and against replacing them.

Board Member Carol Hart arrived at this time of 8:40, making nine Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).

Mr. Fordyce, Ms. Xander and Mr. Gibson recommended that, if banners are replaced, that first they be redesigned.

MOTION to TABLE (by Mr. McGovern, seconded by Mr. Mick): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council TABLES this Item.

MOTION to TABLE PASSED by a voice vote; zero opposed.

10. Board Comments

It was reported that the Neighborhood Councils Emergency Preparedness Alliance requested that each Neighborhood Council appoint two representatives. Ms. Xander distributed copies of the "NHWNC Community BBQ 10/10/2015 Actual Budget" and reported that "we came in under budget . . . we had roughly 750 people." Mr. Gibson reported for the Planning and Land Use Committee that Wingstop Restaurant applied for a liquor license; it would be next to the Food4Less. He will report on this week's Rok 'N Sushi Hearing. Also, the Committee will discuss a proposed new brewery near Hayvenhurst and Schoenborn St. Ms. Hart reported that DWP Urban Water Management Plan information is available and that another NHWNC representative is needed for the Neighborhood Councils Sustainability Alliance. Mr. Fordyce encouraged contacting the DWP by February 17th to oppose their proposed rate increases. Mr. McGovern encouraged checking home wiring regarding recent heavy rains and to secure space heaters.

MOTION to ADJOURN (by Mr. McGovern, seconded by Mr. Khalid).

MOTION to ADJOURN PASSED; zero opposed.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 9:29 p.m.

Minutes written by DL, possibly edited by NHWNC. *The first paragraph of some Items, Motions/Resolutions and other wording may have been directly copied from the Agenda.* The NHWNC Minutes page is <http://www.nhwnc.net/agendas-minutes/minutes-and-agendas>.