



**NORTH HILLS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**  
**Special Board Meeting Minutes**  
Thursday, June 2, 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 followed by Roll Call and announcement of quorum.**

President Dan Gibson called the Meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. Roll Call was taken by the Secretary. Seven of the 13 Board Members were present at the beginning of the Meeting: Dan Gibson (President), Dave Brown (Secretary), Armando Diaz (Treasurer), Garry Fordyce, Carol Hart, David Hyman and Sam Kwasman. Punam Gohel arrived later. David Phelps, Antonino Lovato, Daniel Mick and Kreshell Ramey were absent (all 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). One Board Seat was vacant (General). Also attending: 10 Stakeholders and guests.

1. Phelps, Lovato, Mick, Ramsey absent & excused

**2. Discussion and possible action to approve previous Meeting Minutes.**

Mr. Gibson noted that there were no Minutes to approve at this Meeting.

**3. Discussion and possible action to approve previous Monthly Expenditure Reports.**  
Mr. Gibson noted that there were no such reports to approve at this Meeting.

**4. Discussion and possible action to fill the vacant General category Board Seat.**  
Stakeholder Madlena Minasian, a Candidate for appointment to the Seat, described her background and desire to serve. Mr. Gibson will Agendize this.

**5. General Public Comments**

Stakeholder Mary Armenteros encouraged budgeting for a Board Retreat.

**6. Public agency speakers and announcements.**

There were no speakers at this time.

7. **Discussion and possible action** for the NHWNC to ratify the President's recommended Chair and Member changes to Standing and Ad Hoc Committees.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Hyman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council ratifies the President's recommended Chair and Member changes to the following Standing and Ad Hoc Committees: Kreshell Ramey from Beautification to Education; Carol Hart from Emergency Preparedness / Public Safety to Beautification as Chair; and add Kreshell Ramey to the Beautification Committee.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the seven eligible voters present with all seven in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Brown, Diaz, Fordyce, Gibson, Hart, Hyman and Kwasman); zero opposed; zero abstained.

8. **Discussion and possible action** to re-appoint Mike Kabo as Parliamentarian.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Ms. Hart): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council re-appoints Mike Kabo as Parliamentarian.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the seven eligible voters present with all seven in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Brown, Diaz, Fordyce, Gibson, Hart, Hyman and Kwasman); zero opposed; zero abstained.

9. **Discussion and possible action** to appoint two (2) Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates to represent NHWNC.  
Mr. Gibson explained this. It was POSTPONED to the next General Board Meeting.

**10. Funding Motions:**

Mr. Gibson noted that unallocated funds will be swept back to the City. Mr. Diaz said there was \$9,154.84 available. Funds were not frozen and were accessible. There was discussion of the importance of receipts accompanying funding requests.

- a. Discussion and possible action to [see the below Motion]. Background: The event is free; it includes breakfast and lunch, workshops, networking and more.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Hyman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will allocate up to \$1,500 for costs related to the Congress of Neighborhood Councils at L.A. City Hall on September 24, 2016.

**DISCUSSION:** The event's helpfulness was noted.

**AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Fordyce, seconded by Mr. Kwasman): to revise the above Motion to allocate up to \$2,500 pending the availability of the funds.

**DISCUSSION:** There was discussion of whether the Board can or should do that.

*Board Member Punam Gohel arrived at this time (7:40), making eight Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).*

Very extensive discussion continued. Mr. Kwasman encouraged allocating funding as the Agenda already showed and possibly reallocating funding next Fiscal Year [starting July 1<sup>st</sup>].

**AMENDMENT to the FUNDING 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, Gohel, Hart, Hyman and Kwasman); zero opposed; zero abstained.

**AMENDED FUNDING 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, Gohel, Hart, Hyman and Kwasman); zero opposed; zero abstained.

- b. Discussion and possible action to [see the below Motion]. Background: City officials will discuss City budget priorities and this year’s Budget Advocates will be elected.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Ms. Hart): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will allocate up to \$1,500 for costs related to the Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates’ Budget Day at L.A. City Hall on July 30, 2016.

**AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Fordyce, seconded by Mr. Kwasman): to revise the above Motion to allocate up to \$2,500 pending the availability of the funds.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Hyman would allocate the added \$1,000 to the Volunteer Surveillance Team. Mr. Gohel would use it for an outreach radio program.

**AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION FAILED** by a roll call vote of the eight eligible voters present with two in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Fordyce and Kwasman); six opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Brown, Diaz, Gibson, Gohel, Hart and Hyman); zero abstained.

**FUNDING 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, Gohel, Hart, Hyman and Kwasman); zero opposed; zero abstained.

Mr. Diaz noted that approximately \$4,181.07 in funding remained.

- c. Discussion and possible action to [see the below Motion].

*Board Member Dave Brown recused (self-declared as ineligible to vote on the below Motion due to a possible or known conflict of interest) from voting on the below Motion and left the room at this time, making seven Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven). Recusing is different from abstaining, which is declining to vote “yes” or “no.”*

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Hyman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will allocate a \$1,500 Neighborhood Purposes Grant to S.O.L.I.D. (Supporters of Law Enforcement in Devonshire), a non-profit that supports the LAPD Devonshire Division, for costs related to their two primary Station coffee locations, to include recognition of the NHWNC.

**MOTION to POSTPONE** (by Mr. Fordyce, seconded by Mr. Gohel): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will POSTPONE this Item to its June 16<sup>th</sup> General Board Meeting.

**DISCUSSION:** Ms. Hart read aloud the allocation’s benefit details from and the totals of documents submitted in the NPG Application. There was discussion of the merits of postponing this. Mr. Fordyce said that cheaper alternates are available.

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

**MOTION to POSTPONE FAILED** by a roll call vote with two in favor (Fordyce and Kwasman); five opposed (Diaz, Gibson, Gohel, Hart and Hyman); zero abstained; one recused (Brown).

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the seven eligible voters present with six in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Diaz, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Hyman and Kwasman); one opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Fordyce); zero abstained; one recused (Brown).

Mr. Diaz noted that approximately \$2,681.07 in funding remained.

*Board Member Dave Brown returned to the room at this time, making eight Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).*

- d. Discussion and possible action to allocate \$200 to the LAPD Devonshire Division Volunteer Surveillance Team (VST). Background: The VST has served the Division since 1992; it currently has 57 volunteers and provided more than 88,000 hours of surveillance. The VST has helped facilitate more than 4,000 arrests and saved the City more than \$7.5 million dollars in salary, benefits, and overtime, with a perfect safety record with no injuries on the job.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Gohel): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will allocate \$200 to SOLID (Supporters of Law

Enforcement in Devonshire) to benefit the LAPD Devonshire Division Volunteer Surveillance Team.

**DISCUSSION:** It was explained that the Grant would be to SOLID, which would distribute it to the VST.

**AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Hyman, seconded by Ms. Hart): to revise the above Motion to allocate up to \$1,000 pending the availability of the funds.

**DISCUSSION:** The funding would be used to purchase equipment. Mr. Fordyce believed this Item was “not properly Agendized” because the Motion did not mention that the funding would be through a Neighborhood Purposes Grant. Many Stakeholders and Board Members noted the role and value of the VST.

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

**AMENDMENT to the FUNDING 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, Gohel, Hart, Hyman and Kwasman); zero opposed; zero abstained.

**AMENDED FUNDING 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, Gohel, Hart, Hyman and Kwasman); zero opposed; zero abstained.

Mr. Diaz noted that approximately \$2,481.07 in funding remained.

- e. Discussion and possible action to allocate a \$1,500 Neighborhood Purposes Grant to the Mid Valley Regional Library, 16244 Nordhoff St., North Hills, CA 91343, for the purchase of multiple copies of new popular book titles for their “Hot Off the Press” program.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Hyman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will allocate a \$1,500 Neighborhood Purposes Grant to the Friends of the Mid Valley Regional Library, 16244 Nordhoff St., North Hills, CA 91343, for the purchase of multiple copies of new popular book titles for their “Hot Off the Press” program.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Diaz wanted to ensure that funding is not overspent.

**MOTION to POSTPONE** (by Mr. Diaz, seconded by Mr. Gohel): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will POSTPONE this Item.

**MOTION to POSTPONE FAILED** by a roll call vote with four in favor (Diaz, Gohel, Fordyce and Kwasman); four opposed (Brown, Gibson, Hart and Hyman); zero abstained.

**AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION** (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Mr. Kwasman): to revise the above Motion word “allocate” to the phrase “allocate up to” and add the phrase “pending the availability of the funds.”

**AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the eight eligible voters present with seven in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Diaz, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Hyman and Kwasman); one opposed (Fordyce); zero abstained.

**AMENDED FUNDING MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the eight eligible voters present with seven in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Diaz, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Hyman and Kwasman); one opposed (Fordyce); zero abstained.

- f. Discussion and possible action to allocate up to \$1,200 for a Neighborhood Purposes Grant to the Mid Valley Regional Library, 16244 Nordhoff St., North Hills, CA 91343, for the purchase of a 1) Best-Rite Platinum Reversible Marker Board, \$669.99; 2) Deluxe Mini Play Cube, \$129.99; and 3) Carpets for Kids ABC Caterpillar, \$359.99. Total expected cost is \$1,159.97.

**MOTION to POSTPONE** (by Mr. Fordyce, seconded by Mr. Gohel): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will POSTPONE this Item to a later Meeting.

**MOTION to POSTPONE 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, Gohel, Hart, Hyman and Kwasman); zero opposed; zero abstained.

- g. Discussion and possible action to [see the below Motion].  
Price quote copies were distributed.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Gohel): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will allocate up to \$750 to purchase Board Members’ business cards and name tags from one of the vendors from which price quotes have been received.

**MOTION to POSTPONE** (by Mr. Diaz, seconded by Mr. Hyman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will POSTPONE this Item to a later Meeting.

**DISCUSSION:** Ms. Armenteros and Mr. Fordyce described the usefulness of business cards. Mr. Diaz noted that \$981.07 in funding remained.

**MOTION to POSTPONE 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, Gohel, Hart, Hyman and Kwasman); zero opposed; zero abstained.

- h. Discussion and possible action to re-allocate NHWNC budgeted funds as needed regarding Motions previously approved at this Meeting.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Diaz): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will reallocate funds amongst various budget categories to accommodate approved funding Motions.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Diaz noted amounts available in different Budget categories.

**FUNDING 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, Gohel, Hart, Hyman and Kwasman); zero opposed; zero abstained.

#### **11. Board Member Comments**

Mr. Diaz reminded “no receipts, no reimbursement.” Mr. Gohel relayed that the Budget Advocates reported that 60% of the Neighborhood Councils allocated less than half of their funds. Ms. Hart continued the “Cool Blocks” training and will train with the Recycled Water Advisory Group. Mr. Fordyce reported that, at the VANC (Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils) Meeting there was a debriefing about the recent Neighborhood Council elections, with many criticisms of how the elections were handled by the City. Mr. Hyman thanked Jim and Bonnie Cockerell and Mr. Brown for their Citrus Sunday help. Mr. Gibson will work with Councils for Councils as a mediator.

#### **12. Requests for future Agenda Items**

Mr. Fordyce requested a standing American flag to be present at these meetings.

#### **13. Motion to Adjourn**

**MOTION to ADJOURN** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Hyman).

**MOTION to ADJOURN PASSED** with zero opposed or abstained.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 9:33 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>.