



**NORTH HILLS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL  
General Board Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, June 16, 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 Pledge of Allegiance**

President Dan Gibson called the Meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

**2. Roll Call and announcement of Quorum and Voting Eligibility (Ethics, Funding and Code of Conduct).**

Roll Call was taken by the Secretary. Ten of the 13 Board Members were present at the beginning of the Meeting: Dan Gibson (President), David Phelps (Vice-President), Dave Brown (Secretary), Armando Diaz (Treasurer), Garry Fordyce, Punam Gohel, Carol Hart, David Hyman, Antonino Lovato and Kreshell Ramey. Sam Kwasman and Daniel Mick were absent (both excused). The NHWNC quorum (the minimum number of Board Members needing to be present to take binding votes on Agendized Items) is seven (see <https://lacity.quickbase.com/db/bj3apxsp3?a=q&qid=32&qskip=0&qrppg=1000&dlt=su46~>), so the Board could take such votes. Mr. Brown reported that all are eligible to vote. All thirteen of the 13 Board Seats were filled (by election or appointment). No Board Seats were vacant. Also attending: 32 Stakeholders and guests.

**3. Discussion and possible Motion to approve previous Meeting Minutes.**

General Board Meeting May 19, 2016

**MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Diaz): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its May 19, 2016 General Board Meeting as written.

**AMENDMENT to the MOTION** (by Mr. Fordyce, seconded by Mr. Lovato): to replace the phrase “as written” with the words “with possible amendments pending a review of the audio recording.”

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

**AMENDMENT to the MOTION PASSED**; zero opposed; zero abstained.

**AMENDED 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, Lovato, Phelps and Ramey); one opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Fordyce); zero abstained.

Special Board Meeting June 2, 2016

**MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Diaz): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its June 2, 2016 General Board Meeting with the following correction: page two, Item #7 “add Kreshell Ramey to the Beautification Committee” should be “add Kreshell Ramey to the Emergency Preparedness Committee.”

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

**MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with seven in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Diaz, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Hyman and Phelps); one opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Fordyce); two abstained (the NHWNC counts abstentions as “yes” votes) (Lovato and Ramey).

**4. Discussion and possible Motion to approve previous Monthly Expenditure Reports.**

*[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #11.]* April 2016.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Ms. Hart): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves its Monthly Expenditure Report for April 2016.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Diaz explained website administration work since December 2015, including for the April 9<sup>th</sup> Election. Mr. Gibson explained that New Horizons charges more for Saturday uses including meeting space. Mr. Fordyce believed that receipts were missing and that “numbers are not tracking.”

**MOTION to POSTPONE** (by Mr. Fordyce): pending discussion with the Treasurer.

**MOTION to POSTPONE FAILED** for lack of a second.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Gibson and Mr. Diaz verified that “it’s a complete package” of financial documents.

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

**MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the nine eligible voters present with seven in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Diaz, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Hyman and Phelps); one opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Fordyce); one abstained (the NHWNC counts abstentions as “yes” votes) (Ramey). Ms. Minassian was ineligible to vote due to not having completed Ethics Training and/or Funding Training. [This vote was taken *after* Ms. Minassian was voted onto the Board in Item #5.]

May 2016.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Phelps): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves its Monthly Expenditure Report for May 2016.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Diaz explained encumbrances and reviewed expenses. Mr. Fordyce believed that numbers were inaccurate; Mr. Gibson believed they were accurate.

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

**MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the nine eligible voters present with seven in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Diaz, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Hyman and Phelps); one opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Fordyce); one abstained (the NHWNC counts abstentions as “yes” votes) (Ramey). Ms. Minassian was ineligible to vote due to not having completed Ethics Training and/or Funding Training. [This vote was taken after Ms. Minassian was voted onto the Board in Item #5.]

**5. Discussion and possible Motion to fill vacant General category Board Seat.**

Madelina Minassian introduced herself and described her background and desire to serve.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Phelps): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council accepts Madelina Minassian to a General Board Seat.

**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, Gohel, Hart, Hyman, Phelps and Ramey); zero opposed; zero abstained.

*New Board Member Madelina Minassian was Seated with the Board at this time, making 11 Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).*

**6. General Public Comments**

Stakeholder Carol Dyer reported that “we’re continuing to have major problems on Aqueduct [Ave.]”; she described trash, drugs and lack of help from government agencies despite a two-year effort. Stakeholder Anita Goldbaum reported that the Library reopened. Also, the developers are working on the 70+ single-family dwellings project at 8404 Woodley Ave. by Chase St.; for trash collection contact Mr. Porter, 310-606-9266. She requested that a speaker present about the City’s proposed home-sharing Ordinance. Stakeholder Rick Mucha was concerned about “health and safety issues” on Aqueduct, noting blocked driveways, vehicles left in the same places on the street for up to months at a time, vehicles, drivers, passengers and pedestrians disturbing the peace; toxic and dangerous trash, increased crime; inability for residents and guests to park nearby because of non-residents parking there; non-residents trashing and urinating on private property; lack of government or law enforcement response to illegal behavior and complaints; use of the street to make vehicle repairs; and a motor home dumping waste in the street. He wanted “residents-only parking.”

Developer Chuck Francoeur would “like to acquire” the property at the northwest corner of Napa and Haskell, get a zone change and build a 2,400-2,500 square foot, two-story home. He does not yet own the property and will present to the PLUM Committee. Stakeholder Fran Potaski requested arranging a nighttime meeting with City officials, when more people are home.

**7. Public Agency Speakers and Announcements.**

Kenny LaSalle, Constituent Service Specialist for U.S. 29th District of California Congressman Tony Cardenas (ofc. 818-781-7407; [Kenny.LaSalle@mail.house.gov](mailto:Kenny.LaSalle@mail.house.gov); <http://cardenas.house.gov>), offered services for Social Security, veterans, education, referrals to agencies and more help. The Congressman re-introduced the “Moment of Silence Resolution” to bring issues to appropriate Committees for consideration. Mr. LaSalle requested to be invited to community events.

*Board Member Antonino Lovato left at this time, making 10 Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).*

Julio Anleu, Field Deputy for LAUSD Board Member Monica Ratliff (ofc. 818-241-6388; cell 818-935-7049; [Julio.Anleu@lausd.net](mailto:Julio.Anleu@lausd.net); <http://Ratliff.LASchoolBoard.org>), reported that their Board voted to reduce class sizes and will get extra teachers. He encouraged reporting suspicious activity at schools to the Police. He will alert their Facilities Dept. to remove banners if they are defaced. He will check whether schools plan to maintain their gardens during Summer break.

Erich King, Public Safety Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilman Mitch Englander (818-882-1212; [Erich.King@LACity.org](mailto:Erich.King@LACity.org); <http://CD12.LACity.org>), reported that they are aware of problems on Aqueduct Ave., saying the restricted “signs are coming” that say “no overnight parking.” He described working with the Police and “the head engineer of the Valley . . . to have enough evidence to support these changes . . . it’s a complicated issue. He explained that LADOT “doesn’t give us a date” for installation because of possible emergencies. He noted that “a petition was circulated . . . overwhelmingly supporting” restricted parking. Also, next Fiscal Year’s Budget adds 300 civilian Police Dept. positions.

**8. 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 Ms. Hart): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council appoints Board Member Madelina Minassian to its Planning and Land Use Management Committee.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously; zero opposed; zero abstained.

**9. Discussion and possible action concerning a variance application for the continued operation of Oakridge Landscape, Inc., located at 8618 Haskell Avenue. Oakridge has been in business for over 30 years. Referred by the Planning and Land Use Committee.**

Owner Jeff Meyer had presented to the PLUM Committee and would implement “parking mitigations.” He explained action taken to prevent employees from parking

where they should not. He indicated that “every Tuesday” a crew cleans around Napa and Haskell. Mr. Phelps added that the Committee “had a very good discussion” and supported the application.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Phelps, seconded by Mr. Hyman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves its Planning and Land Use Committee’s recommendation to support a Variance application for the continued operation of Oakridge Landscape, Inc., located at 8618 Haskell Ave.

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

**10. Discussion and possible action** regarding a proposed housing project located at 8609 Haskell Ave. (Case# APCNV-2006-681-ZC). Housing project requires a re-zoning from RS to five R-1 lots, each consisting of a minimum of 5,000 square feet. Referred by the Planning and Land Use Committee.  
Mr. Gibson requested and it was agreed to TABLE this Item for further consideration by the PLUM Committee.

**11. Discussion and possible action** to appoint two (2) Neighborhood Council Budget Representatives to represent NHWNC.  
Glenn Bailey, Budget Advocate [[www.BudgetAdvocatesLA.com](http://www.BudgetAdvocatesLA.com)], explained Representatives’ responsibilities and the July 30<sup>th</sup> Budget Day at L.A. City Hall.

**12. Funding Motions:**

Mr. Gibson noted that the \$1,500 Neighborhood Purposes Grant previously allocated to S.O.L.I.D. (Supporters of Law Enforcement in Devonshire) is available because that Application “was withdrawn.” Mr. Diaz indicated that \$2,322 was available at this time.

a. Discussion and possible action to allocate \$200.00 to “The Onion” for use of the facility for the April 9, 2016 NHWNC election. Total charge \$400.00, with the understanding that the LA Department of Neighborhood Empowerment will pay the first \$200.00. Background: DONE authorized this payment to made after the election.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Hyman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will allocate \$200.00 to “The Onion” for use of the facility for the April 9, 2016 NHWNC election. The total charge was \$400.00, with the understanding that the LA Department of Neighborhood Empowerment will pay the first \$200.00.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Bailey explained the need and Mr. Diaz will submit the invoice as soon as possible to the Department (DONE).

*Board Member Carol Hart recused (self-declared as ineligible to vote on the Motion due to a possible or known conflict of interest) from voting on the below Motion and left the*

room at this time, making eight Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven). Recusing is different from abstaining, which is declining to vote “yes” or “no.”

**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, Hyman, Phelps and Ramey); zero opposed; zero abstained; one recused (Hart).

*Board Member Carol Hart returned to the room at this time, making nine Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).*

- b. 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.

It was agreed to add the phrase “Friends of the” to the Motion.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Hyman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will allocate up to \$1,200 for a Neighborhood Purposes Grant to the Friends of 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.

**DISCUSSION:** Ms. Goldbaum explained that the equipment was “to aid in learning for the kids.” Mr. Fordyce believed that the Library was “blatantly” refusing to provide supporting documents.

**SUBSTITUTE FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Fordyce): [specific Motion wording was not provided].

Mr. Gibson ruled that the Substitute Funding Motion was not necessary.

**MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION** on the original funding Motion (by Mr. Gibson); no opposition.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the nine eligible voters present with seven in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Diaz, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Hyman and Phelps); one opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Fordyce); one abstained (the NHWNC counts abstentions as “yes” votes) (Ramey). Ms. Minassian was ineligible to vote due to not having completed Ethics Training and/or Funding Training.

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

**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.

**DISCUSSION:** Stakeholder Mike Khalid believed that the chosen vendor was not qualified by the City. Mr. Gibson noted that quotes were available. Mr. Fordyce believed that funding amounts allocated at the June 2<sup>nd</sup> Special Board Meeting were not known.

**MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION** (by Mr. Gibson); 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, Gohel, Hart, Hyman, Phelps and Ramey); zero opposed; zero abstained. Ms. Minassian was ineligible to vote due to not having completed Ethics Training and/or Funding Training.

d. Discussion and possible Motion to allocate up to \$500.00 to the LA Congress of Neighborhoods – Networking/EmpowerLA Awards event.

Mr. Diaz noted that funds probably were not available. There was extensive discussion of whether funds could be allocated.

*[This Agenda Item was returned to after the below MOTION to RECONSIDER and MOTION to POSTPONE.]*

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Phelps, seconded by Mr. Gohel): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will allocate up to \$500.00 to the LA Congress of Neighborhoods – Networking/EmpowerLA Awards event.

**MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION** (by Ms. Hart); 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, Gohel, Hart, Hyman, Phelps and Ramey); zero opposed; zero abstained. Ms. Minassian was ineligible to vote due to not having completed Ethics Training and/or Funding Training.

**MOTION to RECONSIDER** (by Mr. Fordyce, seconded by Ms. Hart): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will RECONSIDER Item #12. c.

**DISCUSSION:** Melvin Canas, Neighborhood Empowerment Analyst, DONE, (818-374-9953; cell 323-972-7782; Melvin.Canas@LACity.org; www.EmpowerLA.org), advised not to consider vendor(s) from which quotes were not already received.

**MOTION to RECONSIDER 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, Gohel, Hart, Hyman, Phelps and Ramey); zero opposed; zero abstained. Ms. Minassian was ineligible to vote due to not having completed Ethics Training and/or Funding Training.

**MOTION to POSTPONE** (by Mr. Phelps, seconded by Mr. Gohel): the NHWNC POSTPONES Item #12. C.

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

**MOTION to POSTPONE PASSED**; zero opposed; zero abstained.

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

No Motion was made or vote taken.

### **13. Board Member Comments**

*Board Member Armando Diaz left at this time, making eight Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).*

Mr. Brown announced a July 16th SOS Survival Products safety class and an August 13<sup>th</sup> first aid class. Mr. Gohel said the City is working on an Aqueduct Ave. parking solution. Mr. Fordyce requested more financial documentation. Ms. Ramey requested limiting Stakeholder comments to two minutes each. Ms. Hart recommended that the ad hoc Aqueduct Ave. Committee schedule a meeting June 21<sup>st</sup> or 28<sup>th</sup>. She encouraged having a community meeting about the proposed AngelFest Music Festival at Balboa Park. She suggested having a Board Budget Day. Mr. Phelps suggested that Meeting Minutes amendment requests be “submitted in written form.” He believed that parliamentary procedure was “being used to stifle business.” Mr. Gibson noted that Stakeholders left earlier because, he believed, their needs were not being met. Mr. Phelps reminded that “we have Bylaws posted on the website” and that Roberts Rules of Order come after the Bylaws. He recommended revising the Code of Conduct. Mr. Gohel recommended having a Board Retreat.

### **14. Requests For Future Agenda Items**

Mr. Brown requested Agendizing discussion of emergency preparedness. Mr. Gohel requested having consolidated Committee Meeting nights; Mr. Brown will coordinate it. Ms. Hart requested Agendizing a presentation by Stakeholder Dr. Kuldeep Singh.

### **15. Motion to adjourn**

**MOTION to ADJOURN** (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Mr. Gohel).

**MOTION to ADJOURN PASSED** by a voice vote with no opposition.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 10:08 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>.