



NORTH HILLS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
General Board Meeting Minutes Thursday, September 15, 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 7:07 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

2. Roll Call and announcement of Quorum and Voting Eligibility.

Roll Call was taken by the Secretary. Eight of the 13 Board Members were present at the Roll Call: Dan Gibson (President), Dave Brown (Secretary), Garry Fordyce, David Hyman, Sam Kwasman, Antonino Lovato, Madlina Minassian and Kreshell Ramey. Carol Hart arrived later. Four Board Members were absent: David Phelps (Vice-President), Armando Diaz (Treasurer), Punam Gohel and Daniel Mick (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 <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 Board Members were eligible to vote. All 13 Board Seats were filled (by election or appointment). No Board Seats were vacant. [Mr. Mick's resignation was addressed in below Item #9.] Also attended: approximately 36 Stakeholders and guests.

3. Announcements and Comments - President.

Mr. Gibson commented.

4. Discussion and possible action to approve previous Meeting Minutes. August 18, 2016 General Board Meeting; and August 30, 2016 Special Board Meeting.

[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #11.]

Board Member Carol Hart arrived at this time (7:11), making nine Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).

MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Fordyce): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its August 18, 2016 General Board Meeting as written.

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

MOTION PASSED unanimously; zero opposed; zero abstained.

MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Fordyce): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its August 30, 2016 Special Board Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED by a hand vote with five in favor; one opposed; two abstained (the NHWNC counts abstentions as “yes” votes) [Presidents can choose whether or not to vote].

5. Public Agency Speakers and Announcements.

Erich King, Public Safety Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilman Mitch Englander (818-882-1212; Erich.King@LACity.org; <http://CD12.LACity.org>), announced an October 1st Movie Night of “Grease” at Shadow Ranch Park, West Hills; you must RSVP. The Neighborhood Council Presidents’ Meeting discussed homelessness and more. There will be more Town Hall Meetings; the most recent is on the CD12 website. He explained that murals “were not destroyed”; they have a temporary “protective cover . . . to save [them] for later.”

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>), introduced new Glenhill Elementary School Principal Linda Bueno. He encouraged input about the “academic calendar” issue of when the school year would start. Ms. Bueno is “focusing on instruction”; they have a math, science and technology magnet school for students “from all over the city.”

Dora Esparza, Field Representative for State 46th District Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian (818-376-4246; Dora.Esparza@asm.ca.gov; <http://asmdc.org/members/a46>), announced a September 29th “Funding Your College Future” and other events.

6. General Public Comments

Gary Ferajian, Vice-Chair of SOLID [Supporters Of Law enforcement In Devonshire], announced a fundraiser “all you can eat” pasta dinner Friday, October 14th, 5:00-8:00 p.m. Alexandra Nagy, Senior Organizer, Food & Water Watch (FWW) (323.843.8451; ANagy@FWWatch.org; www.FoodAndWaterWatch.org), updated about the Aliso Canyon Storage Facility. FWW and others are working to “permanently shut down” the Facility. She distributed copies of a draft letter to Gov. Brown regarding “Shutting down the Aliso Canyon Storage Facility.” She said

“people are still getting sick,” though “not smelling it,” and that a study showed that “there were heavy metals left behind that were directly related to the blown out well.” Another leak recently was smelled. Deirdre Bolona and Jane Fowler of Save Porter Ranch described health problems they attribute to the leaking gas.

Copies were distributed of a flier for a Candidates Forum Tuesday, October 18th, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. here at Sam’s Café at New Horizons. Ronnie Veliz of Somos Familia Valle announced and copies were distributed about their Sunday, November 13th, 12:30-6:00 p.m. event of a march at 12:30 from Van Nuys Blvd. and Sylvan St. to St. Mark’s Episcopal Church at 14646 Sherman Way, Van Nuys. Tiffany Clark of the Valley Interfaith Council [VIC; 818-718-6460; <http://www.vic-la.org>] described their Mondays-Fridays Senior Lunch Program for a suggested donation of \$1.75; they also have “Homebound Meals” and “Meals on Wheels” programs.

7. **Presentation** by Tammy Reese Williams, Executive Nutrition Director, Valley Interfaith Council regarding their new partnership with New Horizons to create a Senior Lunch Program

Mr. Gibson noted that Ms. Williams was unable to attend this Meeting.

8. **Presentation** from the Mayor's Office of Public Engagement reporting on the progress of Mayor Garcetti's 'Back to Basics' agenda and collaborative opportunities moving forward (West Valley Area Representative, Kevin Taylor

Kevin Taylor, Mayor Eric Garcetti’s West Valley Area Representative (213.978.0600; Kevin.Taylor@LACity.org; <http://LAMayor.org>), described City work on homelessness and their “Welcome Home Program,” and on various economic and quality of life issues. www.OpenBudget.LACity.org has a “dashboard” that “shows how the City is spending your money.”

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

MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Ms. Hart): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council accepts the resignation of NHWNC Board Member Dan Mick.

MOTION PASSED unanimously; zero opposed; zero abstained,

Mr. Fordyce submitted the application of Stakeholder and Board Candidate Jay Bieber.

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

MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Ms. Hart): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will remove Daniel Mick from the Technical, and the Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Committees.

MOTION PASSED unanimously; zero opposed; zero abstained,

11. **Discussion and possible action** regarding the adoption of Standing Rules for the NHWNC. As referred by the Rules and Election Committee.

Mr. Gibson requested and it was agreed to TABLE this Item.

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

MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Fordyce): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves participation in the Homecoming Parade at Monroe High School on September 30, 2016.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Gibson clarified that there would be no cost to participate. Mr. Fordyce reported that the School again invited the NHWNC to participate. Mr. Kwasman noted the outreach value. Ms. Minassian requested for the NHWNC website to have such events on its calendar.

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

MOTION PASSED unanimously; zero opposed; zero abstained,

13. **Discussion and possible action** to approve previous Monthly Expense Reports. July 2016, August 2016,

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

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, Fordyce, Gibson, Hart, Hyman, Kwasman, Lovato, Minassian and Ramey); zero opposed; zero abstained.

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

DISCUSSION: Needed corrections were noted and will be made.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the nine eligible voters present with all nine in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Fordyce, Gibson, Hart, Hyman, Kwasman, Lovato, Minassian and Ramey); zero opposed; zero abstained.

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

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Hyman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will allocate \$400.00 to host the October 2016 monthly meeting of the Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition (LANCC). To be held at Community Integration Services 10100 Balboa Blvd, Northridge, CA 91325. See <http://www.lancc.org> for more information.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Brown explained that “the \$400 is for the facility rental charge for the day . . . we are the geographic host of the event.” The event will be October 1st.

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

FUNDING MOTION FAILED by a roll call vote of the nine eligible voters present with three in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Gibson and Hyman); five opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Fordyce, Kwasman, Lovato, Minassian and Ramey); one abstained (the NHWNC counts abstentions as “yes” votes) (Hart).

15. Discussion and possible Motion to [see the below Motion].

MOTION (by Mr. Kwasman, seconded by Mr. Hyman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves Welcome Wagon (WW) Outreach Program for outreach to New Homeowners in North Hills West who purchased homes over the past 6 months (approx. 90).

DISCUSSION: Agenda items 15 – 17 are proposed by the Outreach Committee. Mr. Kwasman explained the Program and that “we found 90 new families in the area.”

MOTION to COMBINE Item #s 15, 16 and 17 (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Ms. Ramey).

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

MOTION to COMBINE PASSED with eight in favor; one opposed (Fordyce); zero abstained.

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

MOTIONS 15, 16 and 17 PASSED by a roll call vote of the nine eligible voters present with eight in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Gibson, Hart, Hyman, Kwasman, Lovato, Minassian and Ramey); one opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Fordyce); zero abstained.

- 16. Discussion and possible Motion** to approve Welcome Wagon draft letter (to be approved by DONE) to send to New Homeowners.

See above Item #15 MOTION to COMBINE.

DISCUSSION: [This discussion was held before the above Item #15 final call for the question.] Mr. Gibson read aloud the proposed letter. Mr. Kwasman explained that bags would be distributed at NHWNC General Board Meetings and that Melvin Canas [Project Coordinator, DONE; 818-374-9953; cell 323-972-7782; Melvin.Canas@LACity.org; www.EmpowerLA.org] approved the letter.

- 17. Discussion and possible Motion** to allocate \$650 for WW Program from Outreach category as follows:

See above Item #15 MOTION to COMBINE.

- a. Promo item-500 Grocery List pads (maybe magnetic) to be sent with WW letter from Captain Notepad, or other vendor at the same or lower price - cost \$450 including S&H.

See above Item #15 MOTION to COMBINE.

- b. Printing of WW letters on NHWNC letterhead, per draft letter provided to the Board \$70.

See above Item #15 MOTION to COMBINE.

- c. Mailing approx. 100 WW letters, purchase of business size envelopes, stick on address labels and NHWNC name & address logo labels, and other incidentals that may be needed for a total of \$130 from various office supply vendors.

See above Item #15 MOTION to COMBINE.

18. Committee Chair Reports

- a. Outreach -- Sam Kwasman

Mr. Kwasman listed and described outreach projects, events and volunteers.

Board Member Kreshell Ramey left at this time (9:20), making eight Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).

- b. Beautification -- Carol Hart

Ms. Hart is working on the LA Clean Streets Initiative and encouraged recommendations.

c. Emergency Preparedness / Public Safety -- Dave Brown

Mr. Brown reported that volunteers are needed for the Saturday, October 1st 10:00-1:00 Valley Disaster Preparedness Fair at Fire Station 87, 10124 Balboa, just south of Devonshire.

d. Land Use -- David Phelps

Mr. Phelps was not present; there was no report.

e. Rules & Elections -- Punam Gohel

Mr. Gibson reported that a letter was sent to the City Attorney regarding proposed Standing Rules for the NHWNC.

f. Education -- Garry Fordyce

Mr. Fordyce is discussing working with schools.

g. Budget & Finance -- Armando Diaz

Mr. Gibson reported that the Committee will meet every two to three months.

19. Board Member Comments

Mr. Hyman encouraged submitting website articles. Mr. Brown reported that the NHWNC's free audio service is ending; from now on, it would cost. Ms. Minassian announced the Saturday, October 8th Granada Hills Chamber of Commerce Street Faire. Mr. Fordyce summarized the September 8th Homelessness Town Hall, noting that a survey estimated a 30% increase in the San Fernando Valley.

20. Requests For Future Agenda Items

Mr. Lovato encouraged having an Animal Services Dept. representative present about coyotes.

21. Motion to adjourn

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

MOTION to ADJOURN PASSED unanimously; zero opposed; zero abstained.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 9:45 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>.