



NORTH HILLS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
General Board Meeting Minutes Thursday, October 20, 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 7:03 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. Ten of the 12 Board Members were present at the Roll Call: Dan Gibson (President), David Phelps (Vice-President), Dave Brown (Secretary), Armando Diaz (Treasurer), Garry Fordyce, Punam Gohel, Carol Hart, David Hyman, Sam Kwasman and Madlina Minassian. Kreshell Ramey arrived later. Antonino Lovato (excused) was absent. 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. Twelve Board Seats were filled (by election or appointment). One Board Seat was vacant (Residential -- new Residential Seat Board Member Jay Beeber was appointed during below Item #11.). Also attended: approximately 33 Stakeholders and guests.

3. Announcements and Comments - President.

Mr. Gibson thanked Stakeholder Helen Donovan for copying and Mr. Brown for audio services, and Board Members and Stakeholders for attendance and volunteering at the September 24th Congress of Neighborhood Councils and the October 1st Valley Disaster Preparedness Fair. He read aloud a thank you letter to the NHWNC from the CPAB (Community Police Advisory Board http://www.lapdonline.org/devonshire_community_police_station/content_basic_view/8984] for its help with Officer Appreciation Day. There will be a November 12th tribute to veterans and their families at the Mid Valley Regional Library (818-895-3650; <http://www.lapl.org/user/82/contact>; <http://www.lapl.org/branches/mid-valley>); contact Vicky Magaw, Branch Manager, for information.

4. **Discussion and possible action** to approve the NHWNC September 15, 2016 General Board Meeting Minutes.

MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Fordyce): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its September 15, 2016 General Board Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED unanimously.

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

5. **Public Agency Speakers and Announcements.**

[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #11.] 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 the District is recruiting students for magnet programs.

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 free women's self-defense workshops on November 5th that also are open to men.

[This Agenda Item was continued after Item #5.] Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian reported on the legislature investing in education and the reserve fund, and legislation about "common sense gun control," e-cigarettes, a minimum wage increase and climate change. He wrote a bill for the City to allocate more Quimby funds for "park and open space use"; to overturn the light rail ban in the San Fernando Valley; and earthquake retrofitting (see BraceAndBolt.org). He encouraged supporting Measure M and answered many questions.

6. **General Public Comments**

Gary Davis of the Sepulveda Unitarian Universalist Society (also known as The Onion; 818-894-9251; office@sepulvedauu.org; <http://sepulvedauu.org>), announced a family-friendly Halloween costume party. Carl and Keka McCrary, veterans, of the non-profit Heroes Rescue Mission (844-437-6872; Support@HeroesRescueMission.com; www.HeroesRescueMission.com), requested funding.

[This Agenda Item was continued after Item #28.] Stakeholder Adam Halaby was concerned about homelessness and urged coordinating with agencies. Stakeholder Jeff Bengston, an Aqueduct Ave. resident, explained the parking problem.

[This Agenda Item was continued after Item #10.] Stakeholder Denise Rigby, an Aqueduct Ave. resident, was concerned about homeless people and criminal activity.

7. **Presentation** of the Royal Homecoming Court from Monroe High School by Education Chair Garry Fordyce.
John Davidson of the School spoke about the event; the Court was unable to attend.
8. **Presentation** by Raquel Trinidad, Regional Coordinator for the LA Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), concerning the annual Greater LA Homeless Count. Copies were distributed of a flier. Ms. Trinidad explained the Count (213-225-6562; 8 a.m.-5 p.m. hotline 213.225.6581; HomelessCount@lahsa.org; www.facebook.com/lahsa.org), which will be held Tuesday night, January 24th; volunteers are needed.
9. **Presentation** from Somos Familia Valle, an aid organization that works to rescue and support LGBTQ immigrant children many of whom are runaways with no access to resources.
Ronnie Velez explained the organization (<http://bit.ly/sfvpride2016>; #SFVPride), work and need. He encouraged being supportive of their Youth Council. There will be a rights march on Sunday, November 13th starting at 12:30 p.m. at Van Nuys and Sylvan. Help is available.
10. **Presentation** from Denny Zane, Executive Director of Move LA, concerning the LA County Transportation Plan Measure M which is on the Nov. 8th ballot. This measure requires a half-cent sales tax increase. According to Move LA, Measure M is a “game changing traffic-buster.”
L.A. Board of Public Works President Kevin James (213-978-0251; Kevin.James@LACity.org; <http://bpw.lacity.org>), for Mr. Zane, supports Measure M (www.VoteYesOnM.org). He believed it is needed, noting that more people are using public transportation. The 405 Freeway would have “major improvements.” He answered questions.
11. **Discussion and possible action** to appoint stakeholder Jay Beeber to vacant Residential board seat.
Copies of Mr. Beeber’s application were distributed.

MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Fordyce): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council appoints Stakeholder Jay Beeber to its vacant Residential Board Seat.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Beeber introduced himself and described his community service and desire to serve.

MOTION PASSED unanimously.

Mr. Beeber read aloud the Oath of Office.

New Board Member Jay Beeber was Seated with the Board at this time, making 12 Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).

12. **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 Mr. Hyman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council ratifies the President's recommended Chair and Member appointments and changes to Standing and Ad Hoc Committees as follows: remove Dan Gibson from and add Jay Beeber to the Rules and Elections Committee; remove Jim Cockerell from the Planning and Land Use Committee; and remove Jim and Bonnie Cockerell from the Beautification and Infrastructure Committee.

MOTION PASSED unanimously.

13. **Discussion and possible action** to approve the NHWNC September 2016 Monthly Expense Report.

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

DISCUSSION: Copies were distributed of and Mr. Diaz reviewed the "Monthly Expenditure Report" for September 2016; the UnionBank Statement of Accounts; and receipts and invoices.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 12 eligible voters present with all 12 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Beeber, Brown, Diaz, Fordyce, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Hyman, Kwasman, Minassian, Phelps and Ramey); zero opposed; zero abstained.

14. **Discussion and possible action** to appoint 2nd Signer Dan Gibson as NHWNC bank card holder.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Phelps, seconded by Mr. Gohel): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council removes Dan Gibson as its NHWNC bank card signer and appoints him as its bank card Second Signer.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Gibson explained the need.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 12 eligible voters present with all 12 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Beeber, Brown, Diaz, Fordyce, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Hyman, Kwasman, Minassian, Phelps and Ramey); zero opposed; zero abstained.

15. **Discussion and possible action** to allocate \$500 for two Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC) events:

- a. Planning Forum - Thursday, November 10, 2016.
Copies were distributed of an explanatory letter and flier.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Fordyce): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will allocate \$500 for two Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC) events: the Planning Forum - Thursday, November 10, 2016, and the 14th Anniversary Mixer - Thursday, March 9, 2017. Both events will be held at CBS Studios in Studio City.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Gibson explained the events' value. Funding will be allocated from the Operations budget.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the 12 eligible voters present with 11 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Beeber, Brown, Diaz, Fordyce, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Hyman, Kwasman, Minassian and Ramey); zero opposed ("No" or "Nay"); one abstained (the NHWNC counts abstentions as "yes" votes) (Phelps).

- b. 14th Anniversary Mixer - Thursday, March 9, 2017. Both events will be held at CBS Studios in Studio City.
[See above Item #15. a.]

Board Member Dave Brown 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 11 Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven). Recusing is different from abstaining, which is declining to vote "yes" or "no."

- 16. Discussion and possible action** to allocate \$400.00 for hosting the October 1, 2016 monthly meeting of the Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition (LANCC). (Reimbursement to Dave Brown – see invoice attached.) Held at Community Integration Services 10100 Balboa Blvd, Northridge, CA 91325. See <http://www.lancc.org> for more information.
Copies were distributed of an invoice.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Ms. Hart).

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION PASSED unanimously.

MOTION to RECONSIDER (by Mr. Fordyce, seconded by Mr. Hyman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council reimbursing Board Member Dave Brown for \$400.00 in expenses related to the NHWNC hosting the October 1, 2016 monthly meeting of the Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition (LANCC) held at Community Integration Services, 10100 Balboa Blvd., Northridge, CA 91325.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Gibson explained the idea for the original Motion and that it failed at the last [September 15th] Board Meeting. There was extensive discussion that documentation requested at the last Meeting now has been provided, including an

invoice. "Stakeholders from our area" attended. Mr. Gibson read aloud a thank you letter from LANCC officials.

MOTION to RECONSIDER PASSED by a roll call vote of the 11 eligible voters present with five in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Diaz, Gibson, Gohel, Hyman and Kwasman); five opposed ("No" or "Nay") (Fordyce, Hart, Minassian, Phelps and Ramey); one abstained (the NHWNC counts abstentions as "yes" votes) (Beeber); one recused (Brown).

Board Member Dave Brown returned to the room at this time, making 12 Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).

17. Discussion and possible action to appoint Dave Brown, Dan Gibson, Carol Hart and Sam Kwasman as key holders for the NC's Storage Container located at the VA Facility. Items 18-21 originate from the Outreach Committee.

MOTION to TABLE (by Mr. Phelps, seconded by Mr. Gohel): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council TABLES Agenda Item #s 17 through 31 to its next regular Board Meeting.

MOTION to TABLE PASSED; zero opposed; zero abstained.

18. Discussion and possible action to allow for monthly recurring expense (Approx. \$200) for website maintenance.
This Item was TABLED; see above Item #17.

19. Discussion and possible action to approve website expenses to Moore Business Results- Webmaster: Training for volunteers to assist with website maintenance – (\$500 for 4 hrs) - along with an additional \$500 for modifications to website to make it more user friendly and to improve visual appeal. Total \$1000.
This Item was TABLED; see above Item #17.

20. Discussion and possible action to purchase 2-3 containers/carts from an office supply vendor to transport Outreach items to and from various events. (Approx. \$100)
This Item was TABLED; see above Item #17.

21. Discussion and possible action to purchase two different types of click pens with the NHWNC logo. 500 @ \$0.25 ea. and 500 @ \$0.60 ea. + shipping. (Approx. \$600.00) Items 22 – 26 originate from the Planning and Land Use Committee
This Item was TABLED; see above Item #17.

22. Discussion and possible action regarding a draft of the R1 Variation Zones Code Amendment proposed by the Dept. of Planning to create more tailored single family zones that may better account for the diversity of land use patterns and needs Citywide. The proposed amendments were initiated to implement the community's

choice of these new zones in specific areas Citywide and are limited to areas covered by Interim Control Ordinances (ICOs).

a. These ICOs were created as a stop measure to control overbuilding in particular communities, and are effective for two years. The creation of new zones was identified as one possible way to better tailor rules governing building size, scale, massing, etc.

This Item was TABLED; see above Item #17.

b. These amendments do not constitute a wholesale re-zoning of the single family areas Citywide. Communities outside of the ICO areas would have the opportunity to discuss selecting from these new zones during the Community Plan update process for their plan area.

This Item was TABLED; see above Item #17.

23. Discussion and possible action regarding the Committee's position concerning 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 5000 square feet.

This Item was TABLED; see above Item #17.

24. Discussion and possible action regarding the Committee's position concerning a 2,240 S.F. Starbucks development with drive through services and outdoor seating operating from 4PM to 12AM. A new Starbucks pole sign will also be constructed on the NEC of Balboa and Lassen.

Mr. Phelps reported that the Committee met October 18th with Kelly Hayes, Starbucks representative. The Committee did not yet vote; it again will consider the project "after the traffic analysis has been completed." At this Meeting, Ms. Hayes displayed an aerial photo and site plan. Currently the site has a medical office building. She said "the drive-through lane would accommodate ten cars . . . you can exit out onto Balboa . . . or Lassen . . . we have filed an application" for 4:00 a.m. – midnight operating hours. They are working with the City Dept. of Transportation on traffic; she noted that "most of that traffic is already there" by the site's northeast corner. She said "we exceed the landscape requirement." Mr. Fordyce was concerned about traffic impact on a nearby daycare facility. Ms. Hayes said left-turn movements "will be addressed in our report . . . the DOT has the final say." No Motion was made or vote taken.

25. Discussion and possible action regarding the Committee's position concerning the proposed construction of a 5,077 S.F., 18-Bed Congregate Living Health Facility with 6 Parking Stalls located at 16052 W. Chase St. (Case# ENV-2016-3373-EAF & ZA-2016-3372-ZV). Facility would replace a 6-Bed CLHF on a 17,574.4 S.F. Lot in the RA-1 Zone. A Zone Variance hearing has been scheduled through the City Planning Dept. for December 20, 2016 at Van Nuys City Hall.

This Item was TABLED; see above Item #17.

26. Discussion and possible action to file a Community Impact Statement regarding Los Angeles Neighbors in Action v. City of Los Angeles regarding Second Dwelling Units (Council File: 16-0348). The proposed action would legalize Second Dwelling Units (Granny Flats) across the City to state standards, which allow for SDU's of up to 1200 square feet with no minimum lot size requirement.
This Item was TABLED; see above Item #17.

27. Discussion and possible action to support a letter recommended by the board of the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance that calls for LADWP to reach 100% renewable energy by 2030, to refrain from any new investments in fossil fuel infrastructure, and to ensure that all residents of Los Angeles reap the benefits of this transition.
Copies were distributed of an explanatory letter. This Item was TABLED; see above Item #17.

28. Discussion and possible action to award a Neighborhood Purpose Grant in the amount of \$500.00 to the North Valley YMCA's Thanksgiving Food Basket Program. For more information see: <http://www.ymcala.org/metro/news/making-a-difference-everythanksgiving>.
Copies were distributed of an explanatory letter and Neighborhood Purposes Grant Application. Jane Stanton, Director of the North Valley Family YMCA, (818-368-3231; <http://www.ymcala.org/north-valley>), described "working with principals" for 10 years to identify needy families. She described basket contents and explained the program, which includes schools in North Hills West.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Gohel): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will award a Neighborhood Purposes Grant in the amount of \$500.00 to the North Valley YMCA's Thanksgiving Food Basket Program.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Gibson the NHWNC funding procedure.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the 12 eligible voters present with 11 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Brown, Diaz, Fordyce, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Hyman, Kwasman, Minassian, Phelps and Ramey); zero opposed; one abstained (Beeber).

29. Committee Chair Reports

This Item was TABLED; see above Item #17.

- a. Outreach -- Sam Kwasman
- b. Beautification -- Carol Hart
- c. Emergency Prep/PS -- Dave Brown
- d. Land Use -- David Phelps
- e. Rules & Elections -- Punam Gohel
- f. Education -- Garry Fordyce
- g. Budget & Finance -- Armando Diaz

30. Board Member Comments

This Item was TABLED; see above Item #17.

31. Requests For Future Agenda Items

This Item was TABLED; see above Item #17.

32. Motion to Adjourn

MOTION to ADJOURN (by Mr. Gibson; seconded by Mr. Kwasman).

MOTION to ADJOURN PASSED; zero opposed; zero abstained.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 10:16 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>.