



**NORTH HILLS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**  
**Special Board Meeting Minutes Thursday, December 6, 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 7:08 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 13 Board Members were present at the Roll Call: Dan Gibson (President), Dave Brown (Secretary), Jay Beeber, Armando Diaz (Treasurer), Garry Fordyce, Punam Gohel, Carol Hart, Sam Kwasman, Madlina Minassian and Kreshell Ramey. David Phelps (Vice-President) and David Hyman arrived later. Antonino Lovato was absent (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. Also attended: 13 Stakeholders and guests.

**3. Announcements and Comments - President.**

Mr. Gibson reminded Board Members that they signed the Code of Conduct. He reminded Board Members about “how we all behave” to have “a healthy and functioning Board” and the need to “conduct ourselves in an honorable manner.”

**4. Discussion and possible action to approve the NHWNC November 17, 2016 General Board Meeting Minutes.**

**MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Gohel): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its November 17, 2016 General Board Meeting as written.

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

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

Melvin Canas, Neighborhood Empowerment Analyst, DONE, (818-374-9953; cell 323-972-7782; Melvin.Canas@LACity.org; www.EmpowerLA.org), encouraged attending Civic University. Mr. Gohel and, possibly, Ms. Ramey will attend.

*Board Member David Phelps arrived at this time (7:16), making 11 Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).*

Mr. Beeber requested and Mr. Canas agreed to forward the Civic University syllabus to the Board.

**6. General Public Comments**

Stakeholder Helen Donovan requested Board Members to serve food at Meetings “to get to know the Stakeholders.”

*Board Member David Hyman arrived at this time (7:24), making 12 Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).*

**7. 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.**

There were no appointments or changes at this time.

**8. 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.**

Ms. Hart explained the issue and read aloud the letter.

*Board Member Kreshell Ramey 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.”*

There was extensive discussion. Mr. Gibson recommended referring this to the Beautification and Infrastructure Committee.

**MOTION to REFER** (by Mr. Phelps, seconded by Mr. Diaz): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council refers this Item #8 to its Beautification and Infrastructure Committee.

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

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

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

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Kwasman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves a Neighborhood Purposes Grant to the San Fernando Valley Rescue Mission in the amount of \$1,000. Among the many outreach projects for the homeless, the SFVRM operates a mobile shower unit for the homeless in the San Fernando Valley. The SFVRM is putting together funding for a second shower unit.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Brown explained that “they have a route” and “there’s a public schedule.” Mr. Beeber was concerned that this would be “using taxpayer dollars and donating that to a charity.” Mr. Kwasman noted that it could help some homeless people and promote public health. Mr. Gibson said the shower can help homeless people “to participate in other services.”

**AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Phelps, seconded by Mr. Gohel, accepted by Mr. Gibson and Mr. Kwasman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will add the phrase “including a regular stop in the North Hills community” to the above Motion.

**AMENDMENT to the 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 (the NHWNC counts abstentions as “yes” votes) (Beeber).

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

**AMENDED FUNDING MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the 12 eligible voters present with nine in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Diaz, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Hyman, Kwasman, Phelps and Ramey); zero opposed; three abstained (the NHWNC counts abstentions as “yes” votes) (Beeber, Fordyce and Minassian).

**10. Discussion and possible action to approve the NHWNC October 2016 Monthly Expense Report.**

Mr. Diaz reviewed the Report.

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

**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.

**11. Discussion and possible action** to approve the NHWNC November 2016 Monthly Expense Report.

It was agreed to “skip” this Item.

**12. Discussion and possible action** to revise the 2016-17 NHWNC Budget to reflect the additional \$5,000 allocated by the Los Angeles City Council to each Neighborhood Council. Items 13-17 originate from the Outreach Committee.

**DISCUSSION:** There was discussion to allocate the funds as follows.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Ms. Minassian): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will revise the 2016-17 NHWNC Budget to reflect the additional \$5,000 allocated by the Los Angeles City Council to each Neighborhood Council. Items 13-17 originate from the Outreach Committee, with \$3,000 to be allocated to the Outreach budget and \$2,000 allocated to the Operations budget.

**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.

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

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Fordyce): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves \$3,000.00 for printing and mailing of Winter Edition of the Westsider Newsletter.

**DISCUSSION:** Ms. Hart awaits article submissions of at least 250 words. Mr. Kwasman urged Committee Chairs to submit articles.

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

**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 [see the below Motion].

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Hyman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will allow for monthly recurring expense (Approx. \$200) for website maintenance.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Diaz believed more funds needed to be allocated and recommended Tabling this Item.

**MOTION to TABLE** (by Mr. Diaz, seconded by Mr. Kwasman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council TABLES Agenda Item #14.

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

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

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Kwasman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves 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.

**DISCUSSION:** Stakeholder Anita Goldbaum was concerned about why the modifications were needed. Board Members were concerned about additional payments to the Webmaster. Mr. Brown reminded of the need to pay for services performed. Mr. Gibson noted that this was discussed by the Outreach Committee. Mr. Beeber believed this should be deferred to the Committee.

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

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the 12 eligible voters present with 9 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Beeber, Brown, Diaz, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Hyman, Kwasman and Phelps; one opposed: Fordyce, two abstained (the NHWNC counts abstentions as “yes” votes) (Minassian and Ramey).

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

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Diaz): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will purchase 2-3 containers/carts from an office supply vendor to transport Outreach items to and from various events. (Approx. \$100).

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

**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.

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

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Hyman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves \$300.00 to purchase click pens with the NHWNC logo.

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

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

**18. Report from NHWNC Budget Representatives.** (Carol Hart and Punam Gohel)  
Ms. Hart reported on a LANCC (Los Angeles Neighborhood Councils Coalition; [www.LANCC.org](http://www.LANCC.org)) Resolution recommending adopting 2020 Commission recommendations for City budgeting. She read aloud part of the Resolution.

**19. Report from NHWNC Homelessness Liaison.** (Kreshell Ramey)  
Ms. Ramey reported on a November 30<sup>th</sup> City Hall Meeting, where a “comprehensive neighborhood strategy report” was given. She noted that, with a major earthquake, many more people could be homeless. She met December 5<sup>th</sup> with Hope of the Valley Rescue Mission [11134 Sepulveda Blvd.; <http://www.hopeofthevalley.org>].

**20. Committee Reports**

a. Outreach -- Sam Kwasman

Mr. Kwasman reported that the NHWNC will host a holiday party after its Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

b. Beautification -- Carol Hart

Ms. Hart reported that she met with Oakridge Landscape.

c. Emergency Preparedness / Public Safety -- Dave Brown

Mr. Brown reported that he attended a security summit downtown, where it was noted that L.A. small businesses lose millions per year to online fraud.

d. Land Use -- David Phelps

Mr. Phelps reported that the Committee will meet within a week. He will request that the developer of the lot at 9375 Haskell Ave., between Plummer and Tupper, present to the Committee regarding a proposal to re-zone the single-family lot to four single-family home parcels. Also, the developer of the proposed 18-Bed Congregate Living Health Facility proposed for 16052 W. Chase St. will re-present to the Committee; the Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> Hearing was postponed to sometime in January. The transportation study is pending for the proposed Starbucks at the northeast corner of Balboa and Lassen.

e. Rules & Elections -- Punam Gohel

Mr. Gohel encouraged attending the meetings and reported that the Committee discussed staggered elections and Board Member absenteeism.

f. Education -- Garry Fordyce

Mr. Fordyce reported that the Committee will discuss the LCAP [<http://achieve.lausd.net/lcap>] program.

g. Budget & Finance -- Armando Diaz

Mr. Diaz reminded of the need to allocate budgeted funding.

**2. Board Member Comments** [*actually Item #21*]

Ms. Ramey noted that cold weather shelter information is available. Ms. Hart reported that it is estimated that 5,000-6,000 homeless people are youth from abusive homes. Mr. Phelps urged to watch for package thieves. Mr. Gohel reminded "to respect each other."

**3. Requests For Future Agenda Items** [*actually Item #22*]

There were no requests at this time.

**4. Motion to Adjourn** [*actually Item #23*]

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

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

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 9:48 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>.