



**NORTH HILLS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**  
**General Board Meeting Minutes** Thursday, September 21, 2017  
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. Nine of the 13 Board Members were present at the Roll Call: Dan Gibson (President), Jay Beeber (Vice-President), Dave Brown (Secretary), Madlena Minasian (Treasurer), Maggie Elliott, Garry Fordyce, David Hyman, Sam Kwasman and Kreshell Ramey. Punam Gohel arrived later. Armando Diaz, Carol Hart and Antonino Lovato were absent. The NHWNC quorum (the minimum number of Board Members needing to be present to take binding votes on Agendized Items) is seven (see the Bylaws at <https://lacity.quickbase.com/db/bj3apxsp3?a=q&qid=32&qskip=0&qrppg=1000&dlt=su46~>), so the Board could take such votes. Quorum was announced. Mr. Brown reported that all Board Members were eligible to vote. All 13 of the 13 Board Seats were filled (by election or appointment). No Board Seat was vacant: [during Item #8 Armando Diaz' resignation was accepted, vacating a Residential Seat; to apply, email [Secretary@nhwnc.net](mailto:Secretary@nhwnc.net)]. Also attended: 42 Stakeholders and guests.

**3. Announcements and Comments – President.**

Mr. Gibson thanked Helen Donovan for printed materials and Mr. Brown for the sound system. The new Board message phone number is (818) 903-2259. He requested and it was agreed to withdraw Item #14 from the Agenda. He encouraged applying for a Board Seat.

**4. Discussion and possible action to approve the July 20, 2017 General Board Meeting Minutes.**

**MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Ms. Minasian): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its July 20, 2017 General Board Meeting as written.

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

**5. Discussion and possible action** to approve the August 17, 2017 General Board Meeting Minutes.

The following correction to the August 17, 2017 General Board Meeting Minutes was requested: page one, Item #4: "which part of the Minutes were being Tabled" should read "if any corrections were received prior to the Meeting."

**MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Ms. Minasian): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its August 17, 2017 General Board Meeting as corrected.

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

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

Erich King, outgoing Public Safety Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilman Mitch Englander (818-882-1212; Erich.King@LACity.org; <http://CD12.LACity.org>), introduced Matt Hernandez, incoming Public Safety Deputy (Matt.Hernandez@LACity.org). Mr. King described homelessness services work with other City agencies. Jaqueline Serrano, Field Representative for U.S. 29th District of California Congressman Tony Cardenas (ofc. 818-781-7407; cell 818-821-4684; Jaqueline.Serrano@mail.house.gov; <http://cardenas.house.gov>), reported that help is available for federal issues such as Social Security and housing. Judges are sought for the Congressional App Challenge for high school students. A Veterans' Day Forum will have veterans and families resources. Maggi Espada-Hernandez (881-438-2129; Magaly.Hernandez@DignityHealth.org), of Dignity Health, announced a Saturday, April 21, 2018 5K and 10K walks and runs, and business exposition event supporting sexually assaulted children and adults.

**7. General Public Comments**

Ethan Senser, of Food and Water Watch/Stand LA, (FWW) (847-494-0492; EthanSenser@gmail.com; [www.FoodAndWaterWatch.org](http://www.FoodAndWaterWatch.org)), "a coalition of groups" supporting a 2,500-foot buffer between oil drilling operations and schools, hospitals, senior or youth centers, and other facilities, cited health risks. He requested the NHWNC to Agendize considering writing a Community Impact Statement to support the buffer. Aqueduct Ave. resident Jeff Bengston reported that "somebody's been tweaking [his vehicle] mirrors." He believed nighttime parking restrictions to be unnecessary and was concerned that the City will remove traffic lanes.

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

**MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Ms. Elliott): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council accepts the resignation of residential board member Armando Diaz.

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

9. **Discussion and possible action** 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.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Ms. Ramey): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council ratifies its President's removal of Armando Diaz from its Technical Committee.

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

10. **Homelessness Liaison Report** – Kreshell Ramey

Ms. Ramey reported that overnight vehicle parking for homeless people will be allowed at the Methodist Church at 15435 Rayen St. and Langdon from 10:00 p.m. – 7:00 a.m. Also, volunteers are needed for the annual Homeless Count in January.

11. **Report from Budget Advocates**

Brian Allen, of the Budget Advocates [<http://ncbala.com>], explained that they "monitor City services as well as" the City budget. He encouraged feedback regarding the Building and Safety, Street Services and other City departments. The next Regional Budget Day is tentatively scheduled for January 20<sup>th</sup>; all are invited.

12. **Discussion and possible action** to approve the NHWNC August 2017 Monthly Expense Report.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Fordyce): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves its Monthly Expenditure Report for August 2017.

**DISCUSSION**: Mr. Fordyce requested that paid items listed also have their service dates shown.

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

13. **Discussion and possible action** to approve a Neighborhood Purpose Grant (in an amount to be determined by the board - up to the requested amount of \$1,500) to C.E.M.P (California Emergency Mobile Patrol) Search & Rescue. Presentation was made at the August 17, 2017 board meeting by Mike Panman. C.E.M.P primarily serves the LAPD Valley Bureau volunteering to look for Critical Missing individuals and is requesting funding assistance with their new mission manager online software. Please see [www.cemp.org](http://www.cemp.org) for more information.  
Mr. Gibson explained the above.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Hyman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves a Neighborhood Purposes Grant of \$1,500 to C.E.M.P (California Emergency Mobile Patrol) Search & Rescue.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Brown explained that C.E.M.P. staff are volunteers and “this will upgrade their dispatch capabilities.”

*Board Member Punam Gohel arrived at this time (7:49), making 10 Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).*

Mr. Fordyce believed that the City Council would not approve this and he did not “believe we can legally do this.” Mr. Brown explained that this is for “an ongoing annual subscription” for “operational costs.” C.E.M.P. would credit the NHWNC.

**MOTION to TABLE** (by Mr. Beeber, seconded by Mr. Hyman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council TABLES this Item to its next General Board Meeting.

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

- 14. Discussion and possible action** to approve sponsorship for up to \$1,000 (including outreach booth) for New Horizon’s 10th Annual WALK ON THE HORIZON fundraiser supporting New Horizons’ programs and services benefiting individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Please see supporting document and [https:// newhorizons-sfv.org/new-horizons-10th-annual-walk-horizon/](https://newhorizons-sfv.org/new-horizons-10th-annual-walk-horizon/) for more information. Presentation was made by Daryl Rubin, Associate Director of Development at the August 17, 2017 board meeting.

See above Item number three. No Motion was made or vote taken.

- 15. Discussion and possible action** to [see the below Motion]. (The vote was 9 in favor, zero opposed, zero abstained). This action would be to provide funding in the current fiscal year as DONE declined funding in the 2016-17 FY since the project start date is in the 2017-18 FY.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Fordyce): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council ratifies the \$2,000 NPG that NHWNC awarded to Mayall Academy of Arts and Technology on May 31, 2017 for their mural project.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Hyman noted that the school is in the Granada Hills section of the NHWNC. Principal Linda Kim clarified that the estimate includes graffiti coating.

**AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Fordyce): to amend the above Motion to change the NPG to show one mural, not three, at the same \$2,000 cost.

**DISCUSSION:** Ms. Kim explained that the mural would be four feet by five feet on an outside wall and that they are requesting funding from others for more murals.

**AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION FAILED** for lack of a second.

**AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Gohel): to reduce the amount of the NPG to \$1,000.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Fordyce believed the NPG should stay at \$2,000. Mr. Beeber believed that \$2,000 was too much of the NHWNC's NPG budget for one item.

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

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Beeber believed that the project was worthwhile but "more appropriate for private donations." Mr. Brown believed that funding the request was "highly inappropriate at this time" and that there are more urgent needs. Mr. Fordyce believed that the mural would be a good "return on investment" and that the arts need to be supported. Mr. Kwasman believed that the \$2,000 would be better spent for other artistic things such as music equipment, lessons, supplies, etc. and "would like to see [the money] go to something more productive than a mural."

**AMENDED FUNDING MOTION FAILED** by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with five in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Fordyce, Gibson, Gohel, Hyman and Minasian); five opposed ("No" or "Nay") (Beeber, Brown, Elliott, Kwasman and Ramey); zero abstained.

- 16. Discussion and possible motion** to [see the below Motion]. Vendor: JCS Catering Company.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Hyman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council authorizes the expenditure of up to \$500 in support of the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC) Planning and Transportation Forum to be held on 11/9/17 and 15th Anniversary Mixer to be held on 3/8/18 in the amount of up to \$250 each.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Brown observed that VANC "provides some great education."

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

- 17. Update regarding funding request from Mayall Elementary** - Dave Brown.

It was noted that this refers to Glenhill, not Mayall, Elementary School. Mr. Brown explained that he toured the campus and that school staff use radios to communicate across the campus.

*Board Member Madlena Minasian left at this time (8:33), making nine Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).*

Mr. Brown is working with the school on their communication issues.

- 18. Discussion and possible action** regarding the board's position on the proposed construction of a 5,077 S.F., 15-Bed Congregate Living Health Facility with 6

Parking Stalls located at 16052 W. Chase St. (Case# ENV- 2016-3373-EAF & CPC-2016-3372-CU). Applicant is requesting a conditional use permit for a 15-Bed Congregate Living Health Facility with 6 Parking Stalls. Applicant is entitled to construct a 6-bed facility by right. Applicant is requesting an increase from 6 beds to 15 beds. The PLUM Committee voted to oppose the construction of a Congregate Living Health Facility with greater than 6 beds. Supporting documents available on our website at [www.nhwnc.net](http://www.nhwnc.net).

Mr. Beeber noted that this Item has twice been considered by the PLUM Committee and the Board. Benjamin Fiss, of Pacific Zoning [land use consultant representing the proposal; 818-522-2823; Ben@PacificZoning.com] presented and showed slides. He said “see the Minutes of the January 19, 2017 [Item #11] and December 15, 2016 [Item #6] Board Meetings.” He explained needs that would be met by the facility and that there would be “many conditions on noise . . . no smoking . . . we’re happy to add any types of conditions . . . we’re overseen at every level of government . . . no signage . . . a normal home.” He said that “no one has brought up a land use issue” and that “the site itself is 18,000 square feet.”

Stakeholder Arturo Gonzalez supported the project, saying “we received over 190 letters of support” [later in this meeting it was announced as more than 200 letters]. Nurse Guyana Kopova said patients “want to be home”; it’s “a need for the community.” Former Facility [CHLF] patient Cesar Sosa, supported the project. A hospital administrator said the CHLF would be “very comforting; healing.” Nursing student Carmen indicated that she has worked at different facilities and had not experienced “noise . . . [or] traffic issues.” NHWNC PLUM Committee Member Kathy Cryer supported the project. Stakeholder Martha believed “we’re going to have more traffic”; Fran agreed; Deanna Freeman said the area would be “inundated by traffic.” CHLF staffer Ellen said “this is a very much needed service,” especially for people 18 to 65 who have trouble being placed. Mr. Beeber read aloud from written comments from Stakeholders not in attendance. Mr. Ziff explained that the proposed project’s two trash bin areas would be “covered.”

Mr. Kwasman said that 15 beds would be “a commercial entity.” Mr. Brown “fully supports six beds,” however, neighbors are opposed. Mr. Hyman believed “15 [beds] is too overwhelming.” Ms. Ramey believed “it would be better in a commercialized setting.” Mr. Gohel said “six beds I would support.” Mr. Fordyce believed that not supporting the project would be discriminatory. Mr. Beeber noted that in a group of 59 such facilities on a list he had, 56 were six-bed. Mr. Gibson observed that neighbors indicated that “it’s too much, too soon.”

**MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION** (by Mr. Beeber); zero opposed; zero abstained. NHWNC Parliamentarian Mike Kabo explained the potential Motion.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Beeber, seconded by Mr. Gibson): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council opposes the granting of a Conditional Use Permit for a Congregate Living Health Facility of more than six beds at 16052 W. Chase St.

**MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the nine eligible voters present with seven in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Beeber, Brown, Gibson, Gohel, Hyman, Kwasman and Ramey); two opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Elliott and Fordyce); zero abstained.

- 19. Discussion and possible action** regarding the board’s position on a proposal by City officials to increase appeal fees for planning and land use appeals (Council File Number: 09-0969). City officials have proposed increasing the fees in Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) Sections 19.01 through 19.10 (excluding 19.01 F) to full cost recovery. This would have the effect of increasing the fee for non-applicants to appeal land use decisions from the current \$89.00 to \$13,538.00. The PLUM Committee passed the following Motion: To authorize the Committee Chair to draft a letter to be transmitted to the NHWNC Board for approval and transmission to officials of the City of Los Angeles and any other appropriate parties objecting to the proposal by City officials to increase the fee for non-applicants to appeal land use decisions from the current \$89.00 to \$13,538.00.

**MOTION to TABLE** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Kwasman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council TABLES this Item to its next General Board Meeting.

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

- 20. Discussion and possible action** regarding the board’s position on Council File 15-1449, Parking Reform / Technology to Reduce Street Sweeping Tickets. City Council has adopted a pilot program to create a notification system to inform residents of when they can park on a street after it has been swept. This should reduce the number of tickets issued for street sweeping and reduce inconvenience for those who live on streets with street sweeping restrictions. The pilot program will be implemented in Woodland Hills and West LA, and if successful, will be rolled out to the entire city. The original proposal was generated by the Los Angeles Working Group on Parking Reform.

See Item #19.

- 21. Website Report** – Dave Brown  
See Item #19.

- 22. Committee Chair Reports**
- a. Executive Dan Gibson
  - b. Outreach Sam Kwasman
  - c. Beautification Carol Hart
  - d. Emergency Prep/PS Dave Brown
  - e. Planning and Land Use Jay Beeber
  - f. Rules & Elections Punam Gohel
  - g. Education Garry Fordyce
  - h. Budget & Finance Madlena Minasian

See Item #19.

**23. Board Member Comments**

See Item #19.

**24. Requests For Future Agenda Items**

See Item #19.

**25. Motion to Adjourn**

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

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

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 10:20 p.m.

*The first paragraph of some Items, Motions/Resolutions and other wording may have been copied from the Agenda. Minutes written by DL, possibly edited by NHWNC. The NHWNC Minutes page is <http://www.nhwnc.net/agendas-minutes/minutes-and-agendas>.*