



NORTH HILLS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
General Board Meeting Minutes Thursday, January 18, 2018
New Horizons, 15725 Parthenia St., North Hills, CA 91343
Approved February 15, 2018

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. Nine of the 12 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, Carol Hart, David Hyman and Carlos Pelaez. Sam Kwasman and Kreshell Ramey arrived later. Punam Gohel 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 the Bylaws at <https://lacity.quickbase.com/db/bj3apxsp3?a=q&qid=32&qskip=0&qrppg=1000&delta=su46~>), so the Board could take such votes. Quorum was announced. Mr. Brown reported that all Board Members were eligible to vote and that, soon, three Board Members will need to renew their ethics training. Twelve of the 13 Board Seats were filled (by election or appointment). One Board Seat was vacant (Residential); to apply, email Secretary@nhwnc.net. Also attended: 39 Stakeholders and guests.

3. Announcements and Comments – President.

Mr. Gibson thanked Stakeholder Helen Donovan for printing materials and Mr. Brown for providing and operating the sound system. Mr. Gibson added that the Board may use parliamentary procedure to “call for the question” to help manage the meeting. He requested Board Members to review meeting Minutes in advance to save time at meetings. Also, the Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council passed a Motion to enlarge their boundaries to include what currently is part of the NHWNC. He said “I’m waiting for the paperwork . . . it will be given directly to the [NHWNC] Rules and Elections Committee.”

4. **Discussion and possible action** to approve the December 21, 2017 General Board Meeting Minutes.

MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Hyman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its December 21, 2017 General Board Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED; zero opposed; zero abstained.

5. **Public agency speakers and announcements.**

John Brower, new Chief Operating Officer of New Horizons, introduced himself.

Jose Galdamez, Neighborhood Empowerment Analyst, L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE; 818-374-9895; Jose.Galdamez@LACity.org; www.EmpowerLA.org), reported that DONE was updating their website; a new 11-minute funding training video is available that “includes a certification quiz that Board Members need to take.” There will be a live training on Wednesday, March 1st, 5:30-8:00 p.m. at the Mid-Valley Regional Branch Library. He encouraged seeing the EmpowerLA newsletter for more information. The Bylaws amendments deadline is April 15th.

Efren Coral, Senior Lead Officer, LAPD Devonshire Division (office 818-634-0579; 35472@LAPD.LACity.org; http://www.LAPDonline.org/devonshire_community_police_station), reported that “I handle all quality of life concerns.” Recreational marijuana use became legal as of January 1st, however, it still is illegal to smoke it off one’s own private property. He noted an increase in fatal traffic accidents, “almost 60%” of which were determined to be alcohol-related, way above the national average of 33%; he encouraged to “slow down.” There also has been “a huge increase in vehicle-related thefts . . . people are coming into our area . . . don’t store your items in your car . . . park in a lit area.”

Board Member Kreshell Ramey arrived at this time (7:21), making 10 Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).

Officer Coral answered Stakeholders’ questions regarding safety and traffic. He “contacted Valley Traffic Division requesting them to step up enforcement in our area.” Mr. Beeber offered information regarding traffic regulations.

Jasmine Dowl, Chatsworth Park Director (Jasmine.Dowl@LACity.org), announced a Northridge Park “Salute to Recreation” on June 1-3. It will be Friday the 1st from 5:00-10:00 p.m. and all that Saturday and Sunday the 2nd and 3rd with free and family-friendly activities, music and food. The event is 32 years old and is attended by around 80,000 people. They are seeking sponsors. Ms. Dowl submitted a Neighborhood Purposes Grant application and event information. Mr. Gibson indicated that it will be forwarded to the NHWNC Outreach Committee.

[*This Agenda Item was continued after Item #11.*] Benita Trujillo, District Director for L.A. County District Three Supervisor Sheila Kuehl (818-901-3831; BTrujillo@bos.LACounty.gov; <http://www.lacounty.gov/government/supervisors/sheila-kuehl>), reported that Homeless Connect Day will be February 15th, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at Penny Lane; volunteers are needed. She encouraged signing up for their online newsletter and distributed “Community Guides.” Ms. Trujillo explained work to provide services, including affordable housing, for homeless people. Ms. Ramey reported that she met January 9th with Cornerstone homeless services and will forward information for the website about San Fernando Valley Community Mental Health services.

Brian Allen, a Budget Advocate [<http://ncbala.com>], reported on the January 20th Regional Budget Day.

6. General Public Comment

Joe Manuel, Northridge West Neighborhood Council Board Member, announced a March 29th Town Hall “public information meeting” with Dr. Jeffrey Nordella, a Porter Ranch physician who has researched the Porter Ranch / Aliso Canyon natural gas leak. SoCal Gas and others will be there. The Northridge East Neighborhood Council is co-sponsoring the event.

Stakeholder Linda Erdman was concerned about problems with people parking on Haskell Ave., including parking on the “aprons” on her property next to the street. Also, people are smoking marijuana at the Nordhoff and Haskell bus stop near a school.

Aqueduct Ave. resident Jeff Bengston, regarding parking, “talked with the City Attorney” and threatened to sue “you guys” (the NHWNC), the City and the Police. He stated that “I’ll have the attorney go ahead and sue you guys . . . it won’t cost me anything because it’s a disability thing . . . government jerks trying to screw us all over.” This relates to the effect the restricted over-nite parking on Aqueduct has had on his personal off street night parking situation.

7. **Discussion and possible action** to ratify the President’s recommended Chair and Member appointments and changes to Standing and Ad Hoc committees as well as NHWNC liaisons. The president recommends appointing Vice President Jay Beeber as NHWNC liaison to the film industry.

MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Ms. Ramey): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council appoints Vice-President Jay Beeber as the NHWNC Film Liaison to the film industry.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Beeber explained the role, which deals with the City’s FilmLA. He said he has “experience in the film industry.”

MOTION PASSED; zero opposed; zero abstained.

Mr. Gibson explained parliamentary procedure and gave more information regarding a “call for the question,” which involves limiting debate.

8. Discussion and possible action to approve the December 2017 Monthly Expenditure Report.

Copies were distributed of the “Monthly Expenditure Report” for December 2017, and receipts and statements.

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

DISCUSSION: Ms. Minasian reported that the Board Action Certification form “wasn’t uploading” and that she awaits the City’s response to her help request.

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, Hart, Hyman, Minasian, Pelaez and Ramey); zero opposed; zero abstained.

9. Discussion and possible action to re-authorize expenditures for the previous fiscal year to be paid currently in the amount of \$227.94 to Dave Brown for May and June 2017 GBM refreshments and office supplies.

Receipt copies were distributed.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Beeber): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council re-authorizes expenditures for the previous fiscal year to be paid currently in the amount of \$227.94 to Dave Brown for May and June 2017 General Board Meeting refreshments and office supplies.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Gibson explained that “there was a period where we could not use the credit card.” The funding would be allocated from this Fiscal Year’s funds and “this falls under Outreach . . . we’ve done the research.”

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Mr. Beeber, seconded by Mr. Hyman); no opposition.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with nine in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Beeber, Brown, Elliott, Gibson, Hart, Hyman, Minasian, Pelaez and Ramey); one opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Fordyce); zero abstained.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with nine in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Beeber, Brown, Elliott, Gibson, Hart, Hyman, Minasian, Pelaez and Ramey); one opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Fordyce); zero abstained.

10. Discussion and possible action regarding the Board's position on a proposed conditional use permit (CUB - CONDITIONAL USE BEVERAGE) to allow on and offsite sale and consumption of beer in conjunction with a production microbrewery at 16745 Schoenborn St. Applicant is requesting a conditional use permit (CUB - CONDITIONAL USE BEVERAGE) to allow the sale and consumption of beer in conjunction with their production microbrewery Cellador Ales at 16745 Schoenborn St., North Hills 91343. The NHWNC PLUM Committee unanimously voted to recommend supporting this application. Supporting documents available on our website at www.nhwnc.net.

Board Member Sam Kwasman arrived at this time (7:57), making 11 Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).

Mr. Beeber reported that the Land Use Committee unanimously supported this. Owners Kevin and Sarah Osborn said they started the microbrewery in 2017. Project-related documents were passed around. Their Hearing will be February 20th. Mr. Osborn reported that "we have multiple security guards 24-7 . . . we're applying for the Conditional Use to all tasting . . . probably" Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays "to start . . . at least for the first couple of years, probably four to ten at night . . . we'll probably have food trucks come once in a while." Mr. Fordyce complained that "there's virtually no information whatsoever." Mr. Beeber pointed out that "everything is on our website." Board Members passed the project-related documents to Mr. Fordyce, who stated that "there's no way I can see it now."

MOTION (by the Planning and Land Use Management Committee): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council supports the application for a Conditional Use Permit (CUB - Conditional Use Beverage) to allow on- and off-site sale and consumption of beer in conjunction with a proposed tasting room with 28 indoor seats operating from 9a-12a daily at the production microbrewery located at 16745 Schoenborn St., North Hills, Ca.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Osborn indicated the microbrewery is 3,700 total square feet, of which 500 square feet would be tasting area; "it's mostly production space."

Board Member Sam Kwasman stepped out at this time, making 10 Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Mr. Beeber, seconded by Ms. Hart); no opposition.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with nine in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Beeber, Brown, Elliott, Gibson, Hart, Hyman, Minasian, Pelaez and Ramey); one opposed ("No" or "Nay") (Fordyce); zero abstained.

Board Member Sam Kwasman returned at this time, making 11 Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).

MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the 11 eligible voters present with ten in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Beeber, Brown, Elliott, Gibson, Hart, Hyman, Kwasman, Minasian, Pelaez and Ramey); one opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Fordyce); zero abstained.

Items 12 -16 come to us from the Emergency Preparedness and Public Safety Committee and therefore do not require a second.

11. Discussion and possible action regarding approval of a letter to Councilmember Englander of CD 12 requesting red curb painting on either side of driveways as appropriate on Haskell Ave. between Chase St. and Nordhoff St. In addition, a request for alternate day of week street sweeping signage identical to adjacent neighborhood as well as a request for additional resource allocation to reduce excessive vehicle speeding on Haskell Ave. in the same area as referenced above. There has been a chronic problem of people parking cars that block driveways, mailboxes and trash cans with some cars being left for extended periods of time. (Hart)

Copies were distributed of a draft letter that Ms. Hart wrote to the LADOT that also would be sent to City Council District 12 Transportation Deputy Eric Moody; she read it aloud and explained the issue. Mr. Beeber recommended physically showing officials the site in addition to mailing them the letter. He cautioned about possible unintended consequences, such as ticketing because of parking during street cleaning times. Ms. Ramey noted that “this was brought up at the Emergency Preparedness meeting . . . it’s important to keep a log of dates and times.” Mr. Fordyce believed that “all we’re doing is pushing the problem” elsewhere, saying “I don’t see this as being a solution . . . there is no need for red zoning.” There was discussion of possible letter revisions. Ms. Hart expressed that the letter is an “attempt to” address concerns of the Ad Hoc Aqueduct / Haskell Ave. Committee. It was said that the City is not responding to calls and emails.

MOTION (by the Emergency Preparedness and Public Safety Committee): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves sending a letter to Councilmember Englander of CD 12 requesting red curb painting on either side of driveways as appropriate on Haskell Ave. between Chase St. and Nordhoff St. In addition, a request for alternate day of week street sweeping signage identical to adjacent neighborhood as well as a request for additional resource allocation to reduce excessive vehicle speeding on Haskell Ave. in the same area as referenced above.

MOTION WITHDRAWN by Ms. Hart on behalf of the Committee.

MOTION (by Mr. Beeber, seconded by Mr. Gibson): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council authorizes Board Member Carol Hart to represent the NHWNC to meet with the City Council Office and the L.A. Dept. of Transportation to address the parking and access problems in and around Haskell Avenue.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Fordyce asked “what happened to looking at the entire community?” Mr. Brown noted that “the source of the problem is inadequate parking east of the 405.”

MOTION PASSED; one opposed (Fordyce); zero abstained.

- 12. Discussion and possible action** allocating up to \$500.00 to Dunn-Edwards Paints for specialty coating paint for the NHWNC storage container. Product is Sta-Kool Metal-X at \$120.00 per 5 gallon unit, 3 units needed. Also roller frames & covers, trim brushes and gloves. See pro forma invoice from Dunn-Edwards for specifics. (Brown) Product information at: <https://gardnercoatings.com/collections/white-elastomeric-roofcoatings/products/sta-kool-805-metal-x>

Copies were distributed of a price quote.

FUNDING MOTION (by the Emergency Preparedness and Public Safety Committee): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will allocate up to \$500.00 to Dunn-Edwards Paints for specialty coating paint for the NHWNC storage container.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Brown explained the need and benefits. The color would be white and is expected to last 30 years. Mr. Gibson said “this is useful to the Council and needs to be taken care of.”

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 11 eligible voters present with all 11 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Beeber, Brown, Elliott, Fordyce, Gibson, Hart, Hyman, Kwasman, Minasian, Pelaez and Ramey); zero opposed; zero abstained.

- 13. Discussion and possible action** allocating up to \$2,200.00 to Winner International for the purchase of the auto anti-theft device referred to as the “Club”. There are two models of the steering wheel lock called the Club available at a special law enforcement manufacturers discount price: model 504 at \$10.99 and model 3000 at \$12.49. The model 3000 is slightly bigger for full size SUV’s and pickups, but note that a key is NOT required to lock it in place like the smaller unit. Exact final mix of units to be determined with input from LAPD SLO and Detectives. Manufacturer additionally offers free shipping on orders that meet \$2,000.00. See pro forma invoice. (Brown)

Copies were distributed of a price quote. The method of distribution of the Clubs was to be determined by the Board at a later date; they would be given to Stakeholders as outreach. There was discussion of to whom and how the Clubs would be distributed. Mr. Brown explained the need, benefits and how the Club works. Mr. Fordyce complained that “this conversation has been all over the map . . . if there’s 20,000 people in the community, we better come up with 20,000 of them . . . how’s this going to benefit North Hills West?” Mr. Brown explained that “this is a limited

time promotional offer from the manufacturer.” Mr. Allen suggested “we distribute at meetings as long as they last.” Ms. Hart noted the Club’s possible “deterrent” value. Mr. Fordyce believed the Club may not provide a “return on investment” to the NHWNC.

FUNDING MOTION (by the Emergency Preparedness and Public Safety Committee): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will allocate up to \$2,200.00 to Winner International for the purchase of the auto anti-theft device referred to as the “Club.”

DISCUSSION: Mr. Fordyce believed the expenditure may not be legal.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the 11 eligible voters present with nine in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Beeber, Brown, Elliott, Gibson, Hart, Hyman, Kwasman, Minasian and Pelaez); two opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Fordyce and Ramey); zero abstained.

14. **Discussion and possible action** to allocate a \$600.00 Neighborhood Purpose Grant to the Southern California Preparedness Foundation to go towards the purchase of 60 CERT class completion kits. Our \$600.00 would represent 20 kits at a 50% discount. Two collaborating Neighborhood Councils: Panorama City and North Hills East are doing the same. This would be for the CERT 1 class beginning January 16 at Kaiser, and finishing February 27th, when kits will be awarded to those receiving course completion certificates for this class from LAFD. The \$600.00 per (3) NC’s represents 50% of the total kit cost. The Southern California Preparedness Foundation, producer and organizer of the annual Valley Disaster Preparedness Fair is covering the balance, as long as all 3 NC’s contribute, and is also facilitating kit ordering and distribution. We have already allocated up to \$300 for refreshments for the 7 classes.

Board Members Dave Brown and Maggie Elliott recused (self-declared as ineligible to vote on the Motion due to a possible or known conflict of interest; both are Board Members of the Southern California Preparedness Foundation) from voting on the below Motion and left the room at this time, making nine Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven). Recusing is different from abstaining, which is declining to vote “yes” or “no.”

Class information and copies of the NPG application were distributed.

FUNDING MOTION (by the Emergency Preparedness and Public Safety Committee): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves a \$600.00 Neighborhood Purpose Grant to the Southern California Preparedness Foundation to go towards the purchase of 60 CERT class completion kits.

DISCUSSION: Martha Cortez, Public Safety Chair of the Panorama City Neighborhood Council (PCNC), said “we wanted to collaborate with other neighboring Neigh-

borhood Councils to bring a CERT class to our community” and distribute “starter kits.” PCNC has already approved, and the North Hills East Neighborhood Council has agendized; while the Foundation is funding half the total cost. She noted that “we’re also coordinating a bilingual class.” Kits are given “upon completion of the CERT training class . . . 25 registered people” attended the first class. Kits contain a “first aid starter bag . . . helmet . . . backpack...PPE’s (personal protection equipment)” and emergency preparedness information. She described Facebook, Nextdoor and other outreach for the class. Attendees are from around the north-east Valley. Mr. Fordyce believed that “once again, we’ve been denied” information about what is in the kit; he claimed that “there should be a complete list . . . 35 kits unaccounted for . . . we never see any accounting” of what the Foundation is doing. Martha explained that any additional kits would be “for a series of ongoing CERT classes,” possibly again in March, and the Foundation is also contributing to those to help make the classes happen.

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

Board Members Dave Brown and Maggie Elliott, who had recused from voting, returned to the room at this time, making 11 Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).

15. Discussion and possible action to allocate up to \$350.00 for concrete primer, paint , gloves, brushes and roller covers, and a brass stencil kits to re-paint curbside house numbers of NWHC stakeholders who expressly sign up for the service. Because the Neighborhood Council is under the insurance umbrella of the City, no fee is being charged for the service and folks have to indicate prior approval, it may be possible to avoid a permit fee. It would be possible to additionally include the NC logo by ordering a custom gobo stencil. (Brown) Permit information at: <https://bsspermits.lacity.org/curbpainting/index.htm>

FUNDING MOTION (by the Emergency Preparedness and Public Safety Committee): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will allocate up to \$350.00 for concrete primer, paint , gloves, brushes and roller covers, and a brass stencil kits to re-paint curbside house numbers of NWHC stakeholders who expressly sign up for the service.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Brown explained the need and that many requests and “extensive chatter” on Nextdoor indicated that unauthorized people are painting curbs. He clarified that “the homeowner would have to request this service” that would take “about 15 minutes per” address. Mr. Hyman recommended also painting the tops of curbs, not only the sides. Ms. Ramey noted that it is not required to paint addresses on curbs and believed the “expenditure is not useful.” Mr. Fordyce there is a need “to reach out to the entire community . . . with a fair and just participation.”

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the 11 eligible voters present with nine in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Beeber, Brown, Elliott, Gibson, Hart, Hyman, Kwasman, Minasian and Pelaez); two opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Fordyce and Ramey); zero abstained.

Board Member Madlena Minasian left at this time (10:05), making 10 Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).

16. Discussion and possible action regarding the Board’s position on California Senate Bill 827. SB-827 introduced by State Senators Scott Wiener (San Francisco) and Nancy Skinner (Berkeley) would, throughout the entire State of California, exempt housing projects within a one-half mile radius of a major transit stop or a one-quarter mile radius of a high-quality transit corridor from any limits on residential density or floor area ratio, minimum automobile parking requirements, or height restrictions of less than 85 feet (55 feet where the street is less than 45 feet wide). A “High-quality transit corridor” is defined as a corridor with bus service running at least every 15 minutes during peak commute hours. A “Major transit stop” is defined as a rail transit station or the intersection of two or more major bus routes with a frequency of service interval of 15 minutes or less during peak commute periods. http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180SB827

Information about SB-827 was distributed. Mr. Beeber explained the issue. “This would eliminate all our zoning . . . this is a direct assault.” He noted possible future designations that could result in application of the Bill’s provisions, including that “there would be no parking requirements.” Board Members spoke in opposition to the Bill.

MOTION (by the Emergency Preparedness and Public Safety Committee): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council opposes Senate Bill 827 and will send a letter to that effect with an explanation as to the NHWNC’s concerns to City Council Member Mitch Englander asking him to introduce a Motion that the City oppose Senate Bill 827. Further, that if this matter comes before the City Council, or any City Council Committee, that the NHWNC Board President be authorized to send a Community Impact Statement in behalf of the NHWNC expressing the NHWNC’s opposition to Senate Bill 827 and the reasons why. Further, the NHWNC recommends that the City Council include in its 2017-2018 State legislation program opposition to SB-827.

MOTION PASSED; zero opposed; one abstained (the NHWNC does not count abstentions as votes) (Hyman).

17. Motion to Adjourn

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

MOTION to ADJOURN PASSED; zero opposed; zero abstained.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 10:19 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>.