



**NORTH HILLS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**  
**General Board Meeting Minutes** Thursday, July 19, 2018  
at New Horizons, 15725 Parthenia St., North Hills, CA 91343  
Minutes Approved August 16, 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 7:08 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

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

Roll Call was taken by the Secretary. Eleven of the 13 Board Members were present at the Roll Call: Dan Gibson (President), Dave Brown (Secretary), Madlena Minasian (Treasurer), Pat Crone, Maggie Elliott, Garry Fordyce, Punam Gohel, Carol Hart, Sam Kwasman, Carlos Pelaez and Kreshell Ramey. Jay Beeber (Vice-President) arrived later. David Hyman 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&dlt=su46~>), so the Board could take such votes. Quorum was announced. Mr. Brown confirmed that all Board Members were eligible to vote. All 13 of the 13 Board Seats were filled (by election or appointment). No Board Seats were vacant. Also attended: 20 Stakeholders and guests.

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

Mr. Gibson thanked Stakeholder Helen Donovan for printing materials, Mr. Brown for providing and operating the sound system, and the Minutes Writer for writing the Minutes. He reminded of the Code of Civility and that “everyone voted . . . for this Code.”

**4. Public Agency Speakers and Announcements.**

Linda Hernandez, of the California Victim Assistance Program [818-832-1769; [Linda.Hernandez@LACity.org](mailto:Linda.Hernandez@LACity.org); [www.LACityAttorney.org](http://www.LACityAttorney.org)], explained that the City program is to “help victims of violent crime” and “can help victims connect with . . . resources . . . [and] recoup some expenses.” She explained qualifications needed and that, usually, the crime must have occurred within the last three years.

**5. General Public Comment**

Glenn Bailey, as Northridge East NC President, reported that the boundary adjustment was approved on July 16<sup>th</sup> and that the offer is still available of having joint (NENC and NHWNC) Board Meetings at Fire Station 87. He encouraged attending the September 22<sup>nd</sup> Congress of Neighborhood Councils at City Hall. Free breakfast and lunch will be served, there will be more than 30 workshops and 800-900 NC Board Members from around the City. He thanked the NHWNC for helping to fund it. Mr. Bailey reported that City Clerk funding guidelines were revised on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

- 6. Presentation** from Scott Wyskocil, Secretary of the Van Nuys Airport Community Garden concerning the history and current operations of the club. Mr. Wyskocil presented, with Garden President Dave Ringer also present. The Garden has been there since 1974 and has “around 80 families involved.” A recent City Council decision caused the Garden to have rate increases of 440% for water and 230% for waste removal.

*Board Member Jay Beeber arrived at this time (7:30), making 12 Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).*

Mr. Wyskocil said that “the majority of our membership is from the San Fernando Valley . . . we’re a non-profit organization . . . we’ve had such little turnover.” There is a wait list to get in; “we’ve never had empty plots.”

**7. Update from Budget Advocates.**

Brian Allen, a Budget Advocate [<http://ncbala.com>], reported that “we’re just starting out” for this Fiscal Year. The NC Funding Equity Group will meet July 31<sup>st</sup>.

**8. Report from Homelessness Liaison** -- Kreshell Ramey.

Ms. Ramey reported that the NC Homeless Liaisons will meet July 30<sup>th</sup> and have a monthly San Fernando Valley meeting.

**9. Update from Carol Hart regarding Haskell/Aqueduct parking issues.**

Ms. Hart updated that the Ad Hoc Aqueduct / Haskell Ave. Committee will meet in August, possibly at CD12

**10. 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.

There were no appointments or changes at this time.

**11. Discussion and possible action** to approve the June 21, 2018 General Board Meeting Minutes.

The following correction to the June 21, 2018 General Board Meeting Minutes was requested: page two, Item #4, the CD12 report: “Aqueduct Ave. parking.” should read “Haskell Ave. / Aqueduct Ave. parking”

**MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Ms. Ramey): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its June 21, 2018 General Board Meeting as corrected.

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

- 12. Discussion and possible action** to approve the June 2018 Monthly Expenditure Report. (Available on NC Funding System online portal: <https://cityclerk.lacity.org/NCFundPortal/Dashboard.html>)

Copies were distributed of the “Monthly Expenditure Report” for June 2018, and a receipt(s), statement(s) and/or invoice(s).

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Ms. Minasian, seconded by Mr. Gohel): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves its Monthly Expenditure Report for June 2018.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Fordyce questioned why there was an allocation for printing and said “I don’t believe the Board should be supportive . . . for individual Board Members.” He asked “if Mr. Brown has paid back the \$224”; we shouldn’t reimburse items . . . until it has been paid.” Mr. Brown clarified that the City doubly reimbursed him the \$224 and he since gave the extra \$224 back to the City.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the 12 eligible voters present with 11 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Beeber, Brown, Crone, Elliott, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Kwasman, Minasian, Pelaez and Ramey); one opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Fordyce); zero abstained.

- 13. Discussion and possible action** to approve additional keys to be made for heavier duty Butch locks for the NC storage bin, NTE \$100.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Ms. Elliott): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves additional keys to be made for heavier duty Butch locks for the NC storage bin, not to exceed \$100.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Gibson explained the need; Mr. Brown explained the lock. Mr. Fordyce “would like to see a better description” of the locks. Mr. Brown is “going to donate the locks,” for which there will be up to 12 keys; only the keys need to be bought.

**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, Crone, Elliott, Fordyce, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Kwasman, Minasian, Pelaez and Ramey); zero opposed; zero abstained.

- 14. Reimbursement of Board member Dave Brown** for misc. expenses, total: \$149.02.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Kwasman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will reimburse Board Member Dave Brown for miscellaneous expenses, total: \$149.02.

*Board Member Punam Gohel left at this time, making 11 Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).*

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Brown explained that the expenses were for meeting refreshments and shipping for microphone repairs that had been paid. Mr. Fordyce thought this would be a payment for “unsubstantiated charges.” Mr. Gibson emphasized that “it’s already taken place . . . downtown.”

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the 11 eligible voters present with nine in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Beeber, Brown, Crone, Elliott, Gibson, Hart, Kwasman, Minasian and Pelaez); one opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Fordyce); one abstained (the NHWNC does not count abstentions as votes) (Ramey).

Mr. Gibson urged “to coordinate with [him] regarding credit card expenditures.”

*[The following paragraph is copied from the Agenda.]* All proposals/recommendations in Items [15 - 17] are from the Rules and Election Committee meeting held on July 12, 2018 and, therefore, do not require a second. All items passed on a unanimous vote of the three committee members.

**15. Discussion and possible action** regarding a proposal from the Rules and Election Committee to amend the NHWNC Bylaws, ARTICLE V, Section 7: Absences – to read: Reinstatement Process- If requesting reinstatement, the former Board Member must, within ten (10) days of the third consecutive or fifth total absence, notify the Presiding Officer in writing of their intent to request reinstatement. The Presiding Officer or their designee ~~will~~ *[add the following word]* shall schedule the request to be heard at the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting. Upon hearing the former Board Member’s request, the Board will vote as to reinstatement ~~and any conditions regarding further attendance the former Board member must meet to remain on the Board.~~ *[Add the following sentences.] The Board may make the Board Member’s reinstatement subject to any reasonable conditions as the Board may see fit to impose. If reinstated, the reinstated Board Member’s prior absences shall remain on the record and any subsequent absences shall subject the Board Member to removal per the policy on absences as established within this section.*

**MOTION** (by the Rules and Elections Committee): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council amends its Bylaws, ARTICLE V, Section 7: Absences – to read: Reinstatement Process- If requesting reinstatement, the former Board Member must, within ten (10) days of the third consecutive or fifth total absence, notify the Presiding Officer in writing of their intent to request reinstatement. The Presiding Officer or their designee shall schedule the request to be heard at the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting. Upon hearing the former Board Member’s request, the Board will vote as to reinstatement. The Board may make the Board Member’s reinstatement subject to any reasonable conditions as the Board may see fit to impose. If reinstated, the reinstated Board Member’s prior absences shall remain on the record and any subsequent absences shall subject the Board Member to removal per the policy on absences as established within this section.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Beeber explained that “it’s a rolling annual; it’s not per calendar year . . . we’re going to make a request” for DONE [the L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment; 818-374-9895; www.EmpowerLA.org] to amend the Bylaws “whenever they’re willing to.” Mr. Fordyce stated that “this is a very incomplete

representation” of the Bylaws; he thought it was “cherry-picking.” Mr. Beeber asked and no one else indicated any confusion or lack of clarity.

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

- 16. Discussion and possible action** regarding a proposal from the Rules and Election Committee to [see the below Motion].

**MOTION** (by the Rules and Elections Committee): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council adds the following language to the standing rules of the NHWNC: “Members of the NHWNC may attend regional or city-wide NC alliance meetings or meetings of other organizations and may speak on any subject but must clearly state that the views they are expressing are their own personal views and do not necessarily represent the view of the NHWNC. Once the NHWNC has taken an official position on a matter, a NHWNC board member in attendance at a regional or city wide NC alliance meeting or a meeting of another organization may convey the position taken by the NHWNC provided that they do so accurately and completely. NHWNC board members may not vote as representatives of the board on any matter at regional or city-wide NC alliance meetings or a meeting of another organization unless said board member is the board’s official representative to that body or they have otherwise been authorized to vote on behalf of the board through an official action of the board.”

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Beeber explained the need and gave “some background.” He described possible scenarios that could occur at VANC (the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils) or other organizations. There was very extensive discussion about this. Ms. Minasian said “we want to make sure the representative is representing all of our interests.” Ms. Ramey believed the Motion wording was not good; she wanted the Motion only to refer to appointing someone to represent the NHWNC. Mr. Brown stated that “this allows the Neighborhood Council to present a more unified, cohesive front.”

**MOTION PASSED** with 10 in favor; one opposed (Ramey); zero abstained.

- 17. Discussion and possible action** to file a Community Impact Statement in support Council File 18-0270 to reform and improve the Neighborhood Council system. The Rules and Election Committee makes the following recommendations as to LA City Councilmember David Ryu’s motion Council File: 18-0467 regarding changes to the NC system. The full council file can be found here: <https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=18-0467>. The motion can be found here: [http://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2018/18-0467\\_mot\\_05-25-2018.pdf](http://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2018/18-0467_mot_05-25-2018.pdf)

- Recommendation to change the name of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) to the Neighborhood Councils Department (NCD), the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (BONC) to the Neighborhood Councils Commission (NCC), and phasing out the use of the term/branding ‘EmpowerLA’ due to the confusion reported by the public and the perception of Neighborhood Council members that DONE’s role should be primarily to support Neighborhood Councils, which the name Neighborhood Councils Department would better reflect.

## R&E Recommendation 1 - Support

- Recommendation to remove the “Community Impact Stakeholder,” which has caused substantial confusion and disputed elections, and recommendations and next steps for including specific additional definitions by ordinance of eligible voters and board members of Neighborhood Councils, such as student or parent/guardian of a student.

R&E Recommendation 2 - Support elimination of “Community Impact/Community Interest Stakeholder”. To prevent the substantial confusion, disputed elections, and potential takeover of Neighborhood Councils by outside interests that has occurred in the past or may occur in the future, the NHWNC supports a narrow definition of “stakeholder”. Any person deemed a stakeholder that is eligible to vote or serve as a board member must have a substantial, ongoing, stake in the neighborhood. Residents, owners of real property, and owners of licensed businesses where their primary place of operation is located within the Neighborhood Council’s boundaries fit this definition. The following persons, among others, would not necessarily meet this narrow definition of stakeholder: Parents of children attending a school within the NC Persons who simply work within the boundaries of the NC Persons who are members of a secular or religious institution, organization or club which meets or is located within the NC. Persons who avail themselves of governmental services within the NC. Persons who patronize businesses within the NC. Persons who recreate within the NC Further, the NHWNC believes in the concept of “one person, one vote”. Therefore, stakeholders should be limited to stakeholder status in one and only one NC.

- Recommendation to remove any reference to “selections” and clarify that Neighborhood Council board members will be elected.

## R&E Recommendation 3 – Support.

- Recommendation to create a one-time review process, overseen by the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners, to evaluate Neighborhood Council bylaws to determine if board seats are equitably allocated amongst stakeholder types and provide formal suggestions to Neighborhood Councils on ways to adjust board seats as needed to increase equity.

R&E Recommendation 4 – Oppose. The demographics of each NC are specific to that NC. Some NC’s, such as NHWNC are primarily residential in nature and have few businesses or other types of institutions within their boundaries. Therefore, forcing the allocations of board seats to be “equitable” would actually reduce equity as minority interests would gain influence beyond their proportions. Further, the term “equity” is too loosely defined. Finally, we do not have confidence in the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners to fairly and efficiently conduct this evaluation.

- Recommendations and next steps for adopting regulations to provide a uniform minimum voting age and board member age to allow consistent participation across the City, and what that age should be.

R&E Recommendation 5 – Support a uniform voting age of 18 years old as in all other elections.

- Recommendations and next steps for developing and adopting a planning and land use training required for all Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Neighborhood Council planning and land use committees.

R&E Recommendation 6 – Support the creation of such training but oppose making this training mandatory. Some Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Neighborhood Council planning and land use committees have extensive experience in this area and have been serving in this capacity for many years. It is unnecessary to force these individuals to take additional training. Further, we do not have confidence that DONE, the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners, or any other entity within the city is competent to objectively determine which Chairs and Vice-Chairs have sufficient training and which do not. Finally, it is inappropriate for the city to impose even greater demands upon the time of NC members without just compensation.

- Recommendation for Neighborhood Councils to be able to roll-over a non-cumulative maximum of \$10,000 in any given fiscal year.

R&E Recommendation 7 – Support.

- Recommendations and next steps for to remove the expiration of the ability for Neighborhood Councils to accept in-kind or monetary donations.

R&E Recommendation 8 – Oppose. Allowing NC's to accept in-kind or monetary donations opens the democratic process up to possible corruption by moneyed special interests.

- On the costs and other implications of holding all Neighborhood Council elections on the same day in order to provide for a uniform citywide advertising and outreach campaign.

R&E Recommendation 9 – No objection.

- Develop a process to assist Neighborhood Councils with accessing shared space in City facilities.

R&E Recommendation 10 – Support.

- Develop an ongoing compendium of best practices generated from Neighborhood Councils and share those on a periodic basis with all Neighborhood Councils and include 'how-to guides' for accomplishing those best practices.

R&E Recommendation 11 – Support.

- Develop point of contact lists for key city departments and agencies, and share those lists with Neighborhood Councils, facilitate the training of those points of contact at those relevant departments on the most fruitful ways to assist and communicate with Neighborhood Council members, and coordinate with Neighborhood Councils to formally appoint a point of contact at each NC to communicate between each NC and the point of contact at each department, thus creating a single line of communication.

R&E Recommendation 12 – Support.

**MOTION** (by the Rules and Elections Committee): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will file a Community Impact Statement regarding LA City Councilmember David Ryu's motion, Council File: 18-0467, that recommends changes to the NC system as follows:

- Recommendation to change the name of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) to the Neighborhood Councils Department (NCD), the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (BONC) to the Neighborhood Councils Commission (NCC), and phasing out the use of the term/branding 'EmpowerLA' due to the confusion reported by the public and the perception of Neighborhood Council members that DONE's role should be primarily to support Neighborhood Councils, which the name Neighborhood Councils Department would better reflect. The NHWNC supports this.
- Recommendation to remove the "Community Impact Stakeholder," which has caused substantial confusion and disputed elections, and recommendations and next steps for including specific additional definitions by ordinance of eligible voters and board members of Neighborhood Councils, such as student or parent/guardian of a student. The NHWNC supports elimination of "Community Impact/Community Interest Stakeholder". To prevent the substantial confusion, disputed elections, and potential takeover of Neighborhood Councils by outside interests that has occurred in the past or may occur in the future, the NHWNC supports a narrow definition of "stakeholder". Any person deemed a stakeholder that is eligible to vote or serve as a board member must have a substantial, ongoing, stake in the neighborhood. Residents, owners of real property, and owners of licensed businesses where their primary place of operation is located within the Neighborhood Council's boundaries fit this definition. The following persons, among others, would not necessarily meet this narrow definition of stakeholder: Parents of children attending a school within the NC Persons who simply work within the boundaries of the NC Persons who are members of a secular or religious institution, organization or club which meets or is located within the NC. Persons who avail themselves of governmental services within the NC. Persons who patronize businesses within the NC. Persons who recreate within the NC Further, the NHWNC believes in the concept of "one person, one vote". Therefore, stakeholders should be limited to stakeholder status in one and only one NC.
- Recommendation to remove any reference to "selections" and clarify that Neighborhood Council board members will be elected. The NHWNC supports this.
- Recommendation to create a one-time review process, overseen by the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners, to evaluate Neighborhood Council bylaws to determine if board seats are equitably allocated amongst stakeholder types and provide formal suggestions to Neighborhood Councils on ways to adjust board seats as needed to increase equity. The NHWNC opposes this. The demographics of each NC are specific to that NC. Some NC's, such as NHWNC are primarily residential in nature and have few businesses or other types of institutions within their boundaries. Therefore, forcing the allocations of board seats to be "equitable" would actually reduce equity as minority interests would gain influence beyond their proportions. Further, the term "equity" is too loosely defined. Finally, we do not have confidence in the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners to fairly and efficiently conduct this evaluation.
- Recommendations and next steps for adopting regulations to provide a uniform minimum voting age and board member age to allow consistent participation



across the City, and what that age should be. The NHWNC supports a uniform voting age of 18 years old as in all other elections.

- Recommendations and next steps for developing and adopting a planning and land use training required for all Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Neighborhood Council planning and land use committees. The NHWNC supports the creation of such training but opposes making this training mandatory. Some Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Neighborhood Council planning and land use committees have extensive experience in this area and have been serving in this capacity for many years. It is unnecessary to force these individuals to take additional training. Further, we do not have confidence that DONE, the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners, or any other entity within the city is competent to objectively determine which Chairs and Vice-Chairs have sufficient training and which do not. Finally, it is inappropriate for the city to impose even greater demands upon the time of NC members without just compensation.
- Recommendation for Neighborhood Councils to be able to roll-over a non-cumulative maximum of \$10,000 in any given fiscal year. The NHWNC supports this.
- Recommendations and next steps for to remove the expiration of the ability for Neighborhood Councils to accept in-kind or monetary donations. The NHWNC opposes this. Allowing NC's to accept in-kind or monetary donations opens the democratic process up to possible corruption by moneyed special interests.
- On the costs and other implications of holding all Neighborhood Council elections on the same day in order to provide for a uniform citywide advertising and outreach campaign. The NHWNC has no objection to this.
- Develop a process to assist Neighborhood Councils with accessing shared space in City facilities. The NHWNC supports this.
- Develop an ongoing compendium of best practices generated from Neighborhood Councils and share those on a periodic basis with all Neighborhood Councils and include 'how-to guides' for accomplishing those best practices. The NHWNC supports this.
- Develop point of contact lists for key city departments and agencies, and share those lists with Neighborhood Councils, facilitate the training of those points of contact at those relevant departments on the most fruitful ways to assist and communicate with Neighborhood Council members, and coordinate with Neighborhood Councils to formally appoint a point of contact at each NC to communicate between each NC and the point of contact at each department, thus creating a single line of communication. The NHWNC supports this.

The above Motion was **WITHDRAWN**.

**MOTION** (by the Rules and Elections Committee): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council opposes, in LA City Councilmember David Ryu's motion and Council File #18-0467 regarding changes to the NC system, the "Recommendation

to remove any reference to “selections” and clarify that Neighborhood Council board members will be elected.”

**DISCUSSION:** There was discussion of the above.

**MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION** (by Ms. Elliott, seconded by Ms. Hart); zero opposed; zero abstained.

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

**MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION PASSED;** zero opposed; zero abstained.

**MAIN MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a hand vote of the 10 eligible voters present with all 10 in favor; zero opposed; zero abstained.

*Board Member Dan Gibson left at this time, making 10 Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven). Vice-President Jay Beeber became the Presiding Officer.*

**MOTION** (by the Rules and Elections Committee): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council opposes, in LA City Councilmember David Ryu’s motion and Council File #18-0467 regarding changes to the NC system, the recommendation to create a one-time review process, overseen by the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners, to evaluate Neighborhood Council bylaws to determine if board seats are equitably allocated amongst stakeholder types and provide formal suggestions to Neighborhood Councils on ways to adjust board seats as needed to increase equity. The NHWNC opposes this. The demographics of each NC are specific to that NC. Some NC’s, such as NHWNC are primarily residential in nature and have few businesses or other types of institutions within their boundaries. Therefore, forcing the allocations of board seats to be “equitable” would actually reduce equity as minority interests would gain influence beyond their proportions. Further, the term “equity” is too loosely defined. Finally, we do not have confidence in the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners to fairly and efficiently conduct this evaluation.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a hand vote; zero opposed; zero abstained.

**MOTION** (by the Rules and Elections Committee): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council supports, in LA City Councilmember David Ryu’s motion and Council File #18-0467 regarding changes to the NC system, a uniform voting age of 18 years old as in all other elections.

**DISCUSSION:** There was extensive discussion about what minimum voting age is best. Ms. Crone believed that “it’s important to get these teenagers involved.”

**MOTION PASSED** by a hand vote of the 10 eligible voters present with seven in favor; three opposed; zero abstained.

**MOTION** (by the Rules and Elections Committee): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council, regarding LA City Councilmember David Ryu’s motion and

Council File #18-0467 regarding changes to the NC system, supports developing and adopting a planning and land use training for all Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Neighborhood Council planning and land use committees, but opposes making this training mandatory. Some Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Neighborhood Council planning and land use committees have extensive experience in this area and have been serving in this capacity for many years. It is unnecessary to force these individuals to take additional training. Further, we do not have confidence that DONE, the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners, or any other entity within the city is competent to objectively determine which Chairs and Vice-Chairs have sufficient training and which do not. Finally, it is inappropriate for the city to impose even greater demands upon the time of NC members without just compensation.

**MOTION PASSED** by a hand vote of the 10 eligible voters present with nine in favor; one opposed; zero abstained.

**MOTION** (by the Rules and Elections Committee): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council supports, in LA City Councilmember David Ryu's motion and Council File #18-0467 regarding changes to the NC system, Neighborhood Councils to be able to roll over a non-cumulative maximum of \$10,000 in any given fiscal year.

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

**MOTION** (by the Rules and Elections Committee): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council opposes, in LA City Councilmember David Ryu's motion and Council File #18-0467 regarding changes to the NC system, the recommendation to remove the expiration of the ability for Neighborhood Councils to accept in-kind or monetary donations. Allowing NC's to accept in-kind or monetary donations opens the democratic process up to possible corruption by moneyed special interests.

**MOTION PASSED** by a hand vote of the 10 eligible voters present with nine in favor; one opposed; zero abstained.

**MOTION** (by the Rules and Elections Committee): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council has no objection, in LA City Councilmember David Ryu's motion and Council File #18-0467 regarding changes to the NC system, to holding all Neighborhood Council elections on the same day in order to provide for a uniform citywide advertising and outreach campaign.

**DISCUSSION:** There was discussion about this.

The above Motion was **WITHDRAWN**.

**MOTION** (by the Rules and Elections Committee): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council opposes, in LA City Councilmember David Ryu's motion and Council File #18-0467 regarding changes to the NC system, holding all Neighborhood Council elections on the same day in order to provide for a uniform citywide advertising and outreach campaign.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a hand vote; zero opposed; zero abstained.

**MOTION** (by the Rules and Elections Committee): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council supports, in LA City Councilmember David Ryu's motion and Council File #18-0467 regarding changes to the NC system, developing a process to assist Neighborhood Councils with accessing shared space in City facilities.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a hand vote; zero opposed; zero abstained.

**MOTION** (by the Rules and Elections Committee): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council supports, in LA City Councilmember David Ryu's motion and Council File #18-0467 regarding changes to the NC system, developing an ongoing compendium of best practices generated from Neighborhood Councils and share those on a periodic basis with all Neighborhood Councils and include 'how-to guides' for accomplishing those best practices.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a hand vote; zero opposed; zero abstained.

**MOTION** (by the Rules and Elections Committee): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council supports, in LA City Councilmember David Ryu's motion and Council File #18-0467 regarding changes to the NC system, developing point of contact lists for key city departments and agencies, and share those lists with Neighborhood Councils, facilitate the training of those points of contact at those relevant departments on the most fruitful ways to assist and communicate with Neighborhood Council members, and coordinate with Neighborhood Councils to formally appoint a point of contact at each NC to communicate between each NC and the point of contact at each department, thus creating a single line of communication.

**MOTION PASSED** by a hand vote of the nine eligible voters present with eight in favor; one opposed; zero abstained.

*[This Agenda Item continued being addressed after Item #18.]*

**MOTION** (by the Rules and Elections Committee): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council supports, in LA City Councilmember David Ryu's motion and Council File #18-0467 regarding changes to the NC system, the recommendation to change the name of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) to the Neighborhood Councils Department (NCD), the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (BONC) to the Neighborhood Councils Commission (NCC), and phasing out the use of the term/branding 'EmpowerLA' due to the confusion reported by the public and the perception of Neighborhood Council members that DONE's role should be primarily to support Neighborhood Councils, which the name Neighborhood Councils Department would better reflect.

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

**MOTION PASSED** with eight in favor; one opposed; zero abstained.

**MOTION** (by the Rules and Elections Committee): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council supports, in LA City Councilmember David Ryu’s motion and Council File #18-0467 regarding changes to the NC system, the recommendation to eliminate “Community Impact/Community Interest Stakeholder”. To prevent the substantial confusion, disputed elections, and potential takeover of Neighborhood Councils by outside interests that has occurred in the past or may occur in the future, the NHWNC supports a narrow definition of “stakeholder”. Any person deemed a stakeholder that is eligible to vote or serve as a board member must have a substantial, ongoing, stake in the neighborhood. Residents, owners of real property, and owners of licensed businesses where their primary place of operation is located within the Neighborhood Council’s boundaries fit this definition. The following persons, among others, would not necessarily meet this narrow definition of stakeholder: Parents of children attending a school within the NC Persons who simply work within the boundaries of the NC Persons who are members of a secular or religious institution, organization or club which meets or is located within the NC. Persons who avail themselves of governmental services within the NC. Persons who patronize businesses within the NC. Persons who recreate within the NC Further, the NHWNC believes in the concept of “one person, one vote”. Therefore, stakeholders should be limited to stakeholder status in one and only one NC.

**DISCUSSION:** Ms. Hart pointed out that, if this passes, she would be “off the Board.” Mr. Kwasman believed the definition is “too narrow.”

**MOTION to TABLE** (by Mr. Pelaez, seconded by Mr. Fordyce): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council Tables this Item until its next Board Meeting.

**MOTION to TABLE PASSED** with seven in favor; two opposed; zero abstained.

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

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Kwasman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the purchase of one pallet of bottled waters to be distributed at National Night Out, Northridge Park, on Tuesday August 7, 2018. NTE \$250.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Brown explained annual event participation. Mr. Fordyce said “there’s no information on how many bottles of bottled water there is.” Mr. Brown explained the math.

**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, Crone, Elliott, Fordyce, Hart, Kwasman, Minasian, Pelaez and Ramey); zero opposed; zero abstained.

**19. Committee Reports**

There were no reports at this time.

**20. Adjournment**

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

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a hand vote; zero opposed; zero abstained.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 10:01 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>.*