



NORTH HILLS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
General Board Meeting Minutes, Thursday, November 15, 2018
at New Horizons, 15725 Parthenia St., North Hills, CA 91343
Minutes Approved January 17, 2019

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 7:06 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), Jay Beeber (Vice-President), Dave Brown (Secretary), Madlena Minasian (Treasurer), Pat Crone, Maggie Elliott, Garry Fordyce, Punam Gohel, Carol Hart and Sam Kwasman. David Hyman, Carlos Pelaez and Kreshell Ramey 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. 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: 23 Stakeholders and guests.

3. Announcements and Comments – President.

Mr. Gibson thanked resident Helen Donovan for printing materials, Mr. Brown for providing and operating the sound system, and the Minutes Writer. He cautioned about emails, not sent by him but sent in his name, requesting money, payments or other things; ignore them. Brian Allen indicated that “it’s happening with all NCs.” Mr. Gibson noted that December 20th “will be a holiday party, not a meeting,” for which Ms. Donovan noted that two cooking volunteers are needed. [*This Agenda Item was continued after Item #19.*] Mr. Gibson noted that an anti-theft Club is available for attendees. Mr. Beeber encouraged Board Members to provide Board Member Roster information.

4. Public Agency Speakers and Announcements.

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #8.*] Jose Galdamez, Neighborhood Council Advocate, L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE; 818-374-9895; Jose.Galdamez@LACity.org; www.EmpowerLA.org), reported that the annual DONE budget will be available on their website. The NHWNC's City Clerk Funding Assistant will be Paola Posado [213-978-1060; Paola.Posada@LACity.org]. The draft Election Manual is available [see <https://clerk.lacity.org/elections/neighborhood-council-elections>] for feedback.

5. General Public Comments

Stakeholder Anita Goldbaum encouraged subscribing to the CityWatchLA.com newsletter about City issues including Transit-Oriented Communities (TOCs). The [8404] Woodley Ave. by Chase St. development is "80% sold out." Stakeholder Mikkie Loi, Community Relations Volunteer, LAPD Devonshire Division (http://www.LAPDonline.org/devonshire_community_police_station), reported that safety information is available and reminded to "Lock it, hide it, keep it" for valuables. Aqueduct Ave. resident Jeff Bengston alerted about a recreational vehicle with an expired tag; he encouraged reporting illegal vehicles and parking.

6. Update from Budget Advocates

Brian Allen, a Budget Advocate [<http://ncbala.com>], reported that the Advocates "have almost completed their meetings with [City] Departments . . . there should be a preliminary White Paper within . . . a month and a half." He reminded that City Department budgets are annually set; usually, after that only emergencies are funded.

7. Report from Homelessness Liaison Kreshell Ramey.

Ms. Hart indicated for Ms. Ramey that there was no report.

8. Update from Ad-committee chair Carol Hart concerning Haskell/Aqueduct parking issues.

Ms. Hart updated that residents were emailed about "what type of parking restriction they want on Haskell"; a minimum 75% of residents per block are needed to agree on a restriction for the City to act. A Stakeholder said, "Still, the mailboxes are being blocked," and driveways, by illegal parkers.

9. 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.

10. Discussion and possible action to approve the October 18, 2018 General Board Meeting Minutes.

MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Gohel): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its October 18, 2018 General Board Meeting with the following correction: page three, Item #9: "Ms. Ramey reported" should read "Ms. Hart reported."

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

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

Copies were distributed of the October "Monthly Expenditure Report," and a receipt(s), statement(s) and/or invoice(s).

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Ms. Hart): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves its Monthly Expenditure Report for October 2018.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 10 eligible voters present with all 10 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Beeber, Brown, Crone, Elliott, Fordyce, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Kwasman and Minasian); zero opposed; zero abstained

- 12. Discussion and possible action** to allocate \$5,000 for a promotional postcard campaign to invite stakeholders to the Holiday Party, inform them of current events, and promote the NHWNC 2019 election.

It was agreed to Table this Item.

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

FUNDING MOTION (by the Outreach Committee): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council allocates \$1,000 for the NHWNC Annual Holiday Party.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Allen recommended to "check with the City Clerk" regarding funding when food is privately provided; insurance may be needed. Ms. Elliott said that "ready-made desserts" will be bought.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 10 eligible voters present with all 10 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Beeber, Brown, Crone, Elliott, Fordyce, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Kwasman and Minasian); zero opposed; zero abstained.

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

FUNDING MOTION (by the Outreach Committee): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council allocates \$15,000 for the 2019 NHWNC Election including a special election oriented newsletter.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Galdamez said “we still encourage NCs to set budgets . . . for elections.”

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 10 eligible voters present with all 10 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Beeber, Brown, Crone, Elliott, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Kwasman and Minasian); one opposed (Fordyce); zero abstained.

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

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Gohel.): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves up to \$150.00 per monthly board meeting for an armed security officer provided by Security Guards of America. (4 hr. minimum at \$35.00 per hr.)

DISCUSSION: Mr. Gibson explained that Stakeholders mentioned security concerns. This New Horizons facility approves of doing this. Mr. Galdamez awaits feedback from the Police; they are not regularly available to help. Mr. Allen believed a contract may be needed.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 10 eligible voters present with all 10 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Beeber, Brown, Crone, Elliott, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Kwasman and Minasian); one opposed (Fordyce); zero abstained.

16. Discussion and possible action to revise the Budget and Fiscal Year Administrative Package approved at the June 21st board meeting. This Item was not voted upon.

17. Discussion and possible action to Weigh in on the Resignation of Councilmember Englander and Appointment of an Interim Caretaker for CD-12. Motion: [see the below Motion].

Mr. Beeber explained the issue and need. The position might not be filled for nine-12 months. It was noted that the City Council would not wait for a full-time Councilmember to be available before making important land use decisions. Mr. Fordyce would support a special election if it is not too expensive.

MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Beeber): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council, with regards to the resignation of Councilmember Englander, urges Mayor Garcetti and Council President Wesson to adopt the following guidelines for appointment of an Interim Caretaker for CD-12:

a) CD12 should not be left without representation past January 1, 2020 and a special election should be called to effectuate this outcome.

b) Any Interim Caretaker appointed for CD-12 should have extensive knowledge of the district and commit to representing the interests of the district’s stakeholders over any outside or special interests.

c) Any Interim Caretaker appointed for CD-12 should commit to not running for the seat or influencing the election of a new Councilmember in any way.

AMENDMENT to the MOTION (by Mr. Beeber, seconded by Mr. Fordyce): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council includes in the main Motion an Item #d) establish a moratorium on any major decisions affecting Council District 12 issues such as land use, homeless housing and transportation, and an Item #e) retain the current staff to ensure continuity of services to the extent possible.

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

AMENDMENT to the MOTION (by Mr. Fordyce): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will separately vote on main Motion item #'s a), d) and e).

AMENDMENT to the MOTION FAILED for lack of a second.

AMENDED MOTION PASSED with nine in favor; one opposed (Fordyce); zero abstained.

18. **Discussion and possible action** to file a Community Impact Statement opposing Council File 12-0460-S4 -Zoning Code Processes & Procedures Ordinance. Case No: CPC-2016-3182-CA CEQA Case No. ENV-2016-3183-CE http://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2012/12-0460-S4_misc_10-26-2018.pdf. Motion: The North Hills West Neighborhood Council [see the below Motion].

MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Beeber): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council opposes in the strongest possible terms, the Processes & Procedures Ordinance; Case No.: CPC-2016-3182-CA; Council File: 12-0460-S4, CEQA Case No. ENV-2016-3183-CE. The NHWNC opposition is due to the fact the ordinance weakens safeguards, handcuffs public participation, limiting or killing existing public notices and the public's rights to appeal many land-use decisions, and gives un-appealable decision making power to unelected political appointees. Furthermore, this ordinance erodes local control of building decisions, ceding that control to Administrators, Commissioners and Bureaucrats who have no idea of local concerns, conditions, traffic and continuity of the Neighborhood(s) in question.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Goldbaum listed reasons she opposed the Council File. Mr. Allen noted that the Code is 483 pages; he urged that the Motion cite specific wordings and to Table this. Mr. Beeber believed it needs to be opposed now; the City PLUM Committee will, anyway, revise it. He read from the Ordinance regarding public participation.

MOTION PASSED with nine in favor; one opposed (Fordyce); zero abstained.

19. **Committee Reports**

Executive – Dan Gibson

Mr. Gibson indicated that there was no report.

Outreach -- Sam Kwasman

Mr. Kwasman reported that the Committee discussed the Newsletter, holiday party, outreach postcards and mailing labels.

Beautification -- Carol Hart

Ms. Hart indicated that there was no report.

Emergency Preparedness / Public Safety -- Dave Brown

Mr. Brown reported that the Valley Relics Museum at Van Nuys Airport, 7900 Balboa Blvd., opens in two hangers November 17th. Also, the LAPD "Devonshire Division now has a Social Media Officer, Troy Pearson. The NHWNC website's emergency preparedness section is being finished.

Land Use -- Jay Beeber

Mr. Beeber reported that an application was received to start a charter school on Haskell just south of Parthenia; the site was a landscaping business. The school would be K-4 and might open in May 2019. Also, the City is looking for Bridge Housing locations for homeless housing and for "safe parking overnight."

Rules & Elections -- Punam Gohel

Mr. Gohel reported that the Committee is working with the Outreach Committee to "maximize participation."

Education -- Garry Fordyce

Mr. Fordyce reported that he attended an education summit; "it was extremely comprehensive" and discussed City Council File 14-1553-S2, the Safe Storage of Handguns Ordinance, and more. He noted an effort to create a citywide youth education outreach group.

Budget & Finance -- Madlena Minasian

Ms. Minasian reminded that purchases need to be made "by the Board credit card."

20. Adjournment

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

MOTION to ADJOURN PASSED; zero opposed; zero abstained.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 9:03 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>.