



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

DRAFT Minutes [to be replaced by “Approved _[Month]_ _[date]_, 201_[year]_”]

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 7:05 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. Twelve 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, Sam Kwasman, Carlos Pelaez and Kreshell Ramey. 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 reported 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: 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. Mr. Gibson reminded that the NHWNC election candidates filing period starts January 22nd.

4. Public agency speakers and announcements.

Lucia Senda, Field Representative for U.S. 29th District of California Congressman Tony Cardenas (ofc. 818-221-3718; Lucia.Senda@mail.house.gov; <http://cardenas.house.gov>), reported that they will have a “mobile office” at the Mid Valley Regional Library [16244 Nordhoff St.] on fourth Tuesdays, 3:00-5:00 p.m. “with services” such as for veterans, citizenship, immigration, passport, housing, visiting Washington, D.C., and flag requests. Intern opportunities are available for people at least 18 years old. Recent legislation the Congressman supported helps research

and prevention of Alzheimer's Disease and dementia. He is on the House Energy Committee.

Patty Peteque, an LAPD Devonshire Division Senior Lead Officer (cell 818-832-0827; 31373@LAPD.LACity.org; http://www.LAPDOnline.org/devonshire_community_police_station), reminded that, to prevent Burglary Theft from Motor Vehicle, "don't leave" valuables in vehicles. "If you have something covered in your car, they know it's something of value . . . covering it up doesn't work." She encouraged to "report suspicious vehicles," especially older vehicles with paper license plates; "a lot of them are stolen." You can send a photo of a suspicious license plate to her. Officer Peteque noted that Neighborhood Watch meetings are available [see http://www.lapdonline.org/get_informed/content_basic_view/23477]. There will be a Blood Drive on Tuesday, February 19th, 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m., in front of the Devonshire Station [10250 Etiwanda Ave., Northridge 91325; 818-832-0633].

Matt Hernandez, Public Safety Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilman Greig Smith (818-882-1212; Matt.Hernandez@LACity.org; Councilmember.Smith@LACity.org; <http://CD12.LACity.org>), reported that the Councilman was sworn in January 15th (replacing Mitch Englander, who resigned). The Rapid Response Team picks up bulky items Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

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 IgniteLA program for young women will have an event. NHWNC candidate filing is through February 19th at 5:00 p.m. He introduced election assistant Jasmine Diaz.

Carolyn Hogikyan, Field Representative for State 46th District Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian (818-376-4246; Carolyn.Hogikyan@asm.ca.gov; <https://a46.asmdc.org>), announced a "Young CEO" event for students.

5. General Public Comments

Aqueduct Ave. resident Jeff Bengston alerted about Haskell and Rayen crosswalk pedestrian danger; he recommended having flashing ground-level lights and more signage. Stakeholder Mike Khalid believed that more outreach is needed, including to new Stakeholders.

6. Discussion and possible motion to reinstate Kreshell Ramey to the NHWNC board as per Article V, Section 7 of the NHWNC Bylaws.

MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Ms. Hart): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council reinstates Kreshell Ramey to the NHWNC board as per Article V, Section 7 of the NHWNC Bylaws.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Gibson explained the need. Ms. Ramey had, for health reasons, needed to miss three consecutive meetings, causing, per the Bylaws, automatic removal. Mr. Fordyce believed that the Board had done “shenanigans . . . selective discussion”; that “there’s been no notice” to the Board about this; that this is “a lousy process . . . not openly done” that could be “a given with the ‘good old boys’ club.” He believed that “Stakeholders . . . were denied that opportunity” and that this was done unjustly and with “malicious intent.” Ms. Hart noted that she had been in regular communication with Ms. Ramey. Mr. Gibson noted that the Bylaws were approved by DONE and the City Attorney. Mr. Beeber disagreed about whether and did not believe that there was any “malicious intent.” Mr. Brown described the Bylaws language regarding absences as “pure, simple, without malice” and based upon “best practices of other Neighborhood Councils . . . what we’ve got now is superior to many Neighborhood Councils.”

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Mr. Beeber, seconded by Mr. Gohel); **PASSED**; one opposed (Fordyce); zero abstained.

MAIN MOTION PASSED with 11 in favor; one opposed (Fordyce); zero abstained.

7. **Update** from Budget Advocates.
There was no update at this time.

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

Ms. Hart reported that she has “been in contact with the CD12 Office . . . we’re in a ‘wait and see’ period.” Mr. Beeber said he is working on the red curb issue.

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.

Removal of Esmeralda Curiel from the Planning and Land Use Committee
Removal of Esmeralda Curiel as Budget Representative and replace with Alternate Budget Representative Garry Fordyce.

MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Ms. Hart): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council removes Esmeralda Curiel from the Planning and Land Use Committee.

MOTION PASSED; zero opposed; zero abstained.

MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Ms. Hart): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council removes Esmeralda Curiel as Budget Representative.

MOTION PASSED; zero opposed; zero abstained.

MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Ms. Crone): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council appoints Garry Fordyce as a Budget Representative.

MOTION PASSED; two opposed (Gohel and Kwasman); one abstained (Beeber).

10. **Discussion and possible action** to approve the November 15, 2018 General Board Meeting Minutes.

MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Ms. Hart): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its November 15, 2018 General Board Meeting as written.

Mr. Fordyce accused the Minutes Writer of being “unprofessional” because two simple questions were still in the draft Minutes presented by the NHWNC Executive Board to the full Board for their consideration for approval; it was pointed out that the questions were to have been answered by the Executive Board before the draft Minutes were presented to the full Board.

AMENDMENT to the MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Ms. Elliott): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council Executive Board will answer the questions in the draft Minutes Item #'s 12 and 19 of its November 15, 2018 General Board Meeting.

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

AMENDMENT to the MOTION (by Mr. Beeber, seconded by Ms. Hart): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council corrects the draft Minutes of Item #19 (Land Use report) of its November 15, 2018 General Board Meeting as follows: “The school would be K-4 and might be heard by the Planning Commission.”

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

AMENDED MOTION PASSED; zero opposed; zero abstained.

11. **Discussion and possible action** to approve the December 4, 2018 Special Board Meeting Minutes.

MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Gohel): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its December 4, 2018 Special Board Meeting as written.

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

12. **Discussion and possible action** to approve the December 20, 2018 General Board Meeting Minutes.

MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Gohel): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its December 20, 2018 General Board Meeting as written.

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

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

Copies were distributed of the November “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 November 2018.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Fordyce questioned why two bills were not paid sooner and accused the Treasurer of not being efficient enough. Mr. Fordyce stated to the President that “you seem to want to deny freedom of speech.”

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, Fordyce, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Kwasman, Minasian and Pelaez); zero opposed; one abstained (the NHWNC does not count abstentions as votes) (Ramey).

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

Copies were distributed of the December “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 December 2018.

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, Fordyce, Gibson, Gohel, Hart, Kwasman, Minasian and Pelaez); zero opposed; one abstained (the NHWNC does not count abstentions as votes) (Ramey).

- 15. Discussion and possible action** to approve that the NHWNC co-sponsor a Climate Reality Presentation Training with the NC Sustainability Alliance at the Mid-Valley Regional Branch Library on March 30, 2019 from 12-5 pm. Presentation by NHWNC Board member and NC Sustainability Alliance Liaison Carol Hart.

MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Gohel): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will co-sponsor a Climate Reality Presentation Training with the NC Sustainability Alliance at the Mid-Valley Regional Branch Library on March 30, 2019 from 12-5 pm.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Hart explained the above, saying “it’s an education opportunity . . . this is considered to be apolitical . . . the materials were produced by the Climate Reality Project.” Mr. Beeber believed the presentation would be from that organization’s “point of view.” There was extensive discussion of who could attend; Ms. Hart acknowledged that the event would be open to people who already have some such training by the Climate Reality Project. Mr. Beeber believed that the NHWNC should not sponsor another organizations’ training.

MOTION to TABLE (by Mr. Kwasman, seconded by Mr. Beeber): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council TABLES this Item.

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

16. Adjournment

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

MOTION to ADJOURN PASSED; zero opposed; zero abstained.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 8:30 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>.