



NORTH HILLS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
General Board Meeting Minutes, Thursday, January 16, 2020
at New Horizons, 15725 Parthenia St., North Hills, CA 91343
Minutes Approved 2/20/2020

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, Determination of Quorum and Voting Eligibility.

Roll Call was taken by the Secretary. Nine of the 13 Board Members were present at the Roll Call: Jay Beeber, Dave Brown (Secretary), Pat Crone, Maggie Elliott, Dan Gibson (President), Punam Gohel, Carol Hart (Vice-President), Madlena Minasian (Treasurer) and Carlos Pelaez. David Hyman arrived later. Gil Brenner, Heather Hudson Beeber 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&dlta=su46~>), so the Board could take such votes. Quorum was announced. Mr. Brown confirmed that all Board Members’ trainings were compliant and they were eligible to vote. All 13 of the 13 Board Seats were filled (by election or appointment). No Board Seat was vacant. Also attended: 25 Stakeholders and guests.

3. Announcements and Comments – President.

Mr. Gibson thanked resident Helen Donovan for printing printed materials, Mr. Brown for providing and operating the sound system, and the Minutes Writer.

4. Public Agency Speakers and Announcements.

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), reported that “last year was a really good year” regarding crime. Grand Theft Auto and Burglary Theft from Vehicle are still two of the top property crimes. She encouraged using the steering wheel Club as a “deterrent.” The Yard House is adding more security and cameras. She reminded that “we can’t force” homeless people to accept services. Business owners are

“ultimately responsible” for cleanups though Police can help. She encouraged attending the Police Academy training held twice a year in English and once in Spanish. The next training will be in Spanish from January 27 through March 16, once per week; contact her for information. The Police can remove people squatting on private property. She encouraged reporting suspicious activity. She reminded that people cannot be forced out of motorhomes. Officer Peteque encouraged applying for the installation of “no trespassing” signs.

Jose Galdamez, Neighborhood Council Advocate, L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE; 818-374-9895; Jose.Galdamez@LACity.org; www.EmpowerLA.org), distributed copies of and reported on “Guidelines for Neighborhood Councils & Ballot Measures” and “Guidelines for Uses of Neighborhood Council Funds & Resources: Public Positions.” BONC [the L.A. Board of Neighborhood Commissioners; Commissioners@EmpowerLA.org; www.EmpowerLA.org] is considering Board Member censure and removal policies; he distributed copies of and encouraged input about “A Uniform Policy for Board Member Censure.” Bylaws amendments must be made by April 15. PlanCheckNC is held monthly second Saturdays at the Hollenbeck Police Station; there also will be San Fernando Valley meetings.

L.A. City District 12 Councilman John Lee (818-882-1212; Councilmember.Lee@LACity.org; www.CD12.org), encouraged signing up at CD12.org for his newsletter. “No trespassing” signs will be installed at the 405 Freeway and Plummer St. underpass. He encouraged reporting homeless encampments, street racing and other issues. The next Conversations with Councils will be February 10.

5. General Public Comment

Maggi Espada-Hernandez (881-438-2129; Magaly.Hernandez@DignityHealth.org), of Dignity Health, described their work helping victims of domestic violence, trafficking and more. They are having a Saturday, April 25 fundraiser.

Copies were distributed of information about Dignity Health [SupportNorthridge.org] and a “Victory for Victims” Saturday, April 25 fundraising Walk/Run [818-718-5922] at Woodley Park.

Board Member David Hyman arrived at this time (8:05), making 10 Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).

Zach Volet of the West Hills NC distributed information about and noted employer violations and unethical practices; he encouraged contacting elected officials to work on it. Resident Anita Goldbaum thanked the Board for the holiday party.

[*This Agenda Item was continued after Item #6.*] Glenn Bailey reported that election polling places will be replaced by “Voting Centers”; CSUN will be a Voting Center for four days. The free VANC [Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils];

VANC@EmpowerLA.org; <http://empowerla.org/vanc-2>] mixer will be Thursday, March 12, 6:00 to 9:30 p.m. at CBS studios. He requested to agendize co-sponsoring the event with a funding amount up to \$250. The NHWNC would be listed on the program and can display a banner.

6. Discussion and possible action to approve the December 19, 2019 General Board Meeting Minutes.

Copies had been distributed of draft Minutes.

MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Beeber): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its December 19, 2019 General Board Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a hand vote of all 10 Board Members present; zero opposed; zero abstained.

7. Report from Budget Advocate Glenn Bailey and NHWNC Budget Representative Pat Crone.

Mr. Bailey, a Budget Advocate [www.NCBALA.com], reported that meetings with City Departments are expected to be finished this month, then the White Paper of recommendations will be issued. He requested for the NHWNC to agendize considering City Council File 20-0600 regarding the City budget and for the NHWNC to vote to support requesting that the City “give serious consideration” to Budget Advocate recommendations. Budget Day will be Saturday, June 20 in the morning at City Hall.

8. 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.

9. Discussion and possible action to approve the December 2019 Monthly Expenditure Report.

Copies had been 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. Elliott): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves its Monthly Expenditure Report for December 2020.

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

10. Discussion and possible action [see the below Motion].

MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Beeber): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council authorizes Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate Jose Galdamez to retrieve the NHWNC 2019 election materials from the Office of the City Clerk. The materials include the stakeholder registration forms, candidate filing applications, and ballots.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Gibson explained the need.

MOTION PASSED unanimously; zero opposed; zero abstained.

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

MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Ms. Hart): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will send a letter to CouncilMembers' Lee and Martinez to enable continued efforts to keep the area under the 405/Parthenia overpass clean and safe.

DISCUSSION: Councilmember Lee said the City can post signs and have the Hope Team clean there.

AMENDMENT to the MOTION (by Mr. Beeber, seconded by Ms. Elliot): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council adds wording to the Motion saying that it "will send a letter to CouncilMembers' Lee and Martinez, with an additional copy to all Councilmembers, to enable continued efforts to keep the area under the 405/Parthenia overpass clean and safe."

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

AMENDED MOTION PASSED unanimously; zero opposed; zero abstained.

12. Discussion and possible action to [see the below Motion]. Presentation by Abby Bailes, Chairperson, Ad Hoc Committee for Town Hall on LAUSD Sex Ed, Northridge West NC.

Copies had been distributed regarding "2020 Town Hall on LAUSD's Sex Ed Curriculum, K-12."

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Gohel): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the expenditure of up to \$1,200 for the rental of New Horizons Sam's Café to host the "2020 Town Hall on the New Sex Ed Curriculum, K-12" to be held Saturday, February 29, 2020.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Bailes said the event will be from around 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The Northridge West (up to \$1000), Porter Ranch (up to \$600), and Granada Hills

North NC's already are supporting the event and support is agendized for consideration at the Granada Hills South, Northridge East and Arleta NCs. "It's going to be structured like a panel." There will be a moderator, expert panelists, and questions and answers with the audience. LAUSD Board Member Scott Schmerelson's (ofc. 818-654-3785; Scott.Schmerelson@lausd.net; http://achieve.lausd.net/schmerelson) office and other LA USD officials will be there. "The food items are going to be minimal... coffee and a small snack." Mr. Brown reported that the venue will cost \$200 per hour; for approximately four hours the event will cost around \$800 total. Grace Jimenez claimed that LAUSD has had "no transparency." Victoria Estrada, Norma Wong, Esther Chang and David Hunt support the committee. Teacher Deborah Morgan reported that even teachers have had trouble getting information from LAUSD.

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

- 13. Discussion and possible action** regarding the Board's position on Senate Bill 50 (Weiner), a proposal to eliminate much of the current zoning rules near transit stops and other designated areas. On March 21, 2019, the Board voted unanimously to submit a Community Impact Statement (CIS) to the LA City Council to include in the City's 2019-2020 Legislative Program OPPOSITION to SB50. The bill will be heard in the State Senate Appropriations committee this month. The bill has undergone some minor changes and it is necessary for the Board to consider its position on the current version of the bill and communicate that position to the City Council and other elected officials representing the area. The current text of the bill can be found here: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201920200SB50. The City Council file referencing the City Council's previous actions regarding SB50 can be found here: <https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=19-0002-S38>. Possible Motion: The North Hills West Neighborhood Council [see the below Motion].

Mr. Beeber explained the issue, saying "the Bill would encourage developers to target single-family neighborhoods" and eliminate and reduce parking requirements; "it would allow much higher density." Ms. Goldbaum said "it upzones . . . single-family homes." Maria Fisk, Granada Hills South NC Planning and Land Use Management Committee Chair, urged submitting a Community Impact Statement to request the Mayor to oppose the legislation. Mike Benedetto, Granada Hills South NC Vice-President, believed that "the language is so vague . . . it's clearly ambiguous." Mr. Bailey, "speaking as an individual," noted that "the City of Los Angeles is zoned for eight million people"; it has four million. Mr. Brown said that "there's no provision to address the pre-existing infrastructure" and that most units won't be "remotely affordable . . . there's in excess of 20,000 vacant . . . units" being kept off the market by owners. Ms. Hart reported that State Senator Robert Hertzberg (818.901.5588) previously opposed the legislation; she encouraged

contacting him and State Senate Appropriations Committee Chair Portentino (916.651.4025).

MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Ms. Minasian): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council shall submit to the LA City Council a Community Impact Statement (CIS) to express the Neighborhood Council's continuing OPPOSITION to SB50, and authorizing letters regarding the NHWNC's opposition to SB 50 to be sent to our elected officials representing this area.

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

14. Discussion and possible action concerning the North San Fernando Valley Bus Rapid Transit Corridor.

Mr. Beeber reported that there has been no new action. No Motion was made or vote taken.

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 the expenditure of up to \$250.00 to provide refreshments for the CD 12 Candidate Debate to be held Saturday, February 15, 2020 at Granada Hills Charter HS Highlander Hall.

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

16. Discussion and possible action to approve the expenditure of up to \$250.00 to provide refreshments for the LAPD Devonshire Active Shooter Town Hall to be held Tuesday, February 25, 2020 at Granada Hills Charter HS Highlander Hall.

Mr. Gibson requested and it was agreed to TABLE this Item.

17. Discussion and possible action to approve adjustments to the 2019-2020 NHWNC Budget and/or Administrative Packet.

Ms. Minasian reported that everything was paid.

18. Committee and Liaison Reports

Outreach: Ms. Hart reported that West Valley Neighborhood Alliance on Homelessness meeting notes are available and that input is wanted by the NC Sustainability Alliance.

Beautification – Mr. Pelaez reported that three blocks of Haskell Ave. residents' signatures were validated and approved; one more block's signatures are awaited.

Budget & Finance -- Ms. Minasian indicated that there was no report.

Emergency Preparedness / Public Safety – Mr. Brown announced an “Intro to Two-way Radios” February 2 event. RYLAN [Ready Your LA Neighborhood program; <http://www.emergency.lacity.org/rylan>] orientation free training will be at the Mid-Valley Library on Saturday, Feb. 29 from around noon-3:00 or 1:00-4:00.

Rules & Elections -- Mr. Gohel reported that the Committee met and made Bylaws corrections that are ready for Board consideration; Mr. Gibson will Agendize it. Mr. Gohel reminded that the Board can express itself, though not politically, on behalf of community interests.

Planning and Land Use Management – Mr. Beeber indicated that Ms. Beeber will report next month.

19. Board Member announcements and requests for future agenda items.

Mr. Hyman suggested that the NHWNC meeting time be on the back of Board Members’ business cards. Mr. Beeber recommended that the NHWNC “take a position” regarding changes to speed limit laws. Ms. Hart wanted the NHWNC to consider submitting Community Impact Statements regarding City Council Files 19-1413 (Homeless Encampments) and 19-0602-S1. Ms. Elliott wanted to Agendize allocating up to \$30 to clean the NHWNC table cover. Mr. Brown wanted to Agendize having a “situational awareness” speaker. Ms. Minasian wanted to Agendize having Assistant District Attorney Eileen Shahigian present regarding new and changed laws.

20. Adjournment

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

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

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 9:37 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>.