



NORTH HILLS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
Rules & Elections Committee Meeting Minutes, Friday, February 26, 2021
DRAFT Minutes [to be replaced by “Approved _[Month]_ _[date]_, 201_[year]_”]

In conformity with the Governor’s Executive Order N-29-20 (March 17, 2020) and due to concerns over COVID-19, this duly noticed meeting was held entirely online and telephonically.

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 Roll Call and announcement of quorum and training qualifications.

Punam Gohel (Chair) welcomed everyone and called the Meeting to order at 5:06 p.m. Roll Call: all three Committee Members were present: Dave Brown, Pat Crone and Punam Gohel (Chair). The Committee quorum (the minimum number of Committee Members needing to be present to take binding votes on Agendized Items) was two, so the Committee could take such votes. Also attended: four Stakeholders and guests including Glenn Bailey, Garry Fordyce and Board Members Maggie Elliott and Carol Hart.

2. Discussion and possible motion to Approve Previous Meeting Minutes of 8/08/2020 <https://www.nhwnc.net/minutes/september-8-2020-joint-board-and-rules-elections-committeedraft-minutes>.

MOTION (by Ms. Crone, seconded by Mr. Brown): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its August 8, 2020 Committee Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED unanimously; zero opposed; zero abstained.

3. General Public Comments

There were no comments at this time.

4. Public Representatives Comments

There were no comments at this time.

5. Comments by Chair and review of topics from last meeting.

There were no comments at this time.

6. Discussion & possible action to recommend new members to the R&E Committee.

There were no recommendations at this time.

[*The next three paragraphs are copied from the Agenda.*] The following items include discussion and possible action to forward a recommendation to the main Board for additional consideration. And reference current NHWNC bylaws approved 08-01-2018.

NHWNC bylaws were Amended and Approved on November 12, 2020, by the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners. See: <https://www.nhwnc.net/agendas-minutes/minutes-and-agendas/bylaws>. Current Standing Rules are listed at the same location following the bylaws.

Approved bylaws now provide for 1/2 of the Board seats standing for election each election cycle by previously introducing a 4 year staggered term length configuration Depending on the year of the election cycle: Of the 13 Board seats, 7 one time and 6 the next time, (alternating every 2 years).

7. Responsibility of seated Board members during NC election every 2 years.

Mr. Brown noted that continuing incumbent Board Members should have an opportunity to represent the Stakeholders by weighing in on the candidates. Ms. Hart added that the NHWNC discussed this “in detail” and voted to approve the current procedure. It was agreed that the Board can question candidates; Ms. Crone noted that “they’ve always done it.” Mr. Gohel said that the Committee was working to modify or add Standing Rules to cover election processes not covered in the Bylaws so that the NHWNC can legally comply in selecting or electing new Board Members.

8. Clarification of wording regarding vacant Board seats filled between NC Elections.

It was agreed that no discussion of this was needed.

9. Neighborhood Council Elections

Ms. Hart earlier explained that she told DONE [the L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment; 213-978-1551; www.EmpowerLA.org] that their Seat count was wrong; DONE declared that it was too late to change anything and that, even though no election was necessary, they still would require the NHWNC to have an election. There was discussion of what to do.

Ms. Hart reported that she has been requesting the City to put in writing they still would require the NHWNC to have an election. Mr. Gohel reported that “we followed every step that we’re supposed to.” Mr. Bailey wanted the City Clerk to make “all possible efforts” to contact “pending” NC election candidates; he believed that “there wasn’t really a robust effort” by the City Clerk to contact them, which is “a serious deficiency.” Ms. Crone reported that “it was not easy” for people to apply to be 2021

election candidates. There was discussion that potential candidates have dropped out for reasons unknown by NCs and untracked by the City Clerk.

10. Committee Member Comments

Ms. Hart wanted to make sure that “we responsibly spend down our budget” before the end of the fiscal year [June 30th]. Mr. Gohel wants to ensure that there are efficient and “unbiased” Standing Rules.

11. Requests For Future Agenda Items

There were no requests at this time.

12. Motion to Adjourn

Mr. Gohel declared the Meeting **ADJOURNED** at 6:06 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 <https://www.nhwnc.net/committees/rules-elections>.