



NORTH HILLS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
General Board Meeting Minutes, Thursday, August 19, 2021

DRAFT Minutes [to be replaced by “Approved _[Month]_ _[date]_, 202_[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.

Document copies were available at <https://www.nhwnc.net/agendas/august-19-2021-general-board-meeting-agenda> and shown online.

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 & Call Meeting to Order.

President Carol Hart called the Meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. Roll Call was taken by the Secretary.

2. Roll Call, Determination of Quorum, and Voting Eligibility.

Ten of the 13 Board Members were present online at the Roll Call: Dave Brown (Secretary), Pat Crone (Vice-President), Maggie Elliott, Garry Fordyce, Dan Gibson (Treasurer), Punam Gohel, Carol Hart (President), David Hyman, Madlena Minasian and Carlos Pelaez. Sam Acosta, Angel Collins 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) was seven (see the Bylaws link at www.empowerla.org/nhwnc), 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: at least 16 Stakeholders and guests.

3. Announcements and Opening Comments – Carol N. Hart, President.

A. Shouldn’t Public Health & Safety ALWAYS Come First? Discussion and possible motion: Shall President or Vice-President make an official NHWNC statement respectfully urging our leaders to stop playing with political footballs, asking Councilmember Lee to reverse his previous decision to oppose the proposed ordinance that would require proof of coronavirus vaccination to enter certain businesses? Stop politicizing public health matters. Let’s stop the virus - many of our loved ones lives are on the line! “But councilmember John Lee, who

represents Council District 12 — including the communities of Chatsworth, Northridge, Porter Ranch and Granada Hills — has said he would not support the ordinance.” (Excerpt LA Times & ktla.com)

Ms. Hart would like the Councilmember to change his vote on the above from “no” to “yes.” The proposed Ordinance is City Council File #21-0878. No Motion was made or vote taken.

- B. Update on California Redistricting Commission Resources: Redistricting Meetings and Hearings (COI = Community Of Interest) City Council: <https://laccrc2021.org/> Citywide COI hearing 8/25/21, 6 pm (Spanish) LAUSD: <http://redistricting2021.lacity.org/LAUSDRC/index.html>.

Link to comment or RSVP County: <https://redistricting.lacounty.gov/> Valley COI hearing held 7/20/21

State: <https://www.wedrawthelinesca.org/> LA County COI input meeting held 7/30/21

U.S. Census Data is now available – working to collect hard data to support anecdotal, narrative arguments as time permits to do the area-specific data-mining necessary (USCB Van Nuys Office)

The U.S. Census Bureau has updated the availability of census data. The timeline has been adjusted, accordingly.

- February-May, 2021: Education Presentations (California Redistricting Basics)
 - June-August, 2021: Public Input Meetings (COI)
 - August 15-30, 2021*: Census Data Expected to the State
 - September 30-October 31, 2021*: Census Data Expected to the Commission
 - October-December, 2021*: Public Input Meetings/Line Drawing Sessions
 - November-December, 2021*: Draw District Maps Released
 - December 2021-January 2022*: Public Input Meetings/Line Drawing Sessions
 - December 2021-February 2022*: District Maps Released
 - December 2021-February 2022*: Final District Maps to Secretary of State
- *Dates will be updated website once the census data are received and the Commission adopts the final schedule.

Ms. Hart said this is a work in progress. No Motion was made or vote taken.

4. Public Agency Speakers and Announcements.

A. Elected Officials’ Field Representatives

Matt Hernandez, Public Safety Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilman John Lee [818-882-1212; Matthew.Hernandez@LACity.org; www.CD12.org], reported that the City Council approved restrictions on where homeless encampments can be. He noted that at least half of all non-emergency calls for Police assistance in the San Fernando Valley are regarding non-violent homeless people. Stakeholder Susan White was concerned that the City does not respond in a timely manner to excessive noise. She wanted the City to provide more complete information on homeless people and encampments, abandoned

vehicles and more. She believed that the City is not addressing the costs of worker's compensation, long-term disability or lawsuits for City employees who get sick on the job if COVID-19 Coronavirus pandemic safety precautions such as vaccine and mask mandates are not in place.

Vahid Khorsand, West Area Representative for Mayor Eric Garcetti (323-552-6730; Vahid.Khorsand@LACity.org; <http://LAMayor.org>), was not present and there was no report.

B. City Agencies, including the City of Los Angeles' Department of Neighborhood Empowerment.

Glenn Bailey, as a Stakeholder, reported that DONE will have “election feedback sessions” and “the proposed Digital Media Policy is still pending.” All Land Use Committee Members need to complete the Planning 101 class by October 1st. Civic University will be held over the nights of September 9th, 23rd and 30th; the NHWNC can send up to four Board Members. BONC [the L.A. Board of Neighborhood Commissioners; Commissioners@EmpowerLA.org; www.EmpowerLA.org] is accepting recommendations regarding when NCs can begin having hybrid in-person and online meetings; contact DONE or him. John Darnell, a Neighborhood Council Advocate, L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) [213-978-1551; John.Darnell@LACity.org; www.EmpowerLA.org], was not present and there was no report.

5. Guest Speaker Public Service Announcement & Informational Presentations.

A. North Hills Resiliency Plan – What’s a Resiliency Plan and Why do we need one? Here to explain: CSUN Urban Planning Department Graduate Program Faculty Advisors & Student Participants (Daniel Mick).

Professor Henrik MInassians showed slides and presented a “Resiliency Plan for North Hills.” He noted the outreach opportunity available. He answered many questions about the Plan, how it could work and how it could affect people. Colleague Dr. Craig Olwert indicated that they are working to finalize the Plan by spring 2022.

6. Report from Budget Advocates – Glenn Bailey and/or NHWNC Budget Representative Pat Crone.

Mr. Bailey, a Budget Advocate [BudgetAdvocates.org], reported that the annual Budget Day would be August 21st.

7. General Public Comment

Stakeholder Anita Goldbaum urged everyone to contact elected officials to oppose Senate Bills 9 and 10 “which would be the end of single-family zoning” and “would create dense, overcrowded conditions.” Ms. White was concerned that trees along freeways are dying. Stakeholder John Hales was concerned that land use

developers got project approvals from the City “with little or no interaction” with Neighborhood Councils.

Mr. Bailey reported that VANC [Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils VANC@EmpowerLA.org; <http://empowerla.org/vanc-2>] hosted L.A. Animal Services Department General Manager Dana Brown; a recording is at LANCC.org.

8. **Previous Meeting Minutes - Discussion and possible action**: Motion to approve any outstanding*Minutes.

MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Ms. Elliott): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its July 15, 2021 General Board Meeting as written.

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

Board Member Punam Gohel was unavailable to vote at this time, making nine Board Members present online (the NHWNC Board quorum was seven).

MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the nine eligible voters present with eight in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Crone, Elliott, Gibson, Hart, Hyman, Minasian and Pelaez); one opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Fordyce); zero abstained.

9. **Previous Months’ MERs (Monthly Expenditure Reports) - Discussion and possible motion** to approve any outstanding* MERs.

Mr. Gibson reviewed the Report, which was shown online.

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Ms. Minasian): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Monthly Expenditure Report for July 2021.

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

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

10. **Treasurer’s Report**: Discussion and possible action: Update to Administrative Packet (Budget) for Fiscal Year 2021-22 10 to include the \$10,000.

Mr. Gibson noted that the \$10,000 shows on the Internet.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Ms. Hart): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the amended Administrative Packet and annual Budget to include the \$10,000 in rollover funds.

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

Board Member Punam Gohel was again available to vote by this time, making 10 Board Members present online (the NHWNC Board quorum was seven).

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

11. Neighborhood Purposes Grant Applications to be considered (if any):

Ms. Hart indicated that none were recently received.

12. Nomination of Committee Chairs, Members, and various NC Liaisons -

Discussion & possible action Stakeholders are welcome to nominate themselves or others. This includes but is not limited to: Data Liaison Appointments: (We still need to appoint up to 4 people to compile reports using available data).

Ms. Hart and Mr. Brown self-nominated, and Ms. White expressed interest.

MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Ms. Crone): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council appoints Carol Hart and Dave Brown, and Stakeholder Susan White as Data Liaisons.

Board Member Punam Gohel was unavailable to vote at this time, making nine Board Members present online (the NHWNC Board quorum was seven).

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

Ms. Hart reported that Mr. Gohel resigned as the Rules & Elections Committee Chair; Mr. Brown was willing to be the Chair.

MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Ms. Crone): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council appoints Dave Brown as the Rules & Elections Committee Chair.

Board Member Carlos Pelaez had left by this time, making eight Board Members present online (the NHWNC Board quorum was seven).

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the eight eligible voters present with seven in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Crone, Elliott, Gibson, Hart, Hyman and Minasian); one opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Fordyce); zero abstained.

- 13. Report from Budget Advocates** – Glenn Bailey and/or NHWNC Budget Representative Pat Crone Rules & Elections Committee Recommendations:

[See above Item #6.]

- 14. Discussion and possible action to approve a new Bylaw:** (To encourage voter turnout) Any person that's qualified to vote in an NHWNC election, is entitled to vote for any candidate in any of the three categories: Community Interest, General, and Residential.

"Rules & Elections Committee Recommendations" were shown online. Mr. Brown explained that a number of Stakeholders complained about the existing Bylaw. Mr. Fordyce stated that this is "this is reverting back to the days of the Starbucks receipt and let's load the bus, let's start stacking the deck in Neighborhood Council elections." Ms. Hart noted that City Clerk election staff "turned people away from the polls." Ms. Goldbaum opposed the recommendation. Ms. Hart believed that this should be sent back to the Rules & Elections Committee.

Ms. Hart requested and it was agreed to TABLE this Item.

- 15. Discussion and possible action to approve a new Bylaw/Standing Rule:** NC President serves as an ex officio member of all committees. (All Zoom webinar-meetings must be facilitated by the NC President).

Ms. Hart requested and it was agreed to TABLE this Item.

- 16. Discussion and possible action to approve a Bylaws change:** Eliminate Tech Support Committee.

Ms. Hart requested and it was agreed to TABLE this Item.

- 17. Except for Executive Committee:** all Committees can have a Co-Chair, if desired by the Committee and the Co-Chair can be a Stakeholder.

Ms. Hart requested and it was agreed to TABLE this Item.

- 18. Re-introduce into NHWNC Bylaws** the removed section - relating to Removal of Board Member by Stakeholder, with a petition count of 100, from 150 (old count).

Ms. Hart requested and it was agreed to TABLE this Item.

- 19. Change minimum keep time for NHWNC meeting recordings** from 60 to (new) 180 days.

Ms. Hart requested and it was agreed to TABLE this Item.

20. General Board to ratify all Committee appointments except Exec Committee.

Ms. Hart requested and it was agreed to TABLE this Item.

- 21. Aside from routine agenda introductions like prior Minutes, MER's etc,** which are typically announced during meeting by President or presiding Chair, each agenda item should have a "shepherd" name associated with it, that is knowledgeable about the item to introduce it and initialize any potential motion wording for discussion. Community Impact Statement Proposals: CFMS = Council File Management System (LA City Clerk). Discussion and possible motion to approve generation of a Community Impact Statement on:

Ms. Hart requested and it was agreed to TABLE this Item.

- 22. Council File 21-0352** Discussion and possible motion to approve generation of a Community Impact Statement on CF 21-0352 LA100 / Strategic Long Term Resource Plan / 2035 100% Carbon-Free Energy / Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (Krekorian & O'Farrell; Martinez). (Tabled last meeting.) Motion: https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2021/21-0352_misc_03-31-21.pdf Clean Electricity by 2035 FACT SHEET: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1y3dnD0kwMHqz3I2niK4MmGlefufEuSDZBPgwbBhGPJo/edit#heading=h.772aeuzavv9q>.

Ms. Hart requested and it was agreed to TABLE this Item.

- 23. Council File 21-0870** Motion (Rodriguez – Blumenfield) Title: Illegal Street Racing / Drag Racing / Traffic Calming Measures / Vision Zero / Los Angeles Police Department Street Racing Task Force relative to examining the feasibility of both temporary and permanent traffic calming measures including but not limited to speed humps, rumble strips, raised center medians, curb extensions, and traffic circles, in light of the increasingly dangerous nature of illegal street racing on local roads. Motion text: https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2021/21-0870_misc_8-03-21.pdf. Fiscal Impact Statement: No Status of Community Impact Statements: None, 7 Letters from private citizens available for review. Public Safety Committee scheduled item for committee meeting on August 18, 2021. (The day prior to our meeting) Update? <https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=21-0870>.

Ms. Hart requested and it was agreed to TABLE this Item.

- 24. Council File 20-1267** Motion (Krekorian – O'Farrell) relative to enforcement of regulations for modified mufflers, and whether the current local laws are sufficient to address public safety and quality of life issues that modified mufflers pose for communities. Public Safety Committee scheduled item for committee meeting on August 18, 2021. (The day prior to our meeting) Update? CFMS Description: <https://>

cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=20-1267 Motion: https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2020/20-1267_mot_09-30-2020.pdf. Fiscal Impact Statement: No Community Impact Statement: Yes. For: West Hills Neighborhood Council, Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council, Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council, United Neighborhoods Neighborhood Council. Against unless Amended: Greater Valley Glen Neighborhood Council.

Ms. Hart requested and it was agreed to TABLE this Item.

25. Committee & Liaison Reports (if any). Discussion and possible action on the formation of new Ad Hoc Legislative Tracking Committee, changes to Standing and Ad Hoc committees as well as NHWNC Liaisons.

Ms. Crone reported that the Committee is not yet established and may be added to the Rules & Elections Committee. Mr. Brown reported on upcoming events. No Motion was made or vote taken.

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

Ms. Hart reported that Stakeholder Jeff Bankston requested that a new ad hoc Parking Committee be established that she described as “specifically for Aqueduct.” There was discussion as to whether to reschedule the September Board Meeting.

27. Motion to adjourn

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

MOTION to ADJOURN PASSED unanimously; 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 the NHWNC. The NHWNC Board Meeting Minutes page is <http://www.nhwnc.net/agendas-minutes/minutes-and-agendas>.