



NORTH HILLS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
Regular Board Meeting Minutes, Thursday, March 17, 2022
Approved April 21, 2022

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/event/board-meeting-2022-03-17>.

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 7:09 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

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

Roll Call was taken by the Minutes Writer. Nine of the 11 Board Members were present online at the Roll Call: Sam Acosta, Dave Brown (Secretary), Pat Crone (Vice-President), Maggie Elliott, Garry Fordyce, Carol Hart (President), David Hyman, Madlena Minasian and Kreshell Ramey. Punam Gohel arrived later. Angel Collins was absent. Carlos Pelaez had resigned effective January 20th and Dan Gibson had resigned effective February 17th. 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. Eleven of the 13 Board Seats were filled (by election or appointment). Two Board Seats were vacant (one Residential, one General); to apply, email Secretary@nhwnc.net. Also attended: at least 19 Stakeholders and guests.

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

A. ONEgeneration is promoting Electric Vehicle Charging Stations, free for apartments and commercial buildings. Join a short webinar to learn about LADWP's Charge Up LA Rebate Program and how you can install Free Charging Stations at your property. EV CHARGINGSTATIONS FREE WEBINAR To RSVP: please call jtorres@onegeneration.org 818-708-6603 or email

Ms. Hart noted the above.

4. Public Agency Speakers and Announcements.

A. Elected Officials' Field Representatives.

[*Mr. Hernandez reported after Item #7.*] Matt Hernandez, Public Safety Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilmember John Lee [818-882-1212; Matthew.Hernandez@LACity.org; www.CD12.org], reported that the Councilmember introduced legislation to lower gasoline prices. A new Project Room Key site with "a little over 110 beds" was created near Tampa and Plummer for formerly homeless people.

Erin Seinfeld, West Valley Area Representative for Mayor Eric Garcetti (323-552-6730; Erin.Seinfeld@LACity.org; <https://www.lamayor.org/WestValleyAreaRep>), was not present and there was no report.

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

John Darnell, a Neighborhood Council Advocate, L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) [213-978-1551; John.Darnell@LACity.org; www.EmpowerLA.org], reported on upcoming events.

5. Guest Speaker Public Service Announcement & Informational Presentations.

North Hills West Resiliency Plan Project - CSUN Urban Studies & Planning Cohort will report on their progress and the results gleaned from the February 26th Town Hall: survey results summary, how important issues are Save the Date: Town Hall April 2nd for the benefit of NHW prioritized based upon the Town Hall meeting findings. stakeholders wishing to learn more and offer more of our own input to the plan!

Daniel Mick, of CSUN, updated and showed slides about their "Resiliency Plan for North Hills."

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

Mr. Bailey, a Budget Advocate [LABudgetAdvocates@gmail.com; www.BudgetAdvocates.org], reported that the Advocates' White Paper of City budget recommendations will soon be issued. He will email information about budgetary matters. The annual Budget Day will be Saturday, June 18th. Mr. Darnell encouraged contacting him with City budget questions.

7. General Public Comment

Holly Hancock, L.A. Superior Court candidate, introduced herself.

Board Member Punam Gohel arrived online at 7:58, making 10 Board Members present online (the NHWNC quorum is seven).

John Hales encouraged attending NCSA [Neighborhood Councils Sustainability Alliance [<http://ncsa.nationbuilder.com>]] meetings.

The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #4. A.

- 8. Consent Calendar Recommendations.** Consent calendar items are considered to be non-controversial such as Previous Meeting Minutes and Previous Months' MERs. These items may be considered together as documents previously posted for public review and matters of public record. Any Board member or stakeholder may request that an item be removed for separate consideration. There will be no discussion of these items unless an item is removed from the consent calendar, in which case it will go to the end of New Business and be considered as time allows. Proposed MOTION: The NHWNC Board approves the following outstanding 'Consent Calendar' items: February 2022 Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) & February 17th Regular Board Meeting Minutes

CONSENT MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Ms. Elliott): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the February 2022 Monthly Expenditure Report (MER), and the February 17, 2022 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Fordyce requested to pull the MER Item. Therefore, there was no Consent Motion vote. The following correction to the February 17, 2022 Regular Board Meeting Minutes was requested: page one, Item #2: relating to Carlos Pelaez' January 20th resignation; he was incorrectly noted as "absent."

MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Ms. Elliott): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its February 17, 2022 Regular Board Meeting as corrected.

Board Member Sam Acosta was unavailable to vote, 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, Gohel, Hart, Hyman, Minasian and Ramey); zero opposed; zero abstained.

Ms. Hart reviewed the February Monthly Expenditure Report (MER). There was extensive discussion regarding whether and where the MER appears online. It was agreed to re-Agendize the February MER approval for next month's meeting.

- 9. Call for Nominations: Discussion and possible action (Roll Call Vote) to appoint new Board Treasurer.** Any board member is a possible nominee i.e. Sam Garry Fordyce, Kreshell Ramey, Madlena Minasian, etc.

Mr. Fordyce noted that the February 17th Meeting Minutes, in Item #9, indicate that Mr. Acosta already was approved as Treasurer. Ms. Hart reported that Mr. Acosta hadn't replied to her communications. Mr. Darnell reported that Mr. Acosta told him that he (Mr. Acosta) cannot be Treasurer. Mr. Allen offered to help and reported that the City Clerk Funding Unit can make payments until the NHWNC has a Treasurer.

- 10. Call for New Board Member Nominations.** (*Stakeholders may nominate themselves or others.). Two Board Seats are vacant (1 Residential & 1 General.) We will accept applications for new Board Members until both seats are filled by appointment. Board appointment is accomplished as follows: nomination, nominee acceptance, nominee statement of qualifications, board discussion, and ultimately - selection by a majority vote. Please submit completed applications to: secretary@nhwnc.net. Application: [https://clerk.lacity.org/sites/g/files/wph1491/files/2021-04/ENG_2021_NC_Candidate_Filing_Application_with_Board_Affirmation%20\(1\).pdf](https://clerk.lacity.org/sites/g/files/wph1491/files/2021-04/ENG_2021_NC_Candidate_Filing_Application_with_Board_Affirmation%20(1).pdf)

Ms. Hart encouraged recruitment outreach.

Neighborhood Purposes Grant Applications to be considered (if any):
NPG Applications and Support documents available on our website at: www.nhwnc.net
Final amounts, if any, will be determined by board vote. - NONE AT THIS TIME –

- 11. 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: (Carol Hart & Dave Brown have volunteered. We still need 1 additional person who will be granted both access and the authority to compile reports using available city-curated data.)

Ms. Hart said “there is nothing there to report.”

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

Ms. Ramey reported on COVID-19 Coronavirus precautions for homeless people.

- 13. Budget Expenditure Recommendation for Outreach** – Discussion and possible motion to approve funding to pay for an individual “NHWNC” Zoom account for the purpose of maintaining this virtual, online access to all NHWNC meetings after the City’s Zoom account is shut down. This would make it easier to transition to HYBRID meetings once purely virtual meetings are no longer mandatory. Proposed Motion: The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves allocation of funds not to exceed \$500 per year for a NHWNC Zoom Account in an effort to maximize stakeholder access.

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Ms. Crone): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves allocation of funds not to exceed \$500 per year for an NHWNC Zoom Account.

AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Ms. Crone): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council replaces the Motion phrase “approves allocation of” with the word “authorizes.”

AMENDED FUNDING 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, Gohel, Hart, Hyman, Minasian and Ramey); zero opposed; zero abstained.

- 14. Budget Expenditure Recommendation for Outreach** – Committee report followed by discussion and possible motion to ratify approval of funding (if needed) for production and mailing of two or more postcards and a four-page spring newsletter. Quotes were previously reviewed and approved as part of our Annual Budget Packet. Note that \$4,999 remains of funds encumbered specifically for this purpose. This is in addition to this year’s Outreach budget. The first postcard welcomes NHWNC participation and the upcoming Resiliency Plan Town Hall on April 2nd.

Ms. Hart explained the above.

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Ms. Minasian): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council authorizes an expenditure of up to \$4,999 for production and mailing of two or more postcards and a four-page spring newsletter.

FUNDING 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, Gohel, Hart, Hyman, Minasian and Ramey); zero opposed; zero abstained.

Rules & Elections Committee Recommendations (to be presented monthly on an “as available” basis): Report on approved revisions to be submitted to the City of Los Angeles for their review and approval. The deadline for final additions, deletions, or changes is April 1st. – Dave Brown

Community Impact Statement Proposals:

CFMS = Council File Management System (LA City Clerk)

To be addressed as time permits. Discussion and possible motion to approve generation of CI Statement on:

- 15. Council File 19-0603 - Expansion of Fire District 1 Feasibility Study** –

Discussion and possible action: (previously postponed) We may choose to approve or oppose this file as it is, or oppose unless amended to include conditions. A.

Motion: NHWNC will issue a CIS approving the expansion of Fire District 1. B.

Motion: NHWNC will issue a CIS opposing the expansion of Fire District 1. C.

Motion: NHWNC will issue a CIS - opposing unless amended - the expansion of Fire

District 1. NOTE: The Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance voted unanimously to oppose expansion. Some feel that this would be a boon to developers opening the door to the use of more climate-damaging concrete and steel construction used in the building of higher density structures in what are currently low-density residential neighborhoods. The study is already complete. A 47-page report was generated by the Department of Building & Safety: https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2019/19-0603_rpt_dbs_%205-27-21.pdf. A 2-page Public Safety Committee Report: https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2019/19-0603_rpt_ps_6-2-21.pdf <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2021-08-21/california-burning-is-it-time-to-rethink-forest-management>

Ms. Hart noted that this is regarding a study.

MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Ms. Elliott): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will issue a CIS opposing the expansion of Fire District 1.

DISCUSSION: Seth Jacobson, of Build with Strength, said “this is not about building more concrete buildings . . . it’s about fire safety.” He requested to present to the NHWNC.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Mr. Fordyce, seconded by Ms. Elliott): **PASSED**; zero opposed; zero abstained.

DISCUSSION: Jamie York, of the Reseda Neighborhood Council, claimed that “Seth Jacobson is a lobbyist for Build with Strength . . . which is a __ for the __ and steel industry . . . he should’ve said so.”

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the nine eligible voters present with seven in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Crone, Elliott, Fordyce, Gohel, Hart and Minasian); zero opposed; two abstained (the NHWNC does not count abstentions as votes) (Hyman and Ramey).

- 16. Council File 20-0668-S7 Discussion and possible motion** to approve generation of a Community Impact Statement on Los Angeles City Council Redistricting Commission / City of Los Angeles / Council Districts / Recommended Map: <https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=20-0668-S7>

Ms. Hart explained the above and declared it “Tabled permanently.”

- 17. Council File 22-0151** - Residential and Commercial Building Construction / Zero-Carbon Emissions / Climate Equity LA Series / Building Decarbonization: http://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2022/22-0151_misc_2-9-22.pdf – Motion referred to Economic Development and Jobs Committee; Energy, Climate Change, Environmental Justice, and River Committee; Housing Committee; Planning and Land Use Management Committee,. For reference see also this CIS submitted by

Westside Neighborhood Council: http://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2022/22-0151_CIS_03102022095324_03-10-2022.pdf. Discussion and possible action: Proposed Motion: The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will submit a CIS supporting Council File 22-0151

Mr. Fordyce opposed this and believed there is “no exit strategy.” Ms. Hart suggested and it was agreed to refer this and Item #18 to the Planning and Land Use Management Committee.

- 18. Council File 21-1463** - Community Assemblies / Climate Emergency Mobilization Office / Building Decarbonization / L.A.s Green New Deal - http://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2021/21-1463_misc_12-8-21.pdf. - Note: This motion was approved and guidelines therein were adopted by a unanimous vote of City Council on March 9th. Even so, it would be good for each NC to weigh in on this topic. Proposed Motion: The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will submit a CIS supporting Council File 21-1663

See above Item #17.

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

Ms. Hart explained why whether to Agendize saying the Pledge of Allegiance at these meetings cannot be Agendized. Mr. Gohel requested discussion of illegal fireworks.

20. Motion to adjourn

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

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 10:23 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>.