



NORTH HILLS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
Regular Board Meeting Minutes, Thursday, May 19, 2022
Minutes Approved June 16, 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-2022-05-19> 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 7:09 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

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

Roll Call was taken by Secretary Dave Brown. Eight of the 10 Board Members were present online at the Roll Call: Dave Brown (Secretary), Pat Crone (Vice-President), Maggie Elliott, Garry Fordyce, Punam Gohel, Carol Hart (President), David Hyman and Madlena Minasian. Angel Collins arrived later. Kreshell Ramey was absent. Linda Erdman, in below Item #4, was appointed to a Residential Board Seat. 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. Ten of the 13 Board Seats were filled (by election or appointment). Three Board Seats were vacant (General, 1; Residential, 2); to apply, email Secretary@nhwnc.net. Also attended: at least 14 Stakeholders and guests.

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

Ms. Hart encouraged recruiting Board Members and contacting her or Mr. Brown.

4. New Board Member Applications (received by May 4th) – Review, discussion, and possible approval.

Ms. Hart reported that lifelong resident Linda Erdman applied to join the Board. Ms. Erdman described her background and interests. Ms. Crone and Ms. Hart noted Ms. Erdman's strong efforts on the Haskell Ave. parking issue. Mr. Fordyce wanted to see Ms. Erdman's application. Ms. Hart reported that the City was "satisfied" with Ms. Erdman's application. Mr. Fordyce accused Ms. Hart of "withholding information

from the Board.” John Darnell, a Neighborhood Council Advocate, L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) [213-978-1551; John.Darnell@LACity.org; www.EmpowerLA.org], noted that such applications contain “personal information” that “is not to be shared.” Mr. Fordyce claimed that “the most logical and common sense questions have not been answered . . . you haven’t given any evidence . . . or facts . . . we have no information; this is a blank check. This is the way several people have come on this Board . . .” He suggested that Mr. Darnell investigate,

MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Ms. Minasian): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council accepts Linda Erdman’s application as a Residential Board Member and appoints her to the Board.

Board Member Angel Collins arrived online at 7:31, making nine Board Members present online (the NHWNC quorum is seven).

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

New Board Member Linda Erdman was Seated at this time, making 10 Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).

5. New Board Treasurer – Nomination, discussion, and possible approval.

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Mr. Gohel): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council nominates Pat Crone as the Treasurer.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the nine eligible voters present with eight in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Collins, Crone, Elliott, Gohel, Hart, Hyman and Minasian); one opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Fordyce); zero abstained. One was ineligible (Erdman) to vote due to not having completed one or more of the required trainings and/or not having signed the Code of Conduct.

Mr. Darnell reported that Ms. Crone is ready to serve as Treasurer. Ms. Crone thereupon resigned as Vice-President. Mr. Darnell administered the Oath of Office to Ms. Erdman.

6. New Board President – Nomination, discussion, and possible approval.

MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Mr. Gohel): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council nominates Madlena Minasian as the new Board President.

MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the 10 eligible voters present with nine in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Collins, Crone, Elliott, Erdman, Gohel, Hart, Hyman and Minasian); zero opposed; one abstained (the NHWNC does not count abstentions as votes) (Fordyce).

7. New Board Vice-President – Nomination, discussion, and possible approval.

MOTION (by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Hyman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves Carol Hart as Vice-President.

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

The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #11. B.

8. Previous Meeting Minutes & Monthly Expenditure Reports (MERs) - discussion and possible action.

A. Motion to approve the April 21st, 2022 Minutes.

MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Ms. Elliott): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its April 21, 2022 Regular Board Meeting as written.

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

B. Motion to approve the April 2022 Monthly Expenditure Report

Ms. Hart indicated that the MER cannot be approved at this time.

C. Motion to approve the May 20th, 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes (previously tabled.)

MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Ms. Elliott): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its May 20, 2021 Regular Board Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the 10 eligible voters present with eight in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Collins, Crone, Elliott, Gohel, Hart, Hyman and Minasian); zero opposed; two abstained (the NHWNC does not count abstentions as votes) (Erdman and Fordyce).

D. Motion to approve the May 25th, 2021 Special Board Meeting Minutes (previously tabled.)

MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Ms. Elliott): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its May 25, 2021 Regular Board Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the 10 eligible voters present with eight in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Collins, Crone, Elliott, Gohel, Hart, Hyman and Minasian); zero opposed; two abstained (the NHWNC does not count abstentions as votes) (Erdman and Fordyce).

9. General Public Comment

Ms. Goldbaum wanted to see more outreach done. After another commenter, Mr. Darnell reminded that “you have the right to mute the person when [their] time is up.” Seydi Alejandra Morales, State Senate District 20 Candidate (SeydiForSenate.com), introduced herself and noted that the last date to vote by mail or in person is June 7th. Bart Trevino, of the San Fernando Valley Partnership [office 818-837-7767, cell 818-383-0262, BTrevino@SFVP.org] and the North Hills East NC Public Safety Committee Chair, requested to present to the Board about alcohol abuse mitigation.

10. Public Agency Speakers and Announcements.

A. Elected Officials’ Field Representatives.

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #18.*] 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 on the “[DB w/ snd flyer]_St. Baldrick’s fundraising event.

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 that Budget Day will be Saturday, June 18th; see BudgetAdvocates.org. The Congress of Neighborhood Councils [NCCongress@EmpowerLA.org and NeighborhoodCongress.LA] will be online Saturday, September 24th, 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

C. Report from Budget Advocates – Glenn Bailey and/or NHWNC Budget Representative.

Mr. Bailey, a Budget Advocate [LABudgetAdvocates@gmail.com; www.BudgetAdvocates.org], reported that the City Council approved the Mayor’s proposed budget.

11. Guest Speaker Public Service Announcement & Informational Presentations.

A. North Hills West Resiliency Plan Update – CSUN Department of Urban Studies & Planning Master’s Cohort will give their monthly progress report on their analysis and findings. The Cohort nears completion of their study and publication of a Resiliency Plan customized to our community. Stakeholder feedback is both welcome and encouraged as a vital element for this plan geared to suit our unique needs and concerns.

Daniel Mick, of CSUN, showed slides and presented regarding the North Hills West Resiliency Plan Project.

B. Michael Schneider, Streets for ALL: Healthy Streets LA Request for NHWNC support for proposed mandate implementation of the Mobility Plan 2035 whenever repaving streets. Motion: The NHWNC supports the proposed mandate implementation of the Mobility Plan 2035 whenever repaving streets.

Mr. Schneider, (Michael@StreetsForAll.org), a Mid City West Community Council Board Member and not a lobbyist, showed slides and presented about the

measure that would be on the November 2022 ballot. He noted that “the Mobility Plan was already adopted in 2015.” He cited traffic statistics and that, in the seven years since the City approved the Plan, little has been done. He answered many questions. He said the measure would not add to or change the Plan and the Plan does not include a bus lane on Nordhoff or any “treatment on Nordhoff.”

MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Mr. Gohel): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council supports the proposed mandated implementation of the Mobility Plan 2035 whenever repaving streets.

DISCUSSION: A letter would be drafted based upon one provided by Mr. Schneider.

MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the 10 eligible voters present with seven in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Collins, Crone, Elliott, Gohel, Hart and Hyman); two opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Erdman and Fordyce); one abstained (the NHWNC does not count abstentions as votes) (Minasian).

The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #8. A.

12. Neighborhood Certificate of Appreciation – It’s important to recognize the volunteer efforts of neighbors who contribute important services to our community. If you know of someone you’d like to nominate for receipt of an award, please forward an email with their name and details about the service or services they’ve provided, to Board@nhwnc.net. This month’s nominee is named Sherry Gonzalez. “Cat Ladies” Deb and Mimi introduced her to North Hills West two years ago. Sherry has since been managing efforts to Trap, Spay/Neuter, and Release individual members of local cat colonies aka: “clowders”. Fun Fact: well-fed feral felines provide highly effective, all natural pest control 24/7/365!

Mr. Brown explained the above. Mr. Fordyce believed that there may be an injunction against spaying or neutering feral cats. Mr. Brown noted that the City was promoting spaying and neutering. Ms. Hart indicated that this will be Agendized for next month’s Board Meeting. No Motion was made or vote taken.

[This is copied from the Agenda:] The Board will engage in discussion and possibly take action on each of the following items:

13. NHWNC Inventory - Motion: NHWNC approves the updated NHWNC Inventory as submitted.

Ms. Hart reported that Ms. Elliott did “a wonderful job” inventorying the storage contents, which were shown on a slide. Mr. Brown reported that “all the tables are present and accounted for . . . at the Library.”

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Ms. Minasian): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council accepts the inventory as submitted in April 2022.

Board Member Angel Collins had left by this time, making nine Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the eight eligible voters present with seven in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Crone, Elliott, Gohel, Hart, Hyman and Minasian); one opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Fordyce); zero abstained. One was ineligible (Erdman) to vote due to not having completed one or more of the required trainings and/or not having signed the Code of Conduct.

- 14. NC Elections** for Region 2, proposed date Saturday June 10th - Hybrid election format (vote in-person or by mail) – Polling location and hours of operation will be discussed. Final details will be established by Board approval. Although ballots & election information are automatically made available in Spanish, Korean, and Chinese, additional language translation & interpretation services are available. (Pending discussion & approval.) Motion: The NHWNC Board designates “The Onion” (Vida Church) as its polling location and the hours between 10 am - 4 pm as its hours of operation. [Final decision is subject to revision prior to board approval.]

Ms. Hart explained the above and that “June 10th” would be in 2023, not this year, and on a Saturday. There was discussion of the best voting hours.

MOTION (by Mr. Hyman, seconded by Ms. Crone): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council designates “The Onion” (Vida Church) as its polling location and the hours between 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. as its hours of operation.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Hart reported that she designated the Mid Valley Library as a secondary location.

Board Member Punam Gohel was unavailable at this time, making eight Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).

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

- 15. Purchase of New Board Telephone & Pre-Paid Service Contract** - approve the expenditure of up to \$1100 for this purpose. Existing board telephone number will be preserved automatically. (Dave Brown will report.) Motion: North Hills West Neighborhood council approves expenditure not to exceed \$1,100 for new board phone & service.

Ms. Hart explained that the current phone uses the soon-to-be-obsolete 3G format. Mr. Brown gave more details.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Brown, seconded by Ms. Hart): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves an expenditure not to exceed \$1,100 for a new iPhone 12 Board phone and service from AT&T.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Fordyce said “this seems like a gross overkill . . . it never gets answered.” Ms. Hart reported that, in the last year-and-a-half that she has had the current phone, the only calls were from Verizon, robocalls and sales calls; “no members of the public have called us.”

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the seven eligible voters present with six in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Crone, Elliott, Hart, Hyman and Minasian); one opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Fordyce); zero abstained. One was ineligible (Erdman) to vote due to not having completed one or more of the required trainings and/or not having signed the Code of Conduct.

- 16. Approval of Annual Renewal of Adobe subscription** - renews automatically via auto-debit on June 12th, 2022. NHWNC will be charged US \$599.88 (plus tax) annually. Subscriptions automatically renew annually until cancelled (price subject to change). We may cancel anytime via Adobe Account or Customer Support.

Ms. Hart noted the above.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Hyman, seconded by Ms. Minasian): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the annual renewal of its Adobe subscription via auto-debit on June 12th, 2022. The NHWNC will be charged US \$599.88 (plus tax).

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the seven eligible voters present with all seven in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Crone, Elliott, Fordyce, Hart, Hyman and Minasian); zero opposed; zero abstained. One was ineligible (Erdman) to vote due to not having completed one or more of the required trainings and/or not having signed the Code of Conduct.

Mr. Fordyce recused from voting (self-declared as ineligible to vote on the below Motion due to a possible or known conflict of interest), making seven Board Members present online and eligible to vote (the NHWNC quorum is seven). Recusing is different from abstaining, which is declining to vote “yes” or “no.”

- 17. Outreach Expenditure** – Discussion and possible motion approving a budget of up to \$5000 for the purchase of various logo imprinted promotional items such as reusable bags, pot holders, note pads, local emergency #s & EP info on refrigerator magnets, and bottle openers from Quality Logo Products to be included in Outreach grab bags.

Ms. Hart explained this and outreach items shown on slides.

FUNDING MOTION (by M, seconded by Mr. Hyman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves a budget of up to \$5,000 for the purchase of various logo-imprinted promotional items from Quality Logo Products.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the six eligible voters present with all six in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Crone, Elliott, Hart, Hyman and Minasian); zero opposed; zero abstained. One was ineligible (Erdman)

to vote due to not having completed one or more of the required trainings and/or not having signed the Code of Conduct. One recused (Fordyce).

Mr. Fordyce recused from voting (self-declared as ineligible to vote on the below Motion due to a possible or known conflict of interest), keeping seven Board Members present online and eligible to vote (the NHWNC quorum is seven). Recusing is different from abstaining, which is declining to vote “yes” or “no.”

18. Neighborhood Purpose Grant – Friends of the Mid-Valley Library (Vicki Magaw presenting) - Discussion and possible action approving an NPG not to exceed \$2000 for a mobile shelving unit. <https://www.lapl.org/branches/mid-valley> <https://www.demco.com/paragon-infinity-trade-mobile-shelving>.

Lesley Alexander, Librarian, Mid Valley Regional Library (818-895-3650; <http://www.lapl.org/user/82/contact>; <http://www.lapl.org/branches/mid-valley>), explained the need. A slide was shown of a “mobile shelving unit.”

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Ms. Elliott): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves an NPG in the amount of \$2,000 for a mobile shelving unit.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Darnell reminded that the last day to submit an NPG this Fiscal Year would be June 1st; the last day to use the bank card would be June 20th, with a \$1,000 limit.

Board Member Punam Gohel had returned by this time, making nine Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the seven eligible voters present with all seven in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Crone, Elliott, Gohel, Hart, Hyman and Minasian); zero opposed; zero abstained. One was ineligible (Erdman) to vote due to not having completed one or more of the required trainings and/or not having signed the Code of Conduct. One recused (Fordyce).

The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #10. A.

19. Congress of Neighborhoods - Discussion and possible action to approve supporting the Congress of Neighborhoods with a financial contribution of up to \$2000. (Note: final amount to be determined by board.) Motion: North Hills West Neighborhood council approves a financial contribution of [up to] \$2000 to the Congress of Neighborhoods.

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Ms. Crone): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves a financial contribution of \$2,000 to the Congress of Neighborhoods.

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

(Erdman) to vote due to not having completed one or more of the required trainings and/or not having signed the Code of Conduct.

- 20. Budget Advocates** – NHWNC can show our support for their work overseeing how our tax money is spent. Motion: NHWNC approves a financial contribution of [up to] \$2000 (TBD) to the Budget Advocates.

Ms. Hart explained the need to use, in the Motion, the phrase “budget advocacy” instead of “Budget Advocates.” Mr. Bailey gave more details, indicating the funding most likely would not go to the Budget Advocates.

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Ms. Crone): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves a financial contribution of \$2,000 for budget advocacy.

AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Ms. Crone): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council adds this phrase to the Motion: “for the Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates.”

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the seven eligible voters present with six in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Crone, Elliott, Fordyce, Hart and Hyman); one opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Minasian); zero abstained. One was ineligible (Erdman) to vote due to not having completed one or more of the required trainings and/or not having signed the Code of Conduct.

21. Committee & Board Liaison Reports.

There were no reports.

22. Board Member Announcements and Requests for Future Agenda Items.

Ms. Minasian requested that remaining funds be allocated to Emergency Preparedness.

23. Motion to adjourn

MOTION to ADJOURN (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Ms. Minasian).

MOTION to ADJOURN PASSED; zero opposed; zero abstained.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 11:46 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>.