



**NORTH HILLS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**  
**General Board Meeting Minutes**  
Thursday, August 21, 2014  
New Horizons, 15725 Parthenia St., North Hills CA 91343

NHWNC (and all other) Meeting Minutes are a summary, not an exact, verbatim, word-for-word transcript of what was said at a Meeting. The only two exceptions are the Motions shown in italics and quotes shown with quotation marks (“ ”) at the beginning and ending of a word or words. The Minutes are not, nor were they ever meant to be, a comprehensive record of what was said about an issue or project.

**1. Welcome, Flag Salute, Roll Call and announcement of quorum.**

President John McGovern called the Meeting to order at 7:17 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. Roll Call was taken by the Debra Perkins. Ten of the 13 Board Members were present at the beginning of the Meeting: John McGovern (President), Dan Gibson (Vice-President), Debra Perkins (Treasurer), Dave Brown, Garry Fordyce, Punam Gohel, David Hyman, Mike Khalid, Carlos Maya and Nancy Xander. Board Members absent: Armando Diaz (excused), Carol Hart (Secretary) (excused) and Ed Serrano (unexcused). The NHWNC quorum (the minimum number of Board Members needing to be present to take binding votes on Agendized Items) is seven (see <http://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/NorthHillsWestNC-Bylaws.pdf>), so the Board could take such votes. All 13 of the 13 Board Seats were filled. No Board Seats were vacant. Also attending: 28 Stakeholders and guests. Mr. McGovern explained that document copies were available on the literature table and that Board Members must be recognized by the Chair.

**2. General Public Comment**

Mr. McGovern explained that comments would be limited to two minutes each. Stakeholder Rosalyn Kahn offered presentation skills coaching online or in person. Anthony Milanes, Science Teacher, Valley Academy of Arts and Sciences (818.516.4832; <http://www.thevalleyacademy.net>) said they are seeking funding up to \$3,100 for their Robotics Program and that he submitted a Neighborhood Purposes Grant application. Stakeholder Martha Kopy believed that too much funding was being allocated to Monroe High School. Stakeholder Anita Goldbaum requested that a Public Records Book be available at Board Meetings and encouraged Board Member participation in creating Board Meeting Agendas. Stakeholder Mary Armenteros requested clarification of what the NHWNC quorum is at Board and Committee Meetings, and what is and is not allowed regarding photographing, filming and alcohol consumption at the Meetings. Stakeholder Marina Szewiola encouraged the Board to “promote and participate” in a proposed “History Day LA.” Betty Ley of the Mission Hills Neighborhood Watch recognized Mr.

McGovern's Community Police Advisory Board service and presented him a Certificate of Appreciation.

### **3. Public Speakers**

#### **A. Councilman Englander's office**

Ron Rubine, Field Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilman Mitch Englander (818-882-1212; Ron.Rubine@LACity.org), described the ACE (Administrative Citation Enforcement) program for quality-of-life issues such as "dog off leash" and "neighbor with weeds."

#### **B. DONE Rep.**

Melvin Canas, Neighborhood Empowerment Analyst, DONE, (818-374-9953; cell 323-972-7782; Melvin.Canas@LACity.org; www.EmpowerLA.org), reported that the Congress of Neighborhoods will be September 20<sup>th</sup> at City Hall for Board Members and Stakeholders. He stated that "automatically at the beginning of each month there will be a replenishment of funds"; no application is needed. He clarified that recording meetings is allowed as long as it is not intrusive.

VANC REP: report on recent VANC Meeting -Nancy Xander

BONC REP: Lydia Grant

Lydia Grant, BONC [L.A. Board of Neighborhood Commissioners] Commissioner (ofc. 213.978.1551; cell 818.470.6629; Lydia.Grant@LACity.org; Commissioners@EmpowerLA.org; www.EmpowerLA.org), urged all Board Members to attend the Congress.

#### **C. U.S. Congressman Tony Cardenas' office representative - Brian Gavidia**

Brian Gavidia, Field Representative for U.S. 29th District of California Congressman Tony Cardenas (818-504-0090; Brian.Gavidia@mail.house.gov; <http://cardenas.house.gov>), reported that the Congressman met with the Sepulveda VA Director; Town Hall Meetings will be held. A "Small Business Resources" booklet is available.

### **REPS FROM OTHER OFFICIAL AGENCIES**

#### **a. Tom Johnson- Valley Preparedness Fair - September 27, 2014**

Mr. Johnson reminded that the Emergency Preparedness Fair will be held on September 27, 2014, 10:00-2:00 at Fire Station 87 on Balboa Blvd. just south of Devonshire St. Free earthquake preparedness kits will be given to the first 600 attendees. There will be free food; volunteers are needed.

### **4. Officer Reports**

#### **a. President**

Mr. McGovern reminded about the Barbeque at Valley Park Church on September 6<sup>th</sup> at 4:00.

b. Vice-President

Mr. Gibson thanked everyone for attending.

c. Treasurer (2014/2015 Budget Submittal) Upcoming Blood Drive, Pet Care Fair.  
Ms. Perkins read aloud and presented a Certificate of Appreciation awarded from City Council District 12 to Stakeholders Bonnie and Jim Cockerell. Photos were taken.

1. Motion to approve May 2014 Monthly Expense Report  
No Motion was made.

2. Motion to approve June Monthly Expense Report  
Ms. Perkins explained that all five expenses “were paid out of the 2013-2014 Budget.”

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. McGovern, seconded by Mr. Gibson): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves its June 2014 Monthly Expenditure Report.

**MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION** (by Ms. Perkins); no objection.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with nine in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Gibson, Gohel, Hyman, Khalid, Maya, McGovern, Perkins and Xander); one opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Fordyce).

3. Motion to approve July Monthly Expense Report  
Ms. Perkins explained that “seven items have been paid” and described expenses. She and Mr. McGovern explained that DONE already paid certain expenditures.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. McGovern, seconded by Mr. Gibson): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves its July 2014 Monthly Expenditure Report.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with nine in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Gibson, Gohel, Hyman, Khalid, Maya, McGovern, Perkins and Xander); one opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Fordyce).

Ms. Perkins reported that she, Mr. Gohel and Mr. Maya attended a Budget Advocates Meeting. She relayed issues mentioned at Budget Day.

d. Secretary

Mr. McGovern noted that Ms. Hart was unable to attend.

1. Motion to approve May 15, 2014 GBM Minutes  
Ms. Perkins noted that the May 15<sup>th</sup> Minutes were approved on June 25<sup>th</sup>.

2. Motion to approve June 4, 2014 SBM Minutes

**MOTION** (by Mr. McGovern, seconded by Ms. Perkins): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its June 4, 2014 Special Board Meeting as corrected.

**DISCUSSION:** The following corrections were requested: page two, Item #C. 2 [the second #2]: "NW" should read "Neighborhood Watch"; and page two, Item #C. 3: "\_\_ Yes, \_\_ No, \_\_ Absent. \*\*\*NOTE: not sure if this was tabled or if the vote was the same as others" should read "11 Yes, one No (Fordyce), passed."

**MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION** (by Ms. Perkins); no objection.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with all 10 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Brown, Fordyce, Gibson, Gohel, Hyman, Khalid, Maya, McGovern, Perkins and Xander).

3. Motion to approve June 19, 2014 GBM Minutes

**MOTION** (by Mr. McGovern, seconded by Ms. Perkins): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its June 19, 2014 General Board Meeting as written.

**MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION** (by Mr. McGovern); no objection.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with all 10 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Brown, Fordyce, Gibson, Gohel, Hyman, Khalid, Maya, McGovern, Perkins and Xander).

4. Motion to approve June 25, 2014 SBM Minutes

**MOTION** (by Mr. McGovern, seconded by Ms. Xander): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its June 25, 2014 Special Board Meeting as corrected.

**DISCUSSION:** The following corrections were requested: throughout the Minutes, that full names be used with no abbreviations; page one, the header: "Valley Park Baptist Church" should read "Valley Park Church"; page two, Item #4. a.:

"10. ISSUE. In looking at the budget, it was discovered that more than one version had been printed and put out on the table. A budget of unknown origin (remove: an older version) on white paper, with notes in the budget narrative

section, and our Treasurer Debra Perkin's version on Green paper with different numbers, without any narrative notes. Board members and stakeholders had picked up and were looking at two different budgets. When President John McGovern asked who had brought the white copies of the budget there was silence in the room. Due to this discrepancy, President John McGovern announced that he would table the motion to approve the budget until July. He added that they had just learned the day prior to this meeting, that the deadline for submission had been postponed to September 1st"

should read

"10. ISSUE: In looking at the budget, it was discovered that more than one version had been printed, an older version on white paper with notes in the budget narrative section, and a newer version on green paper without any narrative notes. Evidently both sets were placed (at different times) on the literature table. Board members and stakeholders had picked up and were looking at two different budgets. Due to this discrepancy, President McGovern announced that he would table the motion to approve the budget until July. He added that they'd just learned (the day prior to this meeting) that the deadline for submission had been postponed to September 1st"; and

page four, Item #4. G.: "12-Yes, 0-No" should read "11-Yes, 1-No (Fordyce)."

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with all 10 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Brown, Fordyce, Gibson, Gohel, Hyman, Khalid, Maya, McGovern, Perkins and Xander).

5. Motion to approve July 02, 2014 Joint Special Board/Committee Meeting Minutes

**MOTION** (by Mr. McGovern, seconded by Ms. Perkins): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its July 2, 2014 General Board Meeting as corrected.

**DISCUSSION:** The following corrections were requested: page two, Item #4. A. 2: "National Night Out Town Hall event on August 4th" should read "National Night Out event on August 5th"; page three, Item #6. 1. C. 1.: "Brown Act stipulates" should read "Bylaws stipulate" and "board members on a committee" should read "Board Members on committees"; page two, Item #5. New Business: makers and seconders of Motions, and vote counts are needed; and "ratified" should read "approved."

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with all 10 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Brown, Fordyce, Gibson, Gohel, Hyman, Khalid, Maya, McGovern, Perkins and Xander).

6. Motion to approve July 17, 2014 GBM Minutes

**MOTION** (by Ms. Perkins, seconded by Mr. Hyman): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its July 17, 2014 General Board Meeting as corrected.

**DISCUSSION:** The following correction was requested: page three, Item #5. a.: "AMENDED to the MOTION (by Mr. McGovern, seconded by Ms. Xander)" should read "AMENDMENT to the MOTION (by Mr. Fordyce, seconded by Ms. Hart)."

**MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with nine in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Brown, Fordyce, Gibson, Gohel, Hyman, Khalid, McGovern, Perkins and Xander); one abstained (Maya).

7. Motion to approve August 04, 2014 Outreach Committee Meeting Minutes

Mr. McGovern requested and it was agreed to **REFER to COMMITTEE** approval the Minutes of its August 4, 2014 General Board Meeting. Mr. Canas clarified that Meeting Minutes cannot say something such as "please refer to the Vote Count Form . . . the actual Minutes do not have to reflect" voters' names. He added "the Minutes are a record of what was actually said" whether what was said is correct or not.

**5. New Business**

- a. MOTION TO CENSURE BOARD MEMBER GARRY FORDYCE for the following actions; Created Brown Act Violation for the North Hills West Neighborhood Council per Quorum regulations. On August 04, 2014, the monthly Outreach ; Events and Marketing Committee Meeting was held at Dos Arbolitos Restaurant, North Hills, Ca. 91343 at 7 PM. Nancy Xander was chairperson, David Hyman and Mike Khalid were in attendance also Dave Brown was in attendance to record the Meeting. Carol Hart was in to take Minutes of the Meeting. Dan Gibson was in to report on BBQ Facility. Gary Fordyce showed up at the scheduled Meeting and became the seventh Board Member there which created a quorum issue. This was explained to him by Dave Brown but he refused to leave the Meeting creating a Brown Act Violation. Nancy Xander then asked Dave and Carol and Dan to step out of the Meeting, which they did. Gary Fordyce then proceeded to annoy stakeholders by then taking pictures of everyone at the Meeting while they were eating dinner and light refreshments. He was confronted by multiple stakeholders and Board Members to stop which he refused also. His disruption of this Meeting and the past five Board Meetings has caused many stakeholders to walk away from this Board which is in the process of great things for the future. Eight Board Members have written letters to have GARRY removed from the Board. One Board Member, Ed Serrano has decided that he could not put up with Garry's actions and has decided to leave the Board permanently. These ANTICS cannot be tolerated on a Board. For these previous actions, I as the president am asking

for this Censure process so that the Removal process can begin with the City Attorney's office and with the Guidance of DONE per the Bylaws of this Neighborhood Council. We hope that Mr. Garry Fordyce would take the high road and resign immediately so as to not cause any further damage to the Board and our Stakeholders.

Mr. McGovern TABLED this Item per City Attorney instructions.

b. Discussion and Motion [see the below Motion].

**MOTION** (by Mr. McGovern, seconded by Ms. Perkins): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council removes Ed Serrano from the Board roster due to lack of attendance and personal reasons per Bylaws. The City Attorney will be advised as well as DONE Rep.

**MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION** (by Mr. McGovern); no objection.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with all 10 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Brown, Fordyce, Gibson, Gohel, Hyman, Khalid, Maya, McGovern, Perkins and Xander).

Mr. McGovern declared that Mr. Serrano now is no longer a Board Member; Mr. McGovern will notify DONE.

c. Discussion and possible Motion to allocate funds for outreach items: tri-fold brochures, and recyclable grocery bags with neighborhood logo on all items.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. McGovern, seconded by Ms. Xander): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will allocate funds for outreach items: tri-fold brochures, and recyclable grocery bags with neighborhood logo on all items.

**DISCUSSION:** Ms. Xander reported that supplies were low and "up to \$1,000" is needed. She would like to purchase 500 bags and update the brochure.

**AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. McGovern, seconded by Ms. Xander): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will allocate up to \$1,000 for approximately 2,500 tri-fold brochures with the NHWNC logo on them.

**AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of nine of the ten eligible voters present with all nine in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Brown, Fordyce, Gibson, Gohel, Hyman, Khalid, Maya, Perkins and Xander).  
[Presidents/Chairs can choose whether or not to vote; if they don't a vote can still be unanimous.]

**AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. McGovern, seconded by Ms. Xander): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will allocate up to \$800 for 500 recyclable grocery bags with the NHWNC logo on them.

**DISCUSSION:** Ms. Goldbaum believed that “something more creative” and at less expense would be better. Mr. Fordyce recommended that flashlights be purchased. Ms. Armenteros recommended key chains. Mr. Canas clarified that the vendor can be named in a future approval Motion.

**MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION** (by Mr. McGovern); no objection.

**AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with nine in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Fordyce, Gibson, Gohel, Hyman, Khalid, Maya, McGovern and Xander); one abstained (Perkins).

**AMENDED FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. McGovern, seconded by Mr. Gohel): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council will allocate up to \$1,800 for approximately 2,500 tri-fold brochures and 500 recyclable grocery bags, all with the NHWNC logo on them.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with all 10 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Fordyce, Gibson, Gohel, Hyman, Khalid, Maya, McGovern, Perkins and Xander).

d. Discussion and possible motion [see the below Motion].

**MOTION** (by Mr. McGovern, seconded by Ms. Perkins): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves a Neighborhood Purpose Grant for \$2,500.00 in support of the Granada Hills Street Faire to be held on October 11, 2014. The event is hosted by the Chamber of Commerce of Granada Hills and the Granada Hills Community Foundation. The NHWNC will have multiple outreach opportunities by radio coverage, newspaper / media coverage and booths for exposure. Estimated exposure to stakeholders should be approximately 15,000+ attendees.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. McGovern reported that the Outreach Committee recommended this around two months ago. An outreach booth would be included. Mr. Fordyce supported the allocation as a “great opportunity.” Stakeholder Mike Kabo described nearby Neighborhood Councils’ event allocations.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with all 10 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Fordyce, Gibson, Gohel, Hyman, Khalid, Maya, McGovern, Perkins and Xander).



## 6. Committee Reports

### a. Planning and Land Use – Punam Gohel

Mr. Gohel reported that the Committee will meet August 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the Library.

### b. Beautification and Infrastructure – John McGovern

Mr. Maya reported that the Committee received and forwarded requests for sidewalk repairs to the City Bureau of Street Services; more requests will be forwarded. Repair requests can be made by calling 3-1-1; emailing [bss.bos.LACity.org](mailto:bss.bos.LACity.org); and through the MyLA311 phone app. Mr. McGovern described working with the Budweiser plant to clean up their perimeter; and other beautification efforts. He encouraged reporting addresses of properties for the ACE program and is working with the Gas Company about their property. Mr. Brown reported that he got 11 plum trees trimmed and a cleanup done.

### c. Emergency Preparedness / Public Safety - Dave Brown

Mr. Brown reminded about the September 27<sup>th</sup> Disaster Preparedness Faire; volunteers are needed. The Committee is waiting to recommend that the Board pay for a contractor to install the remaining 11 Neighborhood Watch signs; an order to purchase more signs was “already approved.”

### d. Outreach – Nancy Xander

Ms. Xander reported that the “History Day LA” event is “looking for judges.” Mr. Fordyce recommended including “the history of North Hills West” in the event. Ms. Xander reminded about the free barbeque September 6<sup>th</sup>, 4:00-8:00 p.m. at Valley Park Church, which City Council District 12 supports.

Mr. Hyman announced an August 27<sup>th</sup> Open House at the VA.

## 7. Motion to adjourn

**MOTION to ADJOURN** (by Mr. McGovern).

**MOTION PASSED** without any objection.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 10:13 p.m.

Minutes written by DL, edited by NHWNC Board.