



**NORTH HILLS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
General Board Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, June 19, 2014

at New Horizons, 15725 Parthenia Street, 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 and Flag Salute, and Roll Call and announcement of quorum.

President John McGovern called the Meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. Roll Call was taken by the Debra Perkins. Eight 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 and Carlos Maya. Nancy Xander arrived later. Board Members absent: Carol Hart (Secretary), Armando Diaz, Mike Khalid and Ed Serrano. 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: 30 Stakeholders and guests.

2. General Public Comment

Linda Williamson of Granada Hills described positive results of Streetscape work there that have “revitalized our community” despite what she described as opposition from some business owners. She described the City’s People Street program and encouraged visiting www.GigaGranadaHills.com.

Board Member Nancy Xander arrived at this time, making nine Board Members present (the NHWNC quorum is seven).

Natan and Justin described an affordable internet, cloud-based video camera security surveillance set-up, procedures, and use. Sam Gabit, Monroe High School Junior Varsity Football Coach, described increased student interest in the program and requested financial support. He said that program participants “graduate at a higher rate” than other students. Mr. McGovern requested and Mr. Gabit agreed to bring more information. Kathy Cryer is “looking for artists” for a September show and encouraged contacting her. Anthony Milanes, Science Teacher, Valley Academy of Arts and Sciences (818.516.4832) distributed copies of an introductory

letter about his background and an expenditures list for their Robotics Program and described the Program's participation, success and goals; they need funding.

3. Public Speakers

A. Councilman Englander's office - Ron Rubine

Ron Rubine, Field Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilman Mitch Englander (818-882-1212; Ron.Rubine@LACity.org), offered to "e-blast" community event fliers. The Councilman "has officially" stopped proposing the "Save Our Streets LA" program and is considering other ideas. The Councilman proposed and the City Council approved the "Medina Alert" to help catch hit-and-run drivers. Mr. Rubine described "Movies Under the Stars" and other upcoming events.

B. DONE REP: Melvin Canas

Jay Handal, Chair, NC Budget Advocates (Jay@EmpowerLA.org), reported for Mr. Canas. Mr. Handal requested that paper Minutes copies be provided at Meetings for Stakeholders. He reminded that copies of financial documents also need to be made available for voting and to comply with the State Brown Act.

VANC REP: report on recent VANC meeting (Nancy X.)

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #3. C.*] Ms. Xander reported on VANC (Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Council)'s June 12th Meeting. The new checking account system for NC's starts July 1st. DONE [the L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment] is requesting input about dealing with "bad behavior" by Board Members and Stakeholders.

BONC REP:

Lydia Grant, BONC [L.A. Board of Neighborhood Commissioners] Commissioner [213.978.1551; cell 818.470.6629; Lydia.Grant@LACity.org; Commissioners@EmpowerLA.org; www.EmpowerLA.org], reported that new Agenda posting requirements are in effect; Agendas can be posted at only one physical posting site if the Agendas also are posted on the NHWNC website and emailed to the Stakeholders database and the City's Early Notification System (ENS). Revisions also were made regarding how Neighborhood Councils can submit Community Impact Statements (CIS's). She announced a July 29th "Board Member Round Table Discussion" to be held in the North Valley with a 6:00 mixer and 7:00 discussion (Since Cancelled), and an August 5th BONC Town Hall Meeting to be held in the "Studio City area." (Postponed to Thursday, August 7th, in Lieu of Nat'l Night Out.)

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>), described issues on which the Congressman has been working, including education, arts, juvenile justice and especially veterans affairs services.

Reps from other official agencies.

A. Commissioner Monica Rodriguez from the Board of Public Works
[This was the second Item #3. A. on the Agenda.] Monica Rodriguez, Vice-President, L.A. Board of Public Works (BPW) (213-978-0252; Monica.Rodriguez@LACity.org; <http://bpw.lacity.org/index.html>), encouraged contacting her with questions or concerns. July 1st the bag ban “second phase” begins that affects smaller stores. There will be a July 21st 9:30 a.m. BPW Meeting at Van Nuys City Hall.

4. Officer Reports

a. President (Granada Hills South NC name change & boundary change and past meetings).

Mr. McGovern reported that the Granada Hills South Neighborhood Watch (not the GHSN Council) wants name and boundary changes for part of what is now within the NHWNC; he said the GHSNC is not involved at this time.

b. Vice-President

Mr. Gibson welcomed everyone.

c. Treasurer (discussion on new checking system and debit card and monthly expense reports).

Ms. Perkins announced a June 23rd meeting of NC Purchase Card Signatories at City Council District 12.

d. Secretary

Ms. Hart was not present and there was no report.

5. New Business

A. Discussion and possible action on proposed bicycle lanes to close gaps on Woodley Ave. (from Chase Street to Stagg Street) and on Devonshire Street (from Haskell Ave. to Sepulveda Blvd.), both areas located within the NHWNC boundaries - David Hyman.

Glenn Bailey, Chair, City of Los Angeles Bicycle Advisory Committee (818-453-3407; GlennBaileySFV@yahoo.com), explained that the projects are part of the 2010 L.A. Bicycle Plan approved long ago and that “both of these are gap closures.” He described the history of the configuration and possible benefits. Mr. Hyman added that “these are just one block each.”

MOTION (by Mr. Hyman, seconded by Ms. Xander): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council supports the proposed bicycle lanes to close gaps on Woodley Ave. (from Chase Street to Stagg Street) and on Devonshire Street (from Haskell Ave. to Sepulveda Blvd.), both areas located within the NHWNC boundaries.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Fordyce recommended Agendizing an L.A. Dept. of Transportation safety review of the projects.

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

6. Committee Reports

A. Budget and Finance – Debra Perkins

A. Budget and Finance -

1. Motion to [see the below Motion]. (Outreach Committee)

Copies were distributed of the proposed NHWNC “Budget for Fiscal Year 2014-2015, “Monthly Expenditure Report for May 2014,” “Event Budget for Easter Egg Hunt/April 13, 2014” and “North Hills West Budget for NC Election March 1, 2014.”

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Perkins, seconded by Mr. McGovern): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves payment of a past due bill from SOS Survival Products for the Valley Emergency Preparedness Fair event which was on held on 10-5-2013 (previous voted by committee on 12-06-2013 meeting) in the amount of \$469.28 for various outreach supplies, i.e., Mylar blankets, light sticks, triangular bandages, gauze rolls, water pouches, match boxes, emergency ponchos, etc.

DISCUSSION: Stakeholder Mary Armentaros was concerned that this Motion was made during a Committee Report while no recent Committee Meeting was held. Mr. McGovern clarified that “it’s a Budget and Finance update.” Ms. Perkins explained that the Motion is “to re-clarify from DONE . . . it has been paid.”

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

2. Motion to [see the below Motion]. (Outreach Committee)

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. McGovern, seconded by Ms. Xander): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council approves SOS Survival Products for Valley Emergency Preparedness Fair on Saturday, 09-27-2014 for 500-20 pack Antiseptic wipes equaling \$654.00.

DISCUSSION: Stakeholder Anita Goldblum believed that the Board should not consider this Motion until the 2014-2015 Budget has been approved. Ms. Armentaros requested and Mr. McGovern agreed to provide information about the Outreach Committee Meeting and have its Minutes posted. He explained the need for this and the Item #6. A. 3. Motion. There was discussion of from which category the funding could be allocated. Mr. Handal suggested postponing a vote until more documentation is made

available to the Board and Stakeholders, including Meeting Minutes and receipts, and to “post backup documentation as well” as the Agenda.

MOTION to TABLE (by Mr. McGovern, seconded by Ms. Perkins): The North Hills West Neighborhood Council TABLES this Item #6. A. 2. and the following Item #6. A. 3.

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

3. Motion to approve 500 Survival Mylar emergency sleeping bags for the Valley Emergency Preparedness Fair on Saturday, 09-27-2014 equaling the amount of \$1362.51 (Outreach Committee)

See the above MOTION to TABLE.

4. Motion to approve May 2014 Monthly Expenditure Report Total amount=\$5174.32.
Operations=\$930.24
Outreach=\$744.08
NPG=\$3500.00
Outstanding Demand Warrants=\$878.00

Mr. McGovern requested and it was agreed to TABLE this Item.

B. Planning and Land Use – Punam Gohel

Mr. Gohel reported that the Committee did not meet and there was no report. The Committee will meet in July.

C. Beautification and Infrastructure – John McGovern

Mr. McGovern reported that the Committee will meet in July.

D. Emergency Preparedness / Public Safety - Dave Brown

Mr. Brown reported that the first nine Neighborhood Watch signs were properly installed by a City contractor at \$35 per sign, which includes the cost of permitting the installation. The remaining 11 signs will be installed at locations to be determined; input is sought. Also, a June 7th “Campaign Against Illegal Fireworks was held; fliers were distributed, especially to chronic fireworks users. Also, pet emergency ID cards are available.

E. Outreach - David Hyman

Mr. Hyman reported that the May 18th Citrus Sunday event “collected 560 pounds” of fruit for a local food bank. The Committee is considering recommending that the NHWNC participate in the upcoming L.A. County Supervisors Election debate, Movies in the Park and the August 27th Veterans Administration Open House.

Also being considered is republishing the Westsider Newsletter. Mr. McGovern noted that soon Committee Chairs will be appointed. Ms. Armentaros noted that Stakeholder Bonnie Cockerell was given an award at the May 30th Senior Dance.

7. **Motion to adjourn**

MOTION to ADJOURN (by Mr. McGovern, seconded by Mr. Gibson).

MOTION PASSED by a voice vote with no objection.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 9:03 p.m.

Minutes written by DL, edited by NHWNC.