

DRAFT MINUTES
 Northridge West Neighborhood Council (NWNC)
 General Board Meeting (GBM) via Zoom
 Tuesday, 8 November 2022

I. Call to Order and Board Roll Call

- President Abby Bailes called the meeting to order at 6.17PM and welcomed nine board members and at least six stakeholders.
- A quorum was declared via the following roll call:
 Here (9) Abigail Bailes, Brian Cathcart, Kathleen Edwards, Jorge Jimenez, Janis Kraft, Sonny Liampetchakul, Angelica Robinson, Glen Wilson, and Greg Wood
 Absent (2) Jennifer Krowne and Joel Lowell

II. Pledge of Allegiance

- Abby led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. General Public Comments

- John and Michelle Hales reported that they recently attended a meeting of the Mission Hills Neighborhood Council. One of the presenters was from a group, originally from Hollywood and West LA, who recently expanded to the San Fernando Valley to help unhoused youth with psychiatric care. This group has taken over a few of the responsibilities from the valley’s Homeless Outreach and Proactive Engagement initiative. They will address five neighborhood councils in the next few months. Earlier today, John and Michelle discussed this group with the LAPD at a Coffee with a Cop networking event.
- Glenn Bailey from the Northridge East Neighborhood Council mentioned that the November 10th meeting of the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils would feature City Clerk Holly Wolcott. Ms. Wolcott will run the operational side of the 2023 neighborhood council elections. A representative of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) [who will coordinate the outreach side of the 2023 elections] will also join them.
- Abby added that the city’s Neighborhood Council Elections Administrator, Ms. Paola Posada, would present at the NWNC’s January 10th meeting.

IV. Announcements

Agenda Item	Event	Date	Time	Notes
a.	Greater LA Safety and Preparedness Fair	Sunday, November 13 th	10AM	At Exposition Park
b.	NWNC Executive Committee Meeting	Tuesday, December 6 th	7PM	Via Zoom
c.	NWNC General Board Meeting	Tuesday, December 13 th	6.15PM	Via Zoom

- Sonny and Angelica (and possibly Jorge) will represent the NWNC at the Greater LA Safety and Preparedness Fair on Sunday, November 13th.

V. Presidential Comments

- As this Friday, November 11th is Veteran’s Day, Abby hoped everyone celebrates the veterans in their lives. She also hoped that everyone has a wonderful upcoming Thanksgiving holiday.

VI. Government Reports

a. Public Safety LAPD Devonshire Division

- Senior Lead Officer (SLO) Sandra Zamora was not available, so LAPD Community Relations volunteer, Mikkie Loi, reported the following:
 - The LAPD Devonshire Division's renovations (partially financially supported by the NWNC) are being completed. New telephones are hooked up this week, and offices should be finalized during the week of November 14th.
 - The Devonshire Police Activity League Supporters are collecting toys through Friday, December 16th; these toys will be distributed on Saturday, December 17th.
 - Wednesday, November 9th (2nd Wednesday) will be the monthly Valley Traffic Division meeting

b. CD 12 City Council Representative – Public Safety Deputy Matt Hernandez from CD12 reported the following:

- As has been extensively reported, three council-members were recently recorded using inappropriate language to discuss re-districting, including a comment concerning another councilmember's child. Following Council President Nury Martinez's resignation, the city council recently voted to censure Councilmen Gil Cedillo and Kevin deLeón. Councilman Paul Krekorian is serving as interim president, with Councilman Curren Price as interim vice president. The committees that Councilman Cedillo and deLeón sit upon will have re-formatted rosters.
- Requests for Cedillo's and deLeón's resignations are currently sitting with committees prior to going before the entire city council.

c. Other Government Departments/Agencies

- No other elected official's representatives were available to address the NWNC,

d. DONE

- Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate (NEA) Joel Gonzalez from DONE reported the following three city council files that deal with neighborhood councils:
 - 21-0407 Instructs DONE to report with an analysis of how neighborhood council rules and bylaws vary regarding their election issues, including eligibility requirements, board structure, stakeholder requirements, and verification. This will also report on the city council's authority to standardize election rules across neighborhood councils.
 - 22-1070 Instructs DONE to report on options for conducting future neighborhood council meetings (whether they be virtual, in-person, or hybrid), including legal implications and emergency declarations. DONE is also requested to assess if neighborhood councils may be granted the flexibility to select a preferred meeting option.
 - 22-1146 Instructs DONE to report back in 45 days on the status of the Community Impact Statement (CIS) Portal, including:
 - Issues that led to numerous CISs not being transmitted,
 - Length of time the errors were present in the system,
 - List of commissions that were impacted by not having the correct email configurations on the portal,
 - Number of CISs that were not transmitted as intended by the councils, and
 - Steps that have been taken to remedy the issue and prevent recurrence.

- Abby and Angelica expressed concern that DONE does not recommend that neighborhood councils take a position on ballot measures. The Supreme Court stated, “Public funds shall not be used to advocate for any such ballot measures”. This includes the recently adopted social media policy that prohibits neighborhood council board members from expressing their opinions on a podcast.
- Kathleen added that the city could be cautious as the NWNC receives their funds from the city.

e. Budget Advocate

- The advocate’s parliamentarian Glenn Bailey reported that he listened to the ad hoc Censoring Committee meeting, as well as the October 26th city council meeting, whereupon the council voted to censure councilmen Cedillo and deLeón.
- The advocates recently completed the third of their four training modules. These training records can be found on the advocate’s website at <https://www.budgetadvocates.org/trainings>
- The advocates have already met with several city departments. These departments must submit their budgets by Friday, November 18th. The city’s new mayor will make office in mid-December, right in the middle of this budget process.
- The city’s Acting Chief Information Officer, Peter Loo will remain in his current position. However, the new mayor may have different priorities than Mayor Garcetti.
- The advocate’s 2023 Budget Day will be Saturday, June 17th. It is not yet known if this will be in-person, hybrid, or via Zoom.

VII. NWNC Committee Reports

a. Executive Committee

- The next Executive Committee Meeting will be Tuesday, December 6th.

b. Public Safety

- Abby urged everyone to have the MyLA311 app on their cellular telephones to report service requests to the city. Everyone should also know the LAPD’s non-emergency number of 1-800-ASK-LAPD.
- Parents, such as Abby, have been very concerned about a recent incident at the Granada Hills Charter High School. One student assaulted another student, and then simply walked off campus. Regretfully, Abby first heard of this from fellow NWNC board member Kathleen before she heard anything from the school.

c. Planning and Land Use and Zoning (PLUZ)

- This agenda item was tabled, as Chairwoman Jennifer was not available.

d. Elections

- Paola Posada, Neighborhood Council Elections Administrator will present at the NWNC’s January 10th meeting.
- Information concerning the 2023 neighborhood council elections can be found at <https://empowerla.org/elections>

e. Homelessness

- Sonny reported that last Thursday, November 3rd, Governor Newsom announced \$1m of funds to address the homelessness crisis. Although this will reduce homelessness by merely

2% statewide, Governor Newsom will host a meeting later this month to discuss a potential new game plan.

f. Government Affairs

- This agenda item was tabled.

g. Beautification

- Earlier this week, a city vehicle smashed into the NWNC-sponsored veteran's sign along Tampa Avenue. It is unknown who is responsible for repairing that sign; it could be the city, NWNC, or a local construction company that co-sponsored that sign. The NWNC will work with whoever else may be the responsible party.
- Jorge wondered if the NWNC would like to take care of the planters in the area.
- There is no update on tree trimming. The city's Urban Forestry Department did receive funds for trimming, but Jorge has been playing telephone tag with Kathleen Bellaterra from CD12 to further discuss this issue.
- Brian wondered if funds were available to replace tree-planting areas along Devonshire Street. Jorge will also discuss this with Urban Forestry and CD12.

h. Budget

- This agenda item was tabled, as Treasurer Joel was unavailable as he was working the polls.

i. Outreach

- Tuesday, December 6th from 10AM to 2PM, Janis and Sonny will represent the NWNC at CSUN's weekly farmer's market. There will be no charge for this booth.

VIII. New Business

a. Discussion and possible motion on the proposal to install interactive kiosks CF 22-1154

- Kathleen reported that, in September, the city's Tourism Department unanimously approved a 22-year contract for the installation and maintenance of interactive kiosks from IKE Smart City/Orange Barrel Media. There was no public input, outreach, discussion, competitive bids, nor approval from the city council. This appeared to be a back-room deal.
- Kathleen suggested that the NWNC could write a CIS about this activity, requesting additional information and more transparency. Perhaps the NWNC should reach out to John Lee's office to learn more about this?
- CD12's Matt Hernandez replied that the Councilman Lee and the city council approved these kiosks as part of Mayor Garcetti's advocating for increased ridership and furniture at bus stops in preparation for the 2028 Olympics. Senior Legislative Deputy Josh Yeager (from CD12's downtown office) is an expert on this.
- Kathleen and Abby thought Jennifer's PLUZ Committee could be the best source of information on this issue.
- Greg and Brian support this, although they do not approve 22-years of colorful flashing lights on the interactive kiosks.
- John Hales mentioned that the city is increasing the furniture and bus stops to every ¼-mile along major boulevards. However, there are insufficient trash barrels; people are tossing trash every which way. Perhaps the NWNC's PLUZ Committee could discuss this trash issue?

- b. Discussion and possible motion on CF 22-1146 re: technology failure to deliver some CISs submitted by Neighborhood Councils
 - As previously discussed by NEA Jose Gonzalez during agenda item VI.d (on page 2), city council file 22-1146 instructs DONE to report back to the city council within 45-days on the status of the CIS portal's technology failures.
 - Brian and Kathleen support this, especially in light of the city ignoring NWNC's CISs opposing the apartment project in the northwest corner of the mall's parking lot.
 - Abby Bailes made a motion for the NWNC to write a CIS in support of CF 22-1146; Brian Cathcart seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.

- c. Discussion and motion to submit letter to DONE and the Neighborhood Council Funding Clerk re: NWNC's recommendations to improve the DONE Neighborhood Watch Signs policy
 - Kathleen wrote a letter where she reported that she advocates for additional Neighborhood Watch signage.
 - Abby Bailes made a motion to approve this letter; Kathleen Edwards seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.
 - Abby Bailes made a motion to amend this letter to include the Department of Transportation, LAPD SLOs, and the Bureau of Street Lighting on distribution for copies of this letter; Greg Wood seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.
 - Abby Bailes made a motion to amend this letter, and include John Lee's office/CD12 on distribution for a copy of this letter; Greg Wood seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.

- d. Discussion and possible motion to submit a CIS on one or more of the LA City council files (such as 22-1285) which calls for the censure and resignation of the city council members Cedillo, deLeón, and Martinez. CF 22-1195 called for censure official action taken unanimously.
 - Brian, Kathleen, Jorge, and Glenn Bailey thought this CIS was a great idea, as the NWNC must speak up against racism and child abuse.
 - Glenn Bailey and Kathleen added that they were concerned that re-districting issues were discussed during this back-room deal. This re-districting discussion could have affected parts of Northridge (but not NWNC's territory).
 - Abby Bailes made a motion for the NWNC to write a CIS in support of CF 22-1285; Angelica Robinson seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.
 - Per Brian's request, the next executive committee meeting may include a CIS about the NWNC's concerns about back-room deals.

- e. Discussion and motion in support of CF 22-1101 regarding the request to receive point-in-time methodology, accuracy, financial accountability, and transparency from the LA Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA)
 - Kathleen reported that LAHSA, who are responsible for the homeless counts, has used the same methodology for over fifteen-years. However [when requested] they are not transparent with their methodology, funds acquisition, and budget allocation. It is unknown how many individuals have benefited from LAHSA, as well as how many have refused housing.
 - Abby Bailes made a motion for the NWNC to write a CIS in support of CF 22-1101; Brian Cathcart and Janis Kraft seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.

f. Approval of the Monthly Expenditure Reports (MERs) from October 2022 NWNC

Date	Vendor	Description	Amount
September 21	Friends of West LA	Neighborhood Purpose Grant	\$ 500.00
October 2	Golden State Storage	Storage Facility	135.50
October 3	PayPal/All American	Ice Cream Social	1,208.66
October 6	Apple One	Minute Taking	204.80
		Total	<u>\$2,048.96</u>

- Current unpaid expenditures include \$500 for Kristina Smith’s web services and \$89.60 for Apple One.
- The December agenda will include a Board Action Certification to reimburse Kathleen for an approved \$13 expenditure in support of the September 17th Ice Cream social.
- Abby Bailes made a motion to approve the October MER; Greg Wood seconded this motion, and it passed.

Aye (8) Bailes, Edwards, Jimenez, Kraft, Liampetchakul, Robinson, Wilson, and Wood
 Abstain (1) Cathcart
 Absent (2) Krowne and Lowell

g. Approval of Monthly GBM Minutes for October 2022 NWNC Meeting Minutes.

- Pages 4 (agenda item VII.d (Committee Reports/Election)) and 6 (item VIII.f (Update on NWNC Elections)) included redundant information from the Elections Committee. This was immediately corrected by directing readers from VIII.f to VII.d.
- Abby Bailes made a motion to approve the October minutes; Greg Wood seconded this motion, and it passed.

Aye (7) Bailes, Jimenez, Kraft, Liampetchakul, Robinson, Wilson, and Wood
 Abstain (2) Cathcart and Edwards
 Absent (2) Krowne and Lowell

IX. Adjournment

- o Abby adjourned the meeting at 7.46PM.