

DRAFT MINUTES
Northridge West Neighborhood Council (NWNC)
Regular General Board Meeting (GBM) via Zoom
Thursday, 16 October 2025 at 6.15PM

I. Call to Order

a. Board Roll Call

- President Janis Kraft called the meeting to order at 6.20PM and welcomed nine board members and over seven stakeholders.

- A quorum was declared via the following roll call:

Here (11) Diana Delgado, Jeff Diamond, Sam Dulys, Kathleen Edwards, Nicolas Haddad, Kevin Herzberg, Janis Kraft, Nathan Lichtman, Joel Lowell, Krystal Sims, and Richard Young

Absent (1) Alanna Flax-Clark

b. Pledge of Allegiance

- Janis led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. General Public Comment

- Stakeholder Patty Glueck mentioned that everyone is welcome to attend an open house for the ten-year anniversary of the Aliso Canyon Blow-Out. This was the largest methane blow-out. Pregnant women who lived near the blow-out were more likely to give birth to babies weighing less than 5.5 lbs. Ten teachers at the Castlebay Lane Charter School have since developed cancer. This open house will be held on Sunday, October 26th beginning at 3PM at 20665 Rinaldi Street, above Gus's BBQ. Among the speakers will be Dr. Jeffrey Nordella, who will discuss the UCLA Health Study, as well as State Senator Henry Stern.
- Glenn Bailey mentioned that the 21st annual Granada Hills Street Fair and Oktoberfest will be held along Chatsworth Street, between Zelzah and Encino Avenues, on Saturday, October 18th. The Northridge East and Northridge South Neighborhood Councils will have adjacent booths with clipboards for stakeholder to sign up for their email newsletters. Perhaps someone from the NWNC could join them? Janis previously reached out to the Granada Hills Chamber of Commerce, who are coordinating this event, for the NWNC to participate in this event. However, they never replied to her.
- Jason Hector from the Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council thanked everyone who came to the Aliso Canyon Park earlier today. He was concerned that the NWNC's budget reflects \$10k for Neighborhood Purpose Grants (NPG) yet merely \$2,500 for Community Improvement Projects (CIP). He thinks more money should be set aside to beautify the parks and for homeowner's peace of mind.

III. Announcements - Comments from the Board Members on Non-Agenda Items within the Board's Subject Matter Jurisdiction

- Richard mentioned that there is a new Council File 25-1136, introduced by Imelda Padilla and seconded by our Councilman John Lee, to bring back the Neighborhood Prosecutor Program. Perhaps a Community Impact Statement (CIS) from the NWNC could be agendized for the November meeting?
- Kathleen reported the following:
 - She recently emailed the latest NWNC roster to everyone; please let her know if you have any corrections

- Kathleen is putting together an agenda for the Public Safety Committee; please contact her if you notice any inoperative streetlights
 - Tuesday, October 28th beginning at 5PM, the city’s Planning Department will host a Zoom webinar to discuss zoning regulations
- a. November 4th NWNC Executive Board Meeting on Zoom
 - Treasurer Joel is working that Election Day and will be unavailable.
 - b. November 11th NWNC General Board Meeting on Zoom
 - No one appeared to have a scheduling conflict with this being Veteran’s Day.
 - As the NWNC does not have any veterans, Janis and Kathleen may do a presentation on the history of this holiday. Glenn suggested having someone from the Granada Hills Veterans of Foreign Wars address the meeting.

IV. Approval of NWNC Monthly GBM Minutes for September

- Joel Lowell made a motion to approve the September minutes; Janis Kraft seconded this motion, and it passed.

Aye (10) Delgado, Diamond, Dulys, Edwards, Haddad, Kraft, Lichtman, Lowell, Sims, and Young
 Abstain (1) Herzberg
 Absent (1) Flax-Clark

V. Approval of NWNC Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) for September 2024

Date	Vendor	Description	Amount
September 2	PY Golden State Storage	Office	\$ 165.50
September 2	Kristina Smith/Mail Room	Office	250.00
September 2	Kristina Smith/Mail Room	Office	250.00
September 9	Mail Chimp	Office	45.00
September 17	One Generation-Wilkinson	NPG	500.00
September 19	At Work	Office	256.00
September 30	Host Reseller Group	Office	19.95
	Total		<u>\$1,486.45</u>

- Joel Lowell made a motion to approve the September MER; Kathleen Edwards seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.

VI. Presidential Comments

- Janis mentioned that she and Kathleen attended the September 27th Congress of Neighborhood Councils.

VII. Government Reports

- a. Public Safety LAPD Devonshire Division
 - The non-emergency number for the LAPD is 1-877-ASK-LAPD.
 - Devonshire Community Relations Volunteer Mikkie Loi reported that violent crime is down approximately 27%. She thanked all the volunteers and specialized units who contributed to this reduction.
 - The LAPD’s Devonshire Division looks forward to hosting Coffee with Cops in November.
 - Tuesday, November 18th beginning at 6.30PM, will be the annual Neighborhood Watch Meeting/Potluck Dinner at Saint Euphrasia Catholic Church, 11779 Shoshone Avenue,

Granada Hills. All Devonshire Basic Car teams are expected to be in attendance. This may be the last basic car meeting for 2025.

- The LAPD's Outreach Team will be at the Granada Hills Street Fair on Saturday, October 18th.
- Kevin added that he and his wife had a great time at the Supporters of Law Enforcement in Devonshire annual pasta dinner last Friday, October 10th.

b. CD12 City Council Representative

- Deputy District Director Myrka Martinez from CD12 reported that Councilman Lee recently voted to approve mandatory fire sprinklers for all high-rise buildings.
- Friday through Sunday, October 24th through 26th beginning at 5PM, the Northridge Woman's Club will host a Haunted Witches Walk from their facility at 18401 Lassen Street.
- Saturday, October 25th beginning at 9AM will be the Rocktober Community Beautification Event at Stoney Point, 11012 Topanga Canyon Boulevard, Chatsworth. Help keep one of our Valley's most iconic landmarks clean and beautiful as we come together to remove, restore, and refresh this treasured natural space.
- Councilman Lee recently joined Mayor Bass and several volunteers for Shine LA, an event that strengthens communities by bringing Angelenos together from across the city to beautify LA neighborhoods. With the 2026 FIFA World Cup, 2027 Super Bowl and 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games soon coming to our city, Shine LA inspires Angelenos to take pride in preparing their communities. These Shine LA events, including tree planting, utility box painting, and litter pick-up, take place throughout the city on the 4th Saturday of each month.
- The "Inside Safe" program, a city-wide strategy for addressing homelessness, recently conducted operations at Balboa and Roscoe Boulevards, as well as Parthenia Street and Reseda Boulevard in Northridge (near the train station). They cleared homeless encampments, moving several unhoused individuals off the street and into temporary housing where they can acquire support services and long-term housing stability.
- Janis mentioned that a homeless woman accesses her community's gated swimming pool for skinny dipping. This trespasser has been escorted away on numerous occasions.

c. Other Government Departments/Agencies

- No other representatives from government departments nor agencies were available.

d. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE)

- Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate (NEA) Vincent Autiero reported that all NWNC board members must take their mandatory training. Jeff should take his Bias Training and Diana needs to take the Code of Conduct Training.
- Tuesday, October 28th beginning at 6PM, the City Clerk's office will host online Funding and System Portal Training. Regretfully, the City Clerk's office does not record these workshops for later viewing.
- Wednesday, October 29th, Mayor Bass will join a Zoom meeting to discuss the 2028 Olympics.
- Information concerning the optional Canva software upgrades will soon be distributed to the neighborhood councils; this upgrade is not mandatory.
- DONE will soon host a neighborhood councils elections working group to discuss how future elections can be more inclusive.
- Wednesday, October 22nd beginning at 6PM, DONE will host a training session for board members on:

- How to effectively run meetings and submit motions
 - Solving neighborhood council disputes
 - Best practices for candidate forums, etc.
 - Roberts rules of order
 - Etiquette
 - Communications
- If anyone is unavailable, DONE records these for later viewing.
 - The NWNC's bylaws are like their constitution. Revisions can be made by 1 April 2026.
 - Kathleen is concerned about SB411, which modified the Brown Act to allow teleconferenced meetings with a quorum of members from within the city, rather than from a neighborhood council. There is a concern of city vs. neighborhood council regulations.
- e. Budget Advocates
- Advocate Glenn Bailey mentioned that they have already started meeting with the 40+ city departments in preparation for their annual White Paper. Recommendations are then submitted to the City Council and Mayor Bass. If anyone is interested in being a part of these meetings and interviews [which are conducted during the day via Zoom] please reach out.
 - City departments have until Saturday, November 8th to submit their budget requests to Mayor Bass.
 - Monday, December 1st beginning at 7PM, the Advocates will host a Zoom meeting, which will be recorded and available for viewing later.
 - For additional information, the advocates website is <https://www.budgetadvocates.org/>

VIII. New Business

- a. Discussion and vote to ask NWNC Board members for permission to share their telephone numbers with all board members
- Kathleen assembled a roster with everyone's personal numbers. This information will only be shared with NWNC and DONE. It will not be posted for the public.
 - Janis Kraft made a motion to approve sharing telephone numbers with fellow NWNC members; Krystal Sims seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.
- b. Outreach Committee and YMCA presentation to discuss and vote on up to \$5,000 for YMCA's requested NPG
- David Hartmire, Executive Director of the North Valley YMCA, reported that they distributed over 500 Thanksgiving dinners in 2024. This includes a bag of produce, canned goods, and a \$15 gift card to a grocery store. The card is better than a turkey, as many recipients live in shelters, motels, or their cars, and lack cooking facilities. As each basket contains \$40 worth of food; this \$5k would support 125-families in the northwest valley.
 - Kathleen asked how this food is distributed. David emails the schools and asks them about their needy students, as they are closest to the families. One school requested support for 200-families, but that was too much. The school's representatives retrieve the bags from the YMCA.
 - Treasurer Joel mentioned that the NWNC's NPG budget has merely \$8,300 remaining. It is possible to move money around, but there is not much in the CIP funds, and merely \$4k in Outreach. In November 2023 and 2024, the NWNC contributed \$2,500 and \$5,000, respectively. However, the councils received merely \$25k this year.
 - Glenn mentioned that the Northridge East Neighborhood Council (NENC) never donated more than \$2,500, and they may not contribute this year, as they prefer to focus on their own community.

- Stakeholder Mikkie Loi would prefer not to see such a majority of the budget spent this early in the year. Kathleen replied that by the end of the fiscal year, the NWNC is often scrambling to spend their money.
- Jason Hector would prefer to see the money spent on the parks and trees [along Tampa Avenue] to make the community more attractive.
- Stakeholder John Hales asked about the YMCA's total budget and what other councils have been contacted. David replied that they applied to eleven neighborhood councils in the northwest valley. They usually receive money from seven or eight, whereas the other three or four councils cannot financially support them. The YMCA's total budget is over \$100k. Last year, it was over \$120k, including over a 1,200 organizations, foundations, and individuals. Currently, the schools are providing three-meals a day, including dinners to go home with the students.
- David added that with an NPG of between \$1k to \$5k, the NWNC would still be shown as a contributor
- Diana and Krystal mentioned that they would like to see this reduced; perhaps a lesser amount would help leverage community support?
- Glenn added that the city's Recreation and Parks Department will again host the Salute to Recreation in May 2026. The NWNC will need to allocate funds for that event too.
- Kathleen Edwards made a motion to approve this NPG request for \$5k; no one seconded the motion, there was no vote, and the motion died.
- Nathan Lichtman made a motion to approve this NPG request for \$2,500; Joel Lowell seconded this motion, and it passed.

Aye (10) Diamond, Dulys, Edwards, Haddad, Herzberg, Kraft, Lichtman, Lowell, Sims, and Young

No (1) Delgado

Absent (1) Flax-Clark

- Krystal Sims made a motion to approve this NPG request for \$1,500; no one seconded the motion, there was no vote, and the motion died.

c. Discuss booth volunteers for Saturday, October 25th Senior Health Fair, 10AM to 1PM and Sunday, November 9th, Museum of San Fernando Valley Art Fair, Noon to 4PM

- The following have already signed up to volunteer at the October 25th Senior Health Fair:

Diana Delgado	Nathan Lichtman
Sam Dulys	Joel Lowell
Janis Kraft	Richard Young

- The availability of tables, chairs, and canopy is unknown.
- The Valley Art Fair will be Sunday, November 9th from noon until 4PM at the Museum of the San Fernando Valley, 18904 Nordhoff Street.
- As this is a four-hour event, the following volunteers can serve the entire four hours, or merely two-hour shifts:

Sam Dulys	Krystal Sims
Janis Kraft	Richard Young
Joel Lowell	

d. Discussion and vote: Option of canceling December NWNC board meetings (December 2nd Executive Meeting and December 9th GBM) or have the Executive Meeting on December 2nd and have a public, in-person Open House with food followed by a short in-person GBM on December 9th. Also discuss costs and location for the party if the vote passes.

- A previous December meeting had food from Burger Lounge, but that food was unappetizing.
 - Nathan Lichtman made a motion to have the Executive Meeting on December 2nd, the General Board Meeting on Tuesday, December 9th, followed by a holiday together, with expenses not to exceed \$600; Kathleen Edwards seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.
 - Specific options, pricing, and potential locations will be discussed at the November meeting on Tuesday, November 11th.
- e. Discussion of in-person NWNC Board and Committee meetings; including planning committee meetings and researching possible community rooms
- NWNC committees now have their own Zoom license. However, this license currently shows Sam Dulys as the user (which he shares with all NWNC board members).
 - Glenn mentioned that the NENC also has a 2nd Zoom account. However, rather than someone's name, that 2nd account is established with a generic email which is shared with the other board members.
 - Janis reached out to the Coffee Bean and Tea Leaf at 18705 Devonshire Street to see if they would be amiable to hosting meetings, but she never heard back from their manager. The Starbucks at Tampa Avenue and Nordhoff Street may be an option. She will also re-visit the Northridge Toyota to see if they could host committee and board meetings.
- f. Discussion of the passing of AB 79: CF 25-0002-S19
- This AB79, signed by Governor Newsom on Friday, October 10th, mandates increased housing density near public transit hubs. It overrides some local zoning regulations to allow for mid-rise apartments (up to nine stories) within a ½-mile of major rail and rapid bus stops, with the goals of increasing housing supply, creating affordable housing, and reducing car dependency. This will become effective 1 July 2026 .
 - Glenn added that there were approximately thirteen amendments to this bill while it was in the state assembly and state senate earlier this year. At vote time, it passed by merely a vote.
 - Sam added that, per the bill's text, this may not affect much of the valley.
- g. Continuing discussion of CF 25-0642
- This Council File appears to remove the requirement that developers provide off-street parking for new developments and changes of usage.
 - Kathleen mentioned that many areas of the city oppose this, including Little Tokyo, as it advocates for the elimination of parking facilities. Developers do not want to accommodate parking spaces; however, this lack of parking hurts small businesses.
 - Diana and Nathan differed on the desirability of fifteen-minute cities, which is an urban planning concept whereupon residents can access most of their daily needs, such as work, shopping, education, and healthcare, within a fifteen-minute walk or bike ride. Cities like Paris and Melbourne have implemented this model to make everyone's life easier, improve quality of life, reduce carbon emissions, and foster more vibrant, self-sufficient convenient neighborhoods. However, critics raise concerns about the potential limitations.
 - Janis believed this requires additional research, and she does not see this happening in the next ten-years.

- Mikkie Loi, who previously lived in Japan, believed it works because their public transportation system is safe and timely [as opposed to the system in LA]. The house she lived in many years ago was in the suburbs, yet is now a desirable metro area.
 - Diana never wants to be told that she cannot own her car. She is also concerned about crimes against transit riders. London and Paris have transportation options that are miles ahead of what we have here in LA.
 - Nathan suggested moving towards robot-taxis, which Sam felt is a non-starter.
 - Glenn expressed concern about the excessive travel and parking woes near CSUN. Prior to our current metro system, Sherman Way had the red line running the width of the valley. He added that the eventual conversion of the Orange Line across the valley is not anticipated until at least 2055.
 - Janis Kraft made a motion for the NWNC to conduct additional research prior to writing a CIS on this Council File 25-0642; Sam Dulys and Joel Lowell seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.
- h. Update on the NWNC sharing the post office box with NENC
- Glenn mentioned that there were no updates regarding this agenda item.

IX. NWNC Committee Reports

- a. Executive Committee
- Janis had nothing to report.
- b. Public Safety
- Chairwoman Kathleen expressed concern about
 - AB476, recently signed by Governor Newsom, which protects our infrastructure and holds scrap metal dealers accountable for excessive fiber optic and copper wire theft.
 - Parkways in our community; our neighbors do not seem to take care of the sidewalk-adjacent areas, which they are responsible for.
 - Damaged sidewalks; please email a list of damaged sidewalks to Kathleen. Oftentimes, it can take months for sidewalk repair. However, if we tell the city that it is a violation of the ADA, the sidewalks may be repaired sooner rather than later.
 - Bulky item pick-up for multi-family homes. It seems that apartment residents leave couches and large furniture outside by the sidewalk.
 - Jeff expressed concern about a mistake in the “Sidewalk and Parkway Maintenance Guide” brochure distributed by the NWNC. The flyer mentions “...the Federal American with Disabilities Act requires 48” of free and passable sidewalk...”. There was a recent change in the laws and that has now been reduced from 48” to 36”. Jeff manually crosses-out this error and replaces it with the correct number.
- c. Government Affairs
- Richard Young mentioned that they have not yet had a meeting; he hopes to use the new 2nd Zoom account to set up a meeting.
 - Janis reminded Richard that announcements must be posted 72-hours prior to a meeting.
- d. Planning and Land Use (PLU)
- Although not within NWNC boundaries, Diana mentioned that a sixteen-unit apartment complex along Halsted Street (near CSUN) will expand into additional units by eliminating their swimming pool and reducing parking.

- NEA Victor reminded everyone on the PLU Committee to access their mandatory Planning 101 training within their Cornerstone Training portal.
- e. Elections
 - Janis reported that she will work with NEA Victor to prepare for the 2027 NWNC election.
- f. Homelessness
 - Nathan had no news to report.
- g. Beautification
 - Sam joined Jason Hector [who is very knowledgeable about that area] and Myrka from CD12 at Limekiln Canyon Park to discuss potential brush abatement projects.
 - Janis reminded everyone that earlier this year, Jason advocated for the NWNC to put some money aside for brush clean-up, weed abatement, and tree trimming.

h. Budget

- Treasurer Joel briefly mentioned these numbers along with the MER and the budget concerns.

Annual Budget			\$25,000.00
Adjustment			497.61
Budgeted Amount			25,497.61
Expense to Date	Funding Request	\$1,697.60	
	Credit Card	2,262.57	3,960.17
Total Outstanding	Commitments	0.00	1,323.68
	Pending Payments	1,323.68	
Net Available			\$20,213.76

i. Outreach

- Nathan mentioned that they had a meeting to discuss upcoming outreach events.
- The Northridge Middle School PTSA submitted a potential NPG. However, that school is not within the boundaries of the NWNC.

j. Education

- Committee Chairman Krystal Sims mentioned that they have not yet had their first meeting. She will assemble some potential agenda items to bring to the committee.
- Glenn and Nathan added that LAUSD Board Member Scott Schmerelson will host an open house on Thursday, November 13th beginning at 4PM at the Holmes Middle School, 9351 Paso Robles Avenue. Although not within the boundaries of the NWNC, all are welcome.

X. Adjournment

- Janis Kraft made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9.53PM; someone seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.