

NORTHRIDGE WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

General Board Meeting Tuesday, April 14th, 2026 at 6:15 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

- a) **Call to Order** by Presiding Officer, Janis Kraft at 6:21 p.m.
- b) **Roll Call:** Janis Kraft, Kathleen Edwards, Sam Dulys, Krystal Sims (left at 9:20 p.m.), Jeff Diamond, Richard Young & Nathan Lichtman. (Quorum of 7 established with 8 board members). Joel Lowell arrived at 6:34 pm. and left at 7:26 p.m. & Kevin Herzberg arrived 8:15 p.m.
Absent: (3) Herzberg, Lowell & Haddad.
- c) **Pledge of Allegiance** was recited.

II. ADMINISTRATIVE MOTIONS –

- a) **Approval of March 10, 2026 General Board meeting minutes.**
(Kraft/Lichtman) moved to approve the minutes. The motion carried: 4-0-3.
Voting Yea (4) Kraft, Diamond, Young and Lichtman.
Opposed: (0)
Abstaining: (3): Edwards, Dulys & Sims
Absent: Lowell, Herzberg & Haddad.
- b) **Approval of March 2026 MER:** Joel reviewed the monthly expenditure report. There is \$11,327.75 available to spend for the rest of the fiscal year.

(Kraft/Dulys) moved to approve the March 2026 MER. The motion carried unanimously: 8-0-0.
Voting Yea (8) Kraft, Diamond, Young, Lichtman, Lowell, Edwards, Dulys & Sims.
Opposed: (0)
Abstaining: (0):
Absent: (2) Herzberg & Haddad.

III. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Glenn Bailey attended the recent VANC meeting, which was recorded by the L.A. Neighborhood Council Coalition (www.lancc.org), or you can find it at: www.vanc34.org. The upcoming LANCC meeting will feature the president of the Board of Public Works on Sat., May 2, 2026 at 10 a.m. on Zoom. The Chatsworth NC is having their Day of the Horse event on Topanga Blvd., Saturday, April 18, 2026 at 11 a.m.

Zack Sokoloff is running for City Controller. He introduced his objectives: making L.A. more affordable, addressing basic city services to deliver a high quality of life, and finding ways to promote economic prosperity to businesses. He's also focused on improving the recovery homes and is the only democrat in the race.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS by Janis:

- a) 5/20/26 is the final date for event approval request using the current fiscal year

funds.

- b) 6/1/26 is the final date to submit a check payment request through the NC Funding System Portal
- c) 6/20/26 is the final day for credit card charges
- d) Resignation of Alanna Flax-Clark – Alanna has resigned due to health issues.
- e) Update on LA Charter Reform:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hHa0OLsFg9EmPPIO6QgUsGfzTKwQgOtp/view>
Janis said there are 64 final recommendations listed by the budget advocates. She reviewed a few of the top ones.
Glenn Bailey suggested filing a CIS to CF26-0489 regarding whether the city will fund an election or hold off for another year.
- f) NWNC's bylaws draft was submitted to DONE Rep. Vincent Auterio. Kathleen asked that an amendment be made regarding the election.

V. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- A) Filling one Board Vacancy seat for an At-Large position. Janis spoke about the seat, now vacant, that was previously filled by Diana Delgado and requested, per NWNC Bylaws, Section 6, #1, to fill that vacant seat. Diana has requested to be re-appointed, however, she was not present at this meeting due to a death in her family. Kathleen pointed out that the board could also benefit from having business owners as board members.
- B) All board members must participate and work on ideas to fill vacant seats.

VI. GOVERNMENT REPORTS

- a) **Public Safety LAPD Devonshire Division** (non-emergency number 1 877-ASK LAPD): Mikki I. reported that crime is down across the board, minus theft, which is up half a percent. Thefts from vehicles are down but there have been a few in the Northridge West area. Please remember to secure your vehicles and keep valuables out of the vehicles (lock it keep it hide it). **Upcoming LAPD events:**
April 18, Saturday, 8 AM to 11 AM LAPD Devonshire Station Open House, Car Show at LAPD Devonshire Community Police Station.
April 21, Tuesday, Basic Car 17A49 and Basic Car 17A95 via Zoom at 7 PM.
April 28, Tuesday, Coffee with a Cop at Starbucks Coffee Shop, 9157 DeSoto Ave. at 10 AM.
April 29, Wednesday, Basic Car 17A67 with SLO Zamora at 6 PM. Flyer coming soon.
- b) **Battalion Chief Adrian Vasquez, LAFD, reported:** Extra engines were pre-deployed around the Valley last week when there was a higher fire risk. The areas north of the 118 and west of Topanga are more vulnerable so he advised people to be aware.
Glenn asked about whether the city is using goats to reduce brush. There are no talks about bringing goats to the northwest Valley. While 100 goats were brought into the Sepulveda Basin and did a great job, in the northern areas of the city, there are several jurisdictions. He added that homeless encampments contributed to the fires in the Basin and that isn't a problem in the northwest Valley.

- c) **CD 12 City Council Representative, Myrka Martinez**, CM Lee's office, invited everyone to attend their event at Global Grill on April 25th from noon to 5 p.m. There will be a BBQ competition at Northridge Park. Orchid Ranch turns 100 and they will be celebrating there, as well. CD12 will host 7 days of the World Cup at Northridge Park.
Legislation: The L.A. City Council approved a local approach to SB79. Speed Safety Cameras were approved for automated cameras. There are 8 locations in CM Lee's district.
An Ad Hoc committee for Measure U L.A. will focus on laying the groundwork for this program.
- d) **Assemblymember Pilar Schiavo, representative Julia Estrada** spoke about the assemblymember's efforts in public safety meetings. She will be at the Pancake Breakfast this Sat. a.m. and then the Day of the Horse at 1 p.m. They will be participating in a Youth & Family Festival in Santa Clarita on May 16th, 10:30 – 1 p.m. with lots of fun events. Their Annual Community Hike in Chatsworth will take place May 2nd, 4:30 p.m. at Santa Susanna Park.
Legislation: On June 15th, the state budget must be passed by midnight. She highlighted two bills the assemblymember is working on: AB2116 protects small businesses from predatory lenders and AB2746 – the Healthcare Debt Protection Act. They are also working on legislative options to help regulate sober livings due to complaints.
- e) **Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, Vincent Autiero** said the Mayor's budget will be released on April 20, 2026. At that time, her recommendations for NC rollovers, election funding & department funding will all be revealed. The City Clerk will be issuing a newsletter updating the NCs on any changes with training, how they are using their dashboard and a new application for NPGs and project completion forms, which are now mandatory. The Dept. of Justice, ADA Digital Accessibility legislation requires all 99 NCs to make their websites and social media comply with these new standards by April 24, 2026. He announced the L.A. Youth Expo at L.A. Trade Tech College on Sat., May 30 from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. and Empower LA Youth Conf. on June 6, 2026. They are asking NCs to share photos of their swag so they can share this to other NCs for marketing ideas.
- f) **Budget Advocate, www.budgetadvocates.org Glenn Bailey** stated that once the Mayor releases the budget, you can file a Council File to comment on it: CF26-0489. He spoke about the election funding and the budget for NCs as being major points of interest. The NC advocates are holding a Town Hall on Sunday, April 26 at 1 p.m. on Zoom to review the budget. It will be recorded and posted to their website. The City Council Budget & Finance Committee will start discussing the budget the following day. The Budget Advocates finished their White Paper and it is posted under "documents" on their website. May 20th at 10 a.m. is the date the public can comment on the budget because deliberations begin. Budget Day is: Saturday, June 27th, 2026 at 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. at City Hall.

VII. FUNDING MOTIONS

- a) **(Edwards/Kraft) moved to spend \$3000 for an NPG for Enrich LA, A Non-profit Corporation, for their Enrich LA Garden Ranger Program.** The program provides weekly garden lessons to Los Angeles students at various schools. Enrich LA says funds are required by 5/29/26 and the expected completion date is 6/12/26.
- Nathan explained the reason why the Outreach committee recommended approving this NPG.
 - Catrina Estrada, from Enrich LA, gave their background: they were established in 2011 and serve K – 12 students throughout Greater L.A. They build school gardens and renovate them. The gardens are all edible gardens and the students can take food home. She gave a presentation on some of the schools at which they have worked.
 - There was discussion between Glenn and Catrina on when supplies could be purchased using the NPG and used immediately for this program.
 - Michele Hales, a local teacher, asked which schools they worked with and how the program works.
 - Kathleen suggested amending the start date to this date with July 31st as the completion date.

The motion carried unanimously.

Voting Yea: (7) Kraft, Edwards, Dulys, Sims, Diamond, Young & Lichtman.

Opposed: (0)

Abstaining: (0)

Absent: Lowell, Herzberg & Haddad.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- b) Janis reiterated Joel Lowell's stepping down from the NWNC Board on 4/15/26 and the open Treasurer's position.
- c) **Nomination, discussion and election for the Treasurer's position:**
Sam Duly offered to serve as Treasurer effective 4/15/2026.
(Kraft/Lichtman) moved to appoint Sam at the NWNC Treasurer.
The motion carried unanimously.
Voting Yea: (8) Kraft, Edwards, Dulys, Sims, Diamond, Young, Lichtman and Herzberg.
Opposed: (0)
Abstaining: (0)
Absent: (2) Lowell and Haddad
- Sam then resigned as Secretary of the NWNC.
- d) **Discussion on possible resignation and appointment of the Secretary position:** Janis asked if anyone wanted to step up for this position. There were no takers at this time.
- e) **Discussion and approval of timing of canceling Joel as credit card holder and assigning credit card to Sam.** (Per Sheryl-"Let's wait on the MailChimp because it is going to auto bill tomorrow, 4/9. Speak to Golden State Storage about changing to Nathan Lichtman's credit card; their last charge was on 4/2/26.) Glenn suggested the storage space and the post office should be in the name of the NWNC.

- f) **Discussion on the City Clerk's office postponing Financial Officer's Funding training until the new guidelines and policies are rolled out.**
- g) **Discussion and link to proposed policies and guidelines received 4/1/26 from The City Clerk's Office.** Also included are the new NPG guidelines, effective 4/1/26. NPG recipients are now also required to fill out NPG completion forms.
https://cityclerk.lacity.org/election/NC_Funding_Policies_and_Guidelines.pdf
- h) **Discussion and motion to approve the mailroom to provide website services at \$250 per month.** Motion tabled. Janis will email Joel for this.
- i) **Discussion and vote to approve for one or two annual Zoom license at \$255 per license.** Zoom licenses have increased by \$55 per license. The NWNC currently holds one Committee Meeting License and one Board Meeting License, Per Gibson Nyambura/DONE we can have committee chairs use the board meeting zoom license, but meetings cannot be at the same time. Janis suggested continuing the Zoom license for one year.

(Lichtman/Kraft) moved to purchase two Zoom licenses for the next year. The motion carried 7-0-1.

Voting Yea: (7) Kraft, Lichtman, Dulys, Young, Hertzberg, Diamond and Sims.

Opposed: (1) Edwards

Abstaining: (0)

Absent: (2) Lowell and Haddad

- j) **Discussion and vote to have a NWNC booth at Salute to Rec and Parks on 5/16 and 5/17,** or jointly share with other NCs and/or Empower LA if they will be having a booth? Outreach committee needs to create a schedule-how many board members will be volunteering and at what times.

(Lichtman/Edwards) moved that NWNC get a table for Salute to Rec and Parks on 5/16 and 5/17.

The motion carried unanimously.

Voting Yea: (7) Kraft, Edwards, Dulys, Diamond, Young, Lichtman and Herzberg.

Opposed: (0)

Abstaining: (0)

Absent: (3) Sims, Lowell and Haddad

- k) **Discussion and vote to have a booth at Meet the Horses 5/30:**
(Lichtman/Edward) moved that NWNC get a booth at the 5/30 Meet the Horses and Park Ranger's event sponsored by CD12 at Oakridge Estate Park. The event itself is scheduled from 10am to 1pm.
The motion carried unanimously.
Voting Yea: (7) Kraft, Edwards, Dulys, Diamond, Young, Lichtman and Herzberg.
Opposed: (0)
Abstaining: (0)
Absent: (3) Sims, Lowell and Haddad

- l) **Discussion and vote to approve promotional flyers: (Kraft/Dulys) moved to approve the proposed NWNC flyers.** Nathan shared the two-sided promotional flyer.

The motion carried unanimously.

Voting Yea: (7) Kraft, Edwards, Dulys, Diamond, Young, Lichtman and Herzberg.

Opposed: (0)

Abstaining: (0)

Absent: (3) Sims, Lowell and Haddad

- m) **Discussion and vote to approve funding for the flyers: (Lichtman/Kraft) moved to print 500 flyers at a cost of up to \$400.00.**

The motion carried unanimously.

Voting Yea: (7) Kraft, Edwards, Dulys, Diamond, Young, Lichtman and Herzberg.

Opposed: (0)

Abstaining: (0)

Absent: (3) Sims, Lowell and Haddad

- n) **Approval of Letters: (Kraft/Lichtman) moved to approve letters to be sent to Chaminade College Preparatory and The Church at Rocky Peak for their assistance in a clean-up within our NWNC boundaries, along with possible Certificates of Appreciation.** Certificate format is available on Canva.

The motion carried unanimously:

Voting Yea: (7) Kraft, Edwards, Dulys, Diamond, Young, Lichtman and Herzberg.

Opposed: (0)

Abstaining: (0)

Absent: (3) Sims, Lowell and Haddad

- o) Jeff Diamond gave an update on the 4/8/26 Northridge Vision meeting

VIII. NWNC Committee Reports

a) Executive Committee, Janis Kraft – Krystal and Sam took the Planning 101 training.

b) Public Safety, Jeff Diamond - This meeting was postponed until May.

c) Government Affairs (Richard Young)

d) Planning and Land Use & Zoning: Janis nominated Sam as the Planning and Land Use chairman. Sam accepted. **(Janis/Nathan) moved to approve Sam as the Land Use Chairman. The motion carried unanimously.**

e) Elections (Janis Kraft)

f) Homelessness (Nathan Lichtman)

g) Beautification (Sam Dulys)

h) Budget (Joel Lowell): No report.

i) Outreach (Nathan Lichtman) All the materials previously voted on have been ordered. He should have everything in the coming weeks.

j) Education (Krystal Sims)

Kathleen said she attended a meeting with the Mayor and said the Mayor indicated that it would be a bad idea to postpone the NC election.

IX. ADJOURNMENT 10 p.m.

-Minutes by Pat Kramer, AtWork-