

APPROVED  
Northridge West Neighborhood Council (NWNC)  
General Board Meeting (GBM) via Zoom  
Tuesday, 12 October 2021

1. Meeting Call to Order
  - President Abby Bailes called the meeting to order at 6.18PM, welcomed over nine attendees, and eleven board members.
2. Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum
  - A quorum was declared via the following roll call:  
Here (11) Abigail Bailes, Brian Cathcart, Kathleen Edwards, Bill Fox, Jorge Jimenez, Janis Kraft, Jennifer Krowne, Joel Lowell, Lucio Padilla, Angelica Robinson, and Glen Wilson  
Absent (2) Yi Ding and Sonny Liampetchakul
3. Pledge of Allegiance
  - Two ladies from the Granada Hills Charter Elementary/Middle School led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Comments by Stakeholders on Non-Agenda Items
  - Glenn Bailey reported that the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC) would meet on Thursday, October 14<sup>th</sup> at 6.30PM. This month's special guest speaker will be State Senator Henry Stern.
5. Announcements
  - Alessandra Gonzalez from One Generation reported that Saturday, November 6<sup>th</sup> they would host an outdoor Environmental Health Fair to enable people to connect with the environment and health professional resources. There will be interactive booths, games, workshops, and prizes at their facility at 17400 Victory Boulevard. This will include helping people with water and electrical reimbursement projects via grants from the LADWP.
6. Certificate of Acknowledgement awarded to Peter Lasky
  - Peter served on the NWNC from 2013 to 2021, during which time he was president for three years and secretary for a year. He led the NWNC's involvement with the Aliso Canyon gas leak and other timely projects. The NWNC received multiple awards during his leadership.
  - Peter added that, although no longer on the NWNC, he cares deeply about Northridge West.
7. Comments by other Public Officials
  - Adriana Cabrera, the NWNC 's Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate (NEA) from the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) mentioned that they are very short-staffed, as nine people have recently left her department.
    - Governor Newsom recently signed AB361, which allows neighborhood councils to continue to conduct virtual meetings as long as there is a state-proclaimed state of emergency.
    - As a result of a survey sent on Friday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, the neighborhood councils requested additional training. This training via the Cornerstone portal will be available on October 19<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, as well as November 6<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>; board members will receive new passwords to access this training.
    - Kathleen asked if board members could get an extension for completion of anti-bias training. The current deadline is the end of November; this training must be completed every two years. She

also asked if the NWNC could again participate in outreach activities. This is acceptable as long as protocols of wearing masks, maintaining a 6' distance, etc. are in place.

- Matt Hernandez, public safety deputy for CD12, reported the following:
  - The city council recently approved a vaccine mandate. The city's Department of Building and Safety (DBS) will be responsible for enforcing this mandate effective Monday, November 29<sup>th</sup>.
  - Councilman Lee voted against this. He fears that this may be unenforceable, as the city's DBS is already stretched too thin. There is also a concern about shopping malls, which have multiple entrances.
  - The 1<sup>st</sup> offense will be a warning; subsequent offenses will incur a \$1,000 fine.
  - The Devonshire Division recently had the city's first violation of the recently approved municipal code 41.18, which specifies times and locations where it is unlawful for a person to sit, lie, sleep, store, use, maintain, or place personal property in the public right-of-way.
  - Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 10AM, CD12 will host a shredding event at 9207 Oakdale Avenue.
  - Matt recently met with Peter Lasky to discuss the Tampa Avenue topiary's proposed watering system.
  - Jennifer feared that if this mandate goes into effect, it would be like last year when LA residents went to Ventura and other counties to spend their money.
  - Bill Fox asked if the city was prepared to terminate the employment of emergency personnel from the LAPD and LAFD if they refuse vaccinations. Matt replied that CD12 is unaware of such consequences.
  - Abby asked if there were any legal consequences to wrongful termination; that remains unknown.
  - Last weekend, Matt was in San Francisco and had to show proof of vaccination at every business he entered.
  - Jennifer asked if restaurant hostesses are prepared to proof vaccination cards; that is another issue that Councilman Lee brought up at a recent council meeting.

8. Updates from Senior Lead Officer (SLO) and LAPD Devonshire Area Community Advisory Board

- SLO Zamora reported that Northridge West has been very quiet lately with no violent crimes. However, there have been a few burglaries, grand theft autos (which have seen a sharp increase), and someone smashed the jewelry counter at JC Penney at the mall. Many of these thieves have been arrested. However, it is difficult for the LAPD to keep people incarcerated.
- Monday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, there was a transient-related shooting near Prairie Street and Oso Avenue. Someone entered a homeless person's RV; the resident shot the intruder in the leg. The intruder will be okay.
- When grand theft auto occurs, the cars are frequently returned to where they were stolen. Sadly, the Reseda Boulevard corridor is getting hit; there have been a few vehicle thefts in that area between Lassen and Nordhoff Streets. To avert this, please do not leave your key fobs inside the vehicle.
- There is an aggressive transient who has been hanging around the Target at 8840 Corbin Avenue. He yells at people, has sprayed a fire extinguisher, and has pulled out a knife to open packages. However, he never directly threatens people with this knife. He has also entered the nearby Bob's Big Boy, Subway, and the Farmer Boys at 20810 Nordhoff Street; he grabs food and quickly leaves. He has been arrested multiple times, but as they are merely misdemeanors, he is not retained. Kathleen believed he should be charged with assault.
- Abby asked about a recent rape; this was in SLO Parker's area. Unfortunately most rapes are associated with CSUN.
- SLO Zamora added that the LAPD has a few upcoming outreach events:
  - Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup> Northridge Farmer's Market at the mall
  - Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> Granada Hills Street Fair

- Wednesday, October 27<sup>th</sup> Halloween Story Time at the Chatsworth Library
- Friday, October 29<sup>th</sup> Fall Festival at Shepherd of the Hills

9. Presidential Comments

- Abby urged the committees to meet by the end of October so their actions can be presented at the November NWNC meeting.

10. Motion Neighborhood Purpose Grant (NPG) request from the North Valley YMCA for Thanksgiving Baskets up to \$3,500

- The previously apendized YMCA NPG was for \$1,500.
- Kathleen asked if NWNC brochures could be included in these thanksgiving baskets; Director Jane Stanton replied in the affirmative, and that they will require 150 of these brochures.
- Jane asked that people reach out to her if they are available to volunteer the weekend of November 13/14 to assemble these holiday meal baskets.
- Abby Bailes made a motion to approve this NPG for \$2,000; Jorge Jimenez seconded this motion, and it passed anonymously.

11. Motion NPG request for Granada Hills Community Foundation's (GHCF) October 23<sup>rd</sup> Street Fair up to \$3,500

- Alisa Altman from the GHCF mentioned that Chatsworth Street would close at 8AM. In addition, there will be an Oktoberfest down the street.
- Abby asked if there were any NWNC volunteers available to staff this event; there was no reply.
- Kathleen mentioned that Sherman Oaks already cancelled their street fair.
- No one made a motion, so this agenda item was dropped.

12. Motion Community Impact Statement (CIS) with feedback from the Congress of Neighborhood Councils about the topics covered by the workshop sessions and featured speakers selected for the event

- Some NWNC board members thought a few of the speakers and workshops had a political bias and wrote the following text for a proposed CIS:
  1. What were the results of the feedback surveys completed by those in attendance from the general sessions and workshop info sessions?
  2. Concerns have been raised over politically biased topics, content, and speakers
    - How were these topics and speakers selected?
    - Were the topics and speakers vetted?
    - What inquiry, if any, is made to neighborhood councils to get their input on topics, speakers, and feedback?
  3. We would like information about the use of public funds to promote and put on this event?
    - How much money was spent?
    - Who paid for this event?
    - Were speakers compensated?
- Kathleen expressed disappointment of insufficient transparency and not receiving the minutes of the Congress's Planning Committee meetings to learn who suggested speakers, topics, etc.
- Glenn Bailey served on this Planning Committee and mentioned that Daniel Perez was their chair. Oftentimes, it was a subcommittee that determined speakers and topics. He admonished this Planning Committee and mentioned that the Congress was paid by the contributing neighborhood councils and the speakers were not compensated.
- The next meeting of the Congress's Planning Committee is scheduled for Sunday, November 7<sup>th</sup> at 1.30PM; this will include a public comment timeframe.

- Abby Bailes made a motion to send the presented CIS/letter to the Bureau of Neighborhood Councils (BONC) as written; Bill Fox seconded this motion, yet there was no vote.
- Abby Bailes made a motion to amend the letter containing items 1 and 2, and deleting the 3<sup>rd</sup> comment; Kathleen Edwards seconded this motion, and it passed anonymously.
- Glenn Bailey asked that he receive this letter to share with the other committee members.

13. Discussion of DONE’s Amendment and the Code of Conduct Policy. ABLE training is available now on Cornerstone and is due for Board members by end of November 2021. Meetings are being held to discuss the policy and DONE’s enforcement on October 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30PM and November 6<sup>th</sup> at 1PM. Motion: Resubmit NWNC’s CIS on DONE’s Amendment and the Code of Conduct policy
- Kathleen urged everyone to attend these training meetings as they will interface with other neighborhood councils and compare how they do business.
  - A key concern of many councils is the lack of due process on issues, such as the ability to remove board members.
  - Abby Bailes made a motion to reissue this CIS from August 10<sup>th</sup>; Kathleen Edwards and Bill Fox seconded this motion, and it passed anonymously.

14. Motion CIS on the latest version of the BONC Social Media Policy
- At their July 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, it was reported that the BONC accepted two of the NWNC’s recommendations for their new social media policy. Immediately thereafter, the NWNC voted to re-submit their original letter/CIS to the BONC, reiterating the additional recommendations.
  - Glenn Bailey reminded everyone that these CISs could be completed online. In addition, the BONC may meet as soon as Monday, October 18<sup>th</sup> to further discuss their social media policy.
  - Abby Bailes made a motion to reissue this CIS; Kathleen Edwards seconded this motion, and it passed anonymously.

15. Motion Send request to DONE advising that our NEA attend meetings and/or appoint a replacement NEA who is available to attend meetings and reply to NWNC requests
- The NWNC missed Adriana Cabrera while she was away to tend to her family, followed by a brief illness. Perhaps if the NWNC could have access to a substitute NEA in the future, this agenda item would not be necessary.
  - Adriana mentioned that when she was unable to attend NWNC meetings, her supervisor Vanessa Serrano, was to send a substitute.
  - Abby suggested re-worded this letter to reflect that the NWNC is not unhappy with Adriana’s job performance. Adriana requested that Vanessa be cc:ed.
  - Abby Bailes made a motion to reissue this request; Jennifer Krowne seconded this motion, and it passed anonymously.

16. Motion Designate an NWNC Board Member to pick up the Election Records on behalf of NWNC from the Elections Clerk before the end of the year 2021
- Glenn mentioned that the results would be forwarded electronically. In addition, the ballots could be picked-up in person; otherwise, they will be shredded and destroyed.
  - Abby Bailes made a motion to authorize Glen Wilson to pick-up the election records; Jennifer Krowne seconded this motion, and it passed anonymously.

17. Motion Approve the September 2021 GBM Minutes
- This agenda item was tabled, as the minutes were not posted in time.

18. Motion Approve the September 2021 Monthly Expense Report (MER)

Date	Vendor	Description	Amount
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September 2	Golden State Storage	Storage Facility	\$128.50
September 8	Apple One	Minutes	89.60
September 18	Staples	Certificates	37.96
		Total	<u>\$256.06</u>

- A DONE document referenced Mayor Garcetti’s preliminary 2022-23 budget. However, Joel mentioned that he was unable to locate that document. Adriana confirmed that this was not yet posted. It will be uploaded to Mayor Garcetti’s, as well as the City Controller’s, websites ASAP.
- Abby Bailes made a motion to approve the September MER; Bill Fox and Joel Lowell seconded this motion, and it passed anonymously.

19. Empowerment LA Listening Survey: Did NWNC Board Members receive this email? Responses are due by Sunday, October 24<sup>th</sup>

- Adriana will re-send this to the NWNC board.

20. Discussion of Tampa Median project

- Abby Bailes, Sonny Liampetchakul, and Jorge Jimenez recently met with Matt Hernandez and Matt Vallecilla from CD12 to discuss this Tampa Avenue median topiary. They requested permits, budgets, minutes, and other documentation to support this project.

21. Reports by NWNC Committees

- Jorge will schedule a meeting of the Beautification Committee by the end of October.
- Public Safety Committee Chair Kathleen will publicize how to organize a Neighborhood Watch group.
- Planning, Land Use and Zoning Committee Chair Jennifer added that she would get together with her committee very soon.

22. Report by Budget Advocate

- Glenn Bailey reported the following:
  - The August 21<sup>st</sup> Budget Day, with over 150 attendees, included the following guest speakers:
    - City Council President Nury Martinez
    - City Councilman Bob Blumenfield
    - Controller Ron Galperin
    - LA Watchdog Jack Humphreville (who discussed homelessness and the upcoming 2028 Olympics)
    - Mayor Garcetti’s Deputy of Budget and Innovation Jeanne Holm
  - The afternoon break out sessions were scheduled for an hour, but many went for over 90-minutes. The advocates would like to host more frequent budget days than merely once a year; perhaps the advocates will host regional meetings a few times a year?
  - Additional information can be found in the lower-right corner of their website at <http://www.budgetadvocates.org>, including the recorded zoom meetings and training on how the budget is developed.
  - The advocates would like the city to look at bigger picture issues. They are already forming committees to meet to prepare the 2022 white paper. If anyone is interested in joining the advocates in these meetings with the various city departments (including LAFD, LAPD, Recreation and Parks, etc.), please reach out to Advocate Glenn Bailey at [glenn.bailey@budgetadvocates.com](mailto:glenn.bailey@budgetadvocates.com).
  - The 2022 Budget Day will be Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup>. The advocates usually try to have these in June, but they were delayed in 2021 due to the neighborhood council elections.

23. Adjournment

- Abby Bailes made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8.30PM; Joel Lowell seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.