

DRAFT MINUTES
Northridge West Neighborhood Council (NWNC)
Regular General Board Meeting (GBM) via Zoom
Tuesday, 13 May 2025 at 6.15PM

I. Call to Order and Board Roll Call

- President Jorge Jiménez called the meeting to order at 6.20PM and welcomed [eventually] nine board members and over fourteen stakeholders.
- A quorum was declared via the following roll call:
 - Here (10) Diana Delgado, Jeff Diamond, Kathleen Edwards, Nicolas Haddad, Kevin Herzberg, Jorge Jiménez,
Janis Kraft, Joel Lowell, Angelica Robinson, and Greg Wood
 - Absent (##)

II. Pledge of Allegiance

- Jorge led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. General Public Comment

- Glenn Bailey mentioned that the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC), representing the valley's thirty-four neighborhood councils, would meet via Zoom on
- Additional information can be found at VANC's website at <https://vanc34.org/>

IV. Approval of NWNC Monthly GBM Minutes for April 2025

- Joel Lowell made a motion to approve the April minutes; Angelica Robinson seconded this motion, and it passed.
 - Aye (10) Delgado, Diamond, Edwards, Haddad, Herzberg, Jiménez, Kraft,
Lowell, Robinson, and Wood
 - Abstain (##)
 - Absent (##)

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

- Kathleen Edwards made a motion to approve the April MER; Angelica Robinson seconded this motion, and it passed.

Aye (10) Delgado, Diamond, Edwards, Haddad, Herzberg, Jiménez, Kraft, Lowell,
 Abstain (##) Robinson, and Wood
 Absent (##)

Date	Vendor	Description	Amount
April 2	PY Golden State Storage	Storage Facility	\$ 165.50
April 9	Mail Chimp	Newsletter Distribution	45.00
April 21	Supporters of Shadow Ranch and Woodland Hills Parks Salute to Recreation Family Festival	Outreach	5,000.00
		Total	<u>\$5,210.50</u>

- o Treasurer Joel reported the following

VI. Announcements

- a. June 3rd NWNC Executive Board meeting
- b. June 10th NWNC General Board Meeting
- c. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) Training Updates for Board Members

VII. Presidential Comments

- o Jorge reported that

VIII. Government Reports

- a. Public Safety LAPD Devonshire Division
 - The non-emergency number for the LAPD is 1-877-ASK-LAPD.
 - Senior Lead Officer Sandra Zamora and Devonshire Community Relations Volunteer Mikkie Loi were unavailable for this evening’s meeting.

- b. CD12 City Council Representative
 - Deputy District Director Myrka Martinez from CD12 reported the following:

- c. Other Government Departments/Agencies
 - No other government representatives were available to provide a report.

d. DONE

- The NWNC's Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate John Darnell from DONE reported the following:

e. Budget Advocates

- The advocates co-chair Glenn Bailey reported that their annual white paper is available at https://www.budgetadvocates.org/_files/ugd/f03c84_17341704205f406e95d2dce3965a7814.pdf. Over thirty city departments submitted recommendations.
- The 2025 Budget Day will be Saturday, June 21st beginning at 8AM at City Hall. Kathleen recommends people carpool to this event.
- For additional information, the advocates website is <https://www.budgetadvocates.org/>

IX. NWNC Committee Reports

a. Executive Committee

- Jorge reported that the committee met last Tuesday, May 6th to discuss many items that are on tonight's agenda.

b. Public Safety

- Chairwoman Kathleen had no report, as she has been under the weather.

c. Government Affairs

- Greg had no news to report.

d. Planning and Land Use

- Diana was absent hence there was no report.

e. Elections

- Jorge reported that NWNC election information could be found at <https://clerk.lacity.gov/clerk-services/elections/neighborhood-council-elections>.

f. Homelessness

- Angelica had no news to report.

g. Beautification

- Jorge will discuss this issue in agenda item

h. Budget

- Treasurer Joel briefly mentioned these numbers.

Annual Budget			\$32,000.00
Adjustment			6,603.86
Budgeted Amount			38,603.86
Expense to Date	Funding Request	\$24,344.28	
	Credit Card	8,433.59	32,777.87
Total Outstanding	Commitments	0.00	
	Pending Payments	3,829.20	3,829.20
Net Available			<u>\$ 1,996.79</u>

i. Outreach

- Janis will discuss

j. Education

- Committee Chairman Nic Haddad had no news to report.

X. Old Business

- a. Discussion and possible motion to approve the designing of plans outlining criteria for the creation of a NWNC special account for specific use in Brush Clearance, Tree Trimming or Removal from wildfire high-risk designated areas within the NWNC boundaries, as wildfire mitigation and public safety efforts.

XI. New Business

- a. Discussion and possible motion to approve moving \$1,400 from office expenses/outreach funds to NPG funds to reconcile fund availability

- b. Discussion and possible motion to approve fiscal year 2025/26 budget for NWNC

- c. Discussion and possible motion for NWNC to submit a Community Impact Statement (CIS) about the pending Neighborhood Council budget, and any other budgetary issue to Council File CF 25-0600 Budget Proposal Fiscal Year 2025-26

- d. Discussion and possible motion for NWNC to submit a CIS in support of Council File CF 25-0314 which proposes to create a five-person advisory group on the City’s finances and budget, to encourage one of the five participants to be a Neighborhood Council Budget Advocate.

XII. Adjournment

- o Jorge Jimenez made a motion to adjourn the meeting at _____PM; Joel Lowell seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.

PREVIOUS MINUTES =====

XIII. Call to Order and Board Roll Call

- o President Jorge Jiménez called the meeting to order at 6.20PM and welcomed [eventually] nine board members and over fourteen stakeholders.
- o A quorum was declared via the following roll call:
 Here (9) Jeff Diamond, Kathleen Edwards, Nicolas Haddad, Kevin Herzberg, Jorge Jiménez, Janis Kraft, Joel Lowell, Angelica Robinson (joined as 6.26PM), and Greg Wood
 Absent (1) Diana Delgado

XIV. Pledge of Allegiance

- Jorge led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

XV. General Public Comment

- Lionel Mares encouraged the NWNC to work with other neighborhood councils so that they may all stay united, and continue their research on important citywide issues, such as the environment, jobs, city resources, budgets, council files, etc.
- Glenn Bailey mentioned that the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC), representing the valley's thirty-four neighborhood councils, would meet via Zoom on Thursday, April 10th beginning at 6.30PM. This month's special guest will be Jack Humphreville from CityWatchLA, who will discuss the city's potential deficit of nearly \$1B.
- Marissa Bowman, Director of Community Engagement from Mayor Bass's Office of Community Engagement may also join this meeting.
- Additional information can be found at VANC's website at <https://vanc34.org/>
- The May 8th meeting may feature LAUSD board member Scott Schmerelson, who will discuss school safety and policing at our schools.
- Stakeholder and candidate Richard Young requested a review of the procedures to join this Zoom meeting.

XVI. Special Speakers NWNC Candidates running for election in the upcoming neighborhood council election are invited to introduce themselves and share their candidacy with stakeholders.

Sam Dulys

- Has lived in Northridge his whole life, except while attending college at the Universities of Chicago and London.
- He currently works for a NY-based lobbying firm.
- He has previously volunteered with the Tree People, Environment America, as well as the unhoused. His family is strong supporters of Hope of the Valley.
- He is concerned that many young people are not involved in volunteer activities, and he looks forward to changing that.
- As he has a background with the Tree People, Joy asked about pine trees and what other trees Sam could recommend. Sam replied that pine trees are okay, but they are not native. He would prefer to see native trees throughout Northridge.

Kathleen Edwards

- She mentioned that local businesses, first responders, and neighbors know they can count on her and come to her with any of their concerns as she truly cares about them. For example, the LAFD has several inoperable stoves and refrigerators. Kathleen was able to shepherd through grants to provide these cooking instruments.
- She remains concerned about excessive Auxiliary Dwelling Units (ADU) and multi-story housing in the community.
- She takes her sworn oath as an NWNC board member very seriously.
- She expressed concern that LA is over 520 square miles with merely 9,000 uniformed police officers (and just 1,400 in the San Fernando Valley). By comparison:

Square Miles	Police Officers
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Chicago	220	13,500
New York	330	36,000

- Joy mentioned that Kathleen frequently appears at these meetings via a photograph. Kathleen previously discussed this with the city attorney’s office, and they approved her using a photograph as some community members have abused their access to Kathleen and her home.

Alanna Flax-Clark

- Grew up in Granada Hills, but moved back to the northwest valley a few years ago.
- She currently manages grants for Olympians and Paralympians to ensure resources go to where they are most needed.
- She believes that we all have an opportunity and responsibility to make certain Northridge is inclusive for everyone. She believes in the power of local action and will work to make certain that we have safer streets and more inclusive planning.
- She is concerned that cracked sidewalks and broken curbs can impact children, baby-strollers, folks in wheelchairs, and those with disabilities, etc. Too often, accessibility is treated as a privilege. She believes everyone deserves to be seen, heard, and included.
- Jorge asked how Alanna envisions change. She replied that she already knows several businesses in the community. Many folks are familiar with Alanna and her service dog.
- Joy reminded everyone that Adina Barco from CD14 mentioned during the March meeting that they have funds available to repair sidewalks.
- Jeff urged Alanna to review the 311 app, as it has an area to report broken sidewalks, weeds, and excessive trash (which can block access). Alanna replied that she is an active user of that app and posts her photographs taken on her many frequent walks.

Nathan Lichtman

- Was born and raised in Northridge, where he became an Eagle Scout. He then went away to Michigan and Washington DC for a few years, and has since returned.
- His family, including his wife and two children (eight-months and three-years), live near the Topeka Drive Elementary School, and they are active with their faith community.
- As the outreach manager for a suicide prevention center, Nathan worked passionately worked to get the new 988 program up and running.
- He has not yet attended an NWNC meeting, however, he would be a strong advocate for sidewalk repair and weed abatement.
- Nathan had to leave the meeting early as they were on their way to a violin concert.

Joel Lowell

- He has been the NWNC’s Treasurer for nearly five years, since 2020. In that role, he has managed to keep the NWNC solvent with bills paid on time and remained in the city’s good graces.

Zach Seemayer (pronounced see mare)

- Grew up in Echo Park, yet he frequently visited his grandparents who lived near Reseda Boulevard and Devonshire Street. He always loved this neighborhood, and moved here nine-years ago.
- He has his bachelors and masters from Cal State LA, and has a strong background in film and television. He was a writer, recently laid off [after nearly fifteen years] from Entertainment Tonight.

- He recently worked with Councilman John Lee's office as a liaison supporting the Making Movies that Matter project.
- He shares Alanna's concern about broken sidewalks; his son's scooter recently fell due to a crack in the sidewalk near McDonald's.
- He is also concerned about monarch butterflies.
- Kathleen asked if Zach had attended an NWNC meeting before; the reply was negative, but Zach and his dad frequently advocated for folks in their Echo Park community.
- Joy, who has been a Neighborhood Watch lead for over fifteen-years, asked if Zach was concerned about crime. Zach reported that a 95-year-old neighbor recently fought off a potential thief with her flashlight. He feels that it is important to get as many stakeholders involved as possible.
- With his background in the entertainment industry, Zach knows that collaboration is key; otherwise, nothing would ever get done.
- Angelica, a fellow film professional, liked that the NWNC was attracting social workers and attorneys. She asked if he had a sufficient support system for his demanding career, as well as the dedication needed to sit on the NWNC. Zach's wife has a background in environmental hydrogeology, and teaches at Pierce College and College of the Canyons. Zach works part time in the entertainment industry and feels he has the available time to dedicate to this new assignment.

Krystal Sims

- She is a licensed clinical social worker, with two bachelors and two masters degrees from CSUN, and a strong background in workforce development, outreach, and management. As a leader at a non-profit for homeless services, and a background in real estate development projects for the unhoused, she has attended multiple neighborhood council meetings, but has not yet attended an NWNC meeting.
- Krystal prides herself on time management. Several of her co-workers are associated with various neighborhood councils, and encouraged her to be involved in the NWNC, as she is a long-term dedicated resident of Northridge.

Wilfredo Trivino-Perez

- He is a proud resident of Northridge, with two kids aged nine and fifteen years; he wants to be a strong voice for this community where families can grow.
- This past 23-years, he has been a litigation and criminal defense attorney. In this role, he has been built strong relationships with the LAPD, Sheriff's Department, and district attorneys. These networks are very useful when discussing recreation, parks, safety, etc.
- He believes that everyone has a seat at this table.
- His is now winding down his Westwood-based law practice, working out of his home office, and feels that this is the ideal time for a change.
- Wilfredo's sister lives in Sherman Oaks; they frequently have plenty of police riding around. Why doesn't Northridge have all those cops? The police should cater to us; he advocates for being the squeaky wheel that gets the grease.

Richard Young

- He recently retired from his position as a manufacturing operator/engineer at 3M here in Northridge. As he is retired, he has plenty of time to dedicate to the NWNC.
- Like many others, he also heard about this recruitment opportunity via the mailed flyer.

- A few of his neighbors had their tires damaged by the massive potholes along their street; Richard took it upon himself to report this road hazards to 311, and all those potholes were fixed within a week. He was very proud of his efforts, which encouraged him to run for this public office position.
- With all of LA’s problems, it seems that Northridge is not receiving enough attention from city hall.

Rebeca Angulo, Ehis Inekhomon, and Ian Medina were unavailable to attend this evening’s meeting:

Joy asked about the process for a new board member. The NWNC cannot welcome a new board member within sixty-days prior an election. Before those sixty-days, if someone volunteers for an assignment, they are interviewed at a meeting, and usually approved [or disapproved] by board members. If two or more candidates volunteer, the NWNC board will have their own election.

Janis and Kevin thanked all the candidates who spoke this evening; they were both very impressed by hearing their stories. As chair of the Outreach Committee, Janis looks forward to working alongside the new board members.

Jorge reminded everyone of the importance of attending the monthly NWNC meetings. Without a quorum, the NWNC lacks the power to do anything.

Glenn Bailey mentioned that he was also very inspired by the candidates. A few election cycles ago, the NWNC and other councils did a postcard mailer, yet there were insufficient candidates to host an election

Glenn also reminded everyone that each of the 99-neighborhood councils throughout the city is different. However, they form alliances of common interests, including one that conducts meetings with high-level executives at the LADWP, as well as the following alliances:

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Budget Advocates | LGBTQ+ |
| Emergency Preparedness | Plan Check |
| Homelessness | Sustainability, etc. |

Additional information on the alliances can be found at <https://neighborhoodempowerment.lacity.gov/alliances/>

- XVII. Approval of NWNC Monthly GBM Minutes for March 2025
- Joel Lowell made a motion to approve the March minutes; Angelica Robinson seconded this motion, and it passed.

Aye (7)	Diamond, Haddad, Herzberg, Jiménez, Kraft, Lowell, and Robinson
Abstain (2)	Edwards and Wood
Absent (1)	Delgado
- XVIII. Approval of NWNC Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) for March 2024
- Kathleen Edwards made a motion to approve the March MER; Angelica Robinson seconded this motion, and it passed.

Aye (8)	Edwards, Haddad, Herzberg, Jiménez, Kraft, Lowell, Robinson, and Wood
Ineligible (1)	Diamond
Absent (1)	Delgado

Date	Vendor	Description	Amount
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February 12	Kristina Smith/The Mail Room	Web Services	\$ 250.00
February 28	Canoga Park Senior Citizens Club	Neighborhood Purpose Grant (NPG)	500.00
March 2	PY Golden State Storage	Storage Facility	165.50
March 5	Kristina Smith/The Mail Room	Web Services	250.00
March 5	Apple One	Minute Taker	486.40
March 9	Mail Chimp	Newsletter Distribution	45.00
		Total	<u>\$1,696.90</u>

- Treasurer Joel reported the following funds remain in the NWNC budget for the remainder of the fiscal year (ending Monday, June 30th):

Office, Outreach, and Elections	\$2,609.13
NPG	2,500.00
Community Improvement Projects (CIP)	<u>1,137.85</u>
Total	<u>\$6,246.98</u>

- He recommended [if permitted] rolling over funds to the next fiscal year, and establishing a Special Fund Account for Brush Abatement, as Jason Hector suggested during the March meeting. This will be further discussed in agenda item XI.d.
- Previously, neighborhood councils could rollover \$10k into the new fiscal year (beginning July 1st); however, there is no guarantee that the NWNC will be able to do that this year. Jorge and Kathleen mentioned that this is the first time in many years that the NWNC has spent enough in NPGs and Outreach that the NWNC would have little to rollover.
- The Office funds may spend another \$250 between now and the end of the fiscal year (Monday, June 30th) for food, web-service, and minutes. However, the Outreach account has been overdrawn by approximately \$1,300. This will not matter, as the Office, Outreach, and the Elections accounts are pooled together with sufficient funds in their “bucket”.
- There was a \$5k NPG check that had been processed, but has not yet been cashed. This was for the sponsorship of the May 18th to 20th Salute to Recreation. Coordinator Merab Ruiz mentioned that she has not yet received the check. It turns out that the check was mailed to the address on the NPG, which was the Northridge Recreation Center at 10058 Reseda Boulevard. However, Merab works at the Ritchie Valens Recreation Center in Pacoima.

XIX. Announcements

- d. May 6th NWNC Executive Board meeting
- e. May 13th NWNC General Board Meeting
- f. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) Training Updates for Board Members
 - Jorge reported that Kathleen (due in May) and Janis (due in June) might need to review their online portal to confirm that they may be due for their mandatory training recertification.

XX. Presidential Comments

- Jorge reported that he and Kathleen are reviewing the NWNC bylaws. Teenager Matthew Bailes recently expressed interest in joining the NWNC. However, although the voting age is sixteen, one must be at least eighteen years to join the NWNC, as the NWNC does not have a “youth” position. Kathleen mentioned that the NWNC may add a youth seat to the board, but then they could risk not making a quorum, as it is often difficult for teenagers to attend meetings.
- Joy expressed concern as Matthew’s school previously received NPG funding.
- Kathleen added that youth could serve on a committee, which does not require board membership.

XXI. Government Reports

f. Public Safety LAPD Devonshire Division

- The non-emergency number for the LAPD is 1-877-ASK-LAPD.
- Senior Lead Officer Sandra Zamora and Devonshire Community Relations Volunteer Mikkie Loi were unavailable for this evening's meeting.

g. CD12 City Council Representative

- Deputy District Director Myrka Martinez from CD12 reported the following:
 - She was very happy to hear from so many candidates who are interested in joining the NWNC. However, she and her co-workers will be sad to lose President Jorge.
 - CD12's Rapid Response Team visited 38-locations in March, picking up 184 pieces of bulky discarded items.
 - The LA World Airports is proposing new landing fees for Van Nuys Airport. This proposal aims to ensure fair and consistent fee structures while supporting airport operations and improvements. Public comment will be accepted through Friday, April 11th. Additional information can be found at <https://www.iflyvny.com/sites/vny/files/2025-03/VNY%20Landing%20Fees%20Notice.pdf>
 - The Department of Recreation and Parks is conducting a park needs assessment to evaluate and improve parks and recreation facilities. This will help parks meet the needs of residents for decades to come and expand spaces for enjoyment, exercise, and community connection(s). They look forward to another phase of this outreach activity, including a new round of community meetings to dive deeper, share what we have heard, and get more feedback on park access, programs, safety, and improvements.
 - Saturday, March 29th CD12 continued their support of St. Baldrick's Foundation's Fundraiser for Childhood Cancer by generously supporting public safety professionals who volunteered to shave their heads in the name of finding a cure for childhood cancer.
 - Sunday, March 30th CD12 co-sponsored the 21st Annual Day of the Horse at the Stoney Point Ranch, Chatsworth.
 - Saturday, April 26th, CD12 will co-host the annual Supporters of Law Enforcement in Devonshire (SOLID) Pancake Breakfast and LAPD Open House at 10250 Etiwanda Avenue.
 - Earlier this year, Councilman Lee and others introduced multiple council files related to wildfires. Tuesday, March 25th, Councilman Lee introduced a motion to request that the city attorney adopt the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's updated wildfire hazard maps, and ensure compliance with the state's updated wildfire protection regulations. This will lead to broadening the enforcement of brush clearance requirements beyond very high fire hazard severity zones.
 - CD12 opposes anything that could weaken toxic and hazardous waste material regulations. Such action would result in damaged soil near the city's disposal sites, such as the nearby Sunshine Canyon Landfill.
 - Earlier this year, CD12 sponsored the Making Movies that Matter. The Red Carpet Gala will be held at the Soraya Performing Arts Center at CSUN on Thursday, May 15th.
 - Friday, March 28th Councilman Lee moved Council File 25-0002-S19 in opposition to SB79, which could make it faster and easier to build multi-family housing near train and bus line stops, leading to higher-density housing developments. While the intent of SB79 may address supply issues, its provisions further undermine local governance,

bypass local decision-making processes, and impose unintended burdens on communities.

- Myrka mentioned that she has two new co-workers: Public Works Deputy Matthew Smith (who replaced Ben Pac) and Public Safety Deputy Alejandra Moscoso.

h. Other Government Departments/Agencies

- No other government representatives were available to provide a report.

i. DONE

- The NWNC's Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate John Darnell from DONE reported the following:
 - Thursday, March 6th, DONE co-sponsored the Budget 101 symposium. However, anyone can submit comments on the city's budget throughout the year.
 - Saturday, June 21st will be the annual Neighborhood Council Budget Day at City Hall. This will begin at 8AM with breakfast, followed by presentations at council chambers. A key topic of discussion will be the city's \$2B deficit. This is the second largest neighborhood council event of the year (behind the September 27th Congress).
 - John recently visited Northridge to inspect locations for potential monthly meeting sites. Regretfully, the Northridge Christian Church at 18901 Chatsworth Street, which is at no charge, is not fully ADA compliant. Northridge Toyota's General Manager Raed Malaeb was very welcoming, and his site will pass the ADA inspection. Their facility is open until 9PM.
 - Glenn Bailey also recommended the Northridge Park's Multi-Purpose Crafts Room. Although technically in Northridge East Neighborhood Council, this is a city facility that would be available to the adjacent NWNC at no charge. However, it is small and frequently used for storage when the park hosts events.
 - In response to Kathleen's comment, John mentioned that the Coffee Bean and Tea Leaf at 18705 Devonshire Street is unavailable for city government meetings. The shopping center's property manager Brent Sherman has previously welcomed NWNC committee meetings, preferably on the outdoor patio (rather than indoors).
 - Jorge and Kathleen added that they would like to see updated rosters on the EmpowerLA website.

j. Budget Advocates

- The advocates co-chair Glenn Bailey reported that their annual white paper is available at https://www.budgetadvocates.org/_files/ugd/f03c84_17341704205f406e95d2dce3965a7814.pdf. Over thirty city departments submitted recommendations. Regretfully, the LAFD was unable to participate, as they have been very busy.
- Thursday, April 17th, Mayor Bass will discuss her priorities at her annual "State of the City" address, followed by the release of her budget on Monday, April 21st. This will be immediately uploaded as council file 25-0600. Anyone [stakeholder or board member] can file a comment on this budget and council file.
- Due to the anticipated budget shortfall, it is unknown if neighborhood councils will again receive \$32k or if they will be allowed to rollover their unused funds from FY2024-25 to FY2025-26.
- Monday, April 28th beginning at 6.30PM, the advocates anticipate hosting a Zoom meeting, open to all board members as well as stakeholders. Attendees will include representatives

from Mayor Bass, City Controller Kenneth Mejia’s office, etc. They will discuss an overview of Mayor Bass’s presented budget.

- The 2025 Budget Day will be Saturday, June 21st beginning at 8AM at City Hall. Kathleen recommends people carpool to this event.
- For additional information, the advocates website is <https://www.budgetadvocates.org/>

XXII. NWNC Committee Reports

k. Executive Committee

- Jorge reported that the committee met last Tuesday, April 1st to discuss many items that are on tonight’s agenda.

l. Public Safety

- Chairwoman Kathleen had no report, as she has been under the weather.

m. Government Affairs

- Greg had no news to report.

n. Planning and Land Use

- Diana was absent hence there was no report.

o. Elections

- Jorge reported that NWNC election information could be found at <https://clerk.lacity.gov/clerk-services/elections/neighborhood-council-elections>.

p. Homelessness

- Angelica had no news to report.

q. Beautification

- Jorge will discuss this issue an agenda item XI.d.

r. Budget

- Treasurer Joel briefly mentioned these numbers.

Annual Budget			\$32,000.00
Adjustment			6,603.86
Budgeted Amount			38,603.86
Expense to Date	Funding Request	\$19,344.28	
	Credit Card	8,178.09	27,522.37
Total Outstanding	Commitments	0.00	5,000.00
	Pending Payments	5,000.00	
Net Available			\$ 6,081.49

- There was a concern that the NWNC NPG check for \$5,000 may have been lost in the mail. However, that check was mailed to the Northridge Recreation Center at 10058 Reseda Boulevard, which is the address as shown on the NPG application, which is the site of the May 18th to 20th Salute to Recreation. Janis volunteered to reach out to Coordinator Merab Ruiz, who works out of the Ritchie Valens Recreation Center in Pacoima.

s. Outreach

- Janis will discuss recruiting volunteers for the May 19th and 20th Salute to Recreation event during agenda item XI.h.

t. Education

- Committee Chairman Nic Haddad had no news to report.

XXIII. New Business

e. Discussion on revocation of board member Greg Wood’s at-large seat due to exceeding allowed general board meeting absences within a twelve-month time span, and options for Greg’s reinstatement as an NWNC board member

- Jorge Jiménez made a motion to dismiss this agenda item, as the approved minutes [which reflected Greg’s absence (when he was merely late)] have been corrected; Angelica Robinson seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.

f. Discussion and possible motion to approve moving \$1,400 from office expenses funds to outreach funds to reconcile fund availability

- Outreach and office expenses are in the same bucket on the monthly financial statement, so an approval is not necessary.
- Jorge Jiménez made a motion to dismiss this agenda item; Joel Lowell seconded this motion, and it passed.

Aye (8) Edwards, Haddad, Herzberg, Jiménez, Kraft, Lowell, Robinson, and Wood

Ineligible (1) Diamond

Absent (1) Delgado

g. Discussion and possible motion to approve yearly funding of \$130 in office expenses to purchase an NWNC Canva Pro license for the 2025-26 fiscal year

- Angelica and Jorge confirmed in real-time that this Canva software was \$120.
- This software will be purchased in FY2025-26, but the NWNC must inform the city beforehand that they intend to purchase it.
- Greg Wood made a motion to purchase this Canva Pro software; Angelica Robinson seconded this motion, and it passed.

Aye (8) Edwards, Haddad, Herzberg, Jiménez, Kraft, Lowell, Robinson, and Wood

Ineligible (1) Diamond

Absent (1) Delgado

h. Discussion and possible motion to approve NWNC’s creation of a special account for Brush Clearance, Tree Trimming and/or Removal within NWNC’s boundaries, as wildfire mitigation and public safety efforts, and move available funds into the special account

- The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council (PRNC) did a similar action. These funds are not subject to rollover restriction, and can be used the following year. However, the funds could be locked. If the NWNC had an emergency and needed the funds for something else, the money may not be available.
- Angelica suggested developing an outline of how these funds could be created. Northridge lacks the fire danger that Porter Ranch has, and we do not yet need to set funds aside for this task. Jorge added that Northridge has lower Limekiln Canyon [at Chatsworth Street] could be subject to fire. However, this action would be mainly for brush clearance. The suggested explanation will be merely for mitigation of a potential fire danger, with a very

general description (tree trimming, etc.) without specifically mentioning fire. There will be no reference to beautification

- Joel reminded everyone that CD12 pays 50% of this. The city’s clean-up crew for Limekiln Canyon from the Department of Recreation and Parks for the PRNC task was \$7,500. In previous years, the NWNC paid \$5,000 for tree trimming via contractors. However, city employees must perform this cleanup; the NWNC can no longer use an outside vendor.
- The person to address CD12 should either be President [currently Jorge], committee chair of Public Safety [currently Kathleen], or the committee chair for Beautification [currently Jorge].
- Greg recommended that, even though we do not have a lot of dried brush, leave the title as “fire mitigation” as houses could still be in danger (as they were in Altadena).
- Glenn Bailey added that this task would require a council motion. The deadline to file a council motion, via the city clerk’s office, is Sunday, June 1st. However, perhaps the NWNC could create the account via a council motion without referencing a dollar amount. A good resource for this task would be CD12’s Legislative Director Josh Yeager, who handles city council files.
- Kathleen Edwards made a motion to approve creation of a special account for brush clearance and wildfire mitigation (with no reference to funds, which are not yet specifically stated); Greg Wood seconded this motion, and yet it failed.

Aye (3)	Diamond, Edwards, and Haddad
No (6)	Herzberg, Jiménez, Kraft, Lowell, Robinson, and Wood
Absent (1)	Delgado
- Angelica Robinson made a motion to postpone this agenda item, concerning brush clearance and wildfire mitigation, until the May meeting; Greg Wood seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.

i. Discussion and possible motion to approve NPG funding of \$2,500 for SOLID to support the renovation of LAPD Devonshire’s Gang and Narcotics Units trailer

- Board member David Chalem introduced himself as he now handles corporate relations for SOLID.
- Every year, SOLID hosts two fundraising activities:

Pancake Breakfast	Saturday, April 26 th
Pasta Dinner	Late September/October
- SOLID recently funded the remodeling of the Senior Lead Officer’s bungalow in their parking lot. Their next task is for the Gang and Narcotics unit’s bungalow, where they must have privacy to process big-ticket items, felons, dealers, cartels, etc.
- The total budget for the Gang and Narcotics team, including air conditioning and office furniture, is estimated at \$80k to \$90k. The city cannot pay for the upgrade; hence this responsibility falls upon SOLID.
- Joy asked about time schedules and contributions. David replied that they are trying to lock things down now before the tariffs increase everything’s costs. In addition, they must delicately move the narcotics officers away to a very secure area, as their tasks are highly confidential. They are optimistic that they can start the remodel in June.
- Thus far, SOLID has collected the following:

Source	Amount
Winnetka Neighborhood Council	\$ 5,000
Northridge East Neighborhood Council	10,000
CD12/John Lee	25,000

Corporate Donations	<u>30,000</u>
Subtotal	<u>\$70,000</u>

- Councilman Lee’s funds cannot be provided until after completion of the project, as they must have receipts before issuing the check.
- Contributions from other neighborhood councils are being requested, but have not yet been approved.
- Greg Wood made a motion to approve this NPG request; Kathleen Edwards seconded this motion, and it passed.

Aye (7)	Edwards, Haddad, Herzberg, Jiménez, Kraft, Lowell, and Wood
No (1)	Robinson
Ineligible (1)	Diamond
Absent (1)	Delgado
- David thanked the NWNC, and mentioned that he would provide them with photographs of the completed project in a few months.

j. Discussion and possible motion to approve NWNC’s contribution to Neighborhood Council Budget Day being held in June 2025 with an outreach funds donation of \$1,000

- Glenn Bailey reported that this funding form is on the City Clerk’s website at <https://clerk.lacity.gov/sites/g/files/wph1491/files/2024-03/Congress-Budget%20Advocacy%20Funding%20Contribution%20Form%20rev03182024%20pdf%20form.pdf>.
- Jorge Jiménez made a motion to amend the wording of the motion to reflect “contribution” rather than “sponsorship”, delete the reference to “up to”, and refer to this event by its full name as the “Neighborhood Council Budget Day”; Angelica Robinson seconded this motion, and it passed.

Aye (8) Edwards, Haddad, Herzberg, Jiménez, Kraft, Lowell, Robinson, and Wood
 Ineligible (1) Diamond
 Absent (1) Delgado

- Joel added that if this were approved, it would leave the NWNC with \$500 in the budget [mainly for office expenses].
- Kathleen Edwards made a motion to approve this \$1,000 contribution to the June 21st Neighborhood Council Budget Day as an Outreach expenditure; Angelica Robinson seconded this motion, and it passed.

Aye (8) Edwards, Haddad, Herzberg, Jiménez, Kraft, Lowell, Robinson, and Wood
 Ineligible (1) Diamond
 Absent (1) Delgado

- Glenn added that the NWNC’s name, logo, and contribution will appear during the presentation(s), as well as upon the Budget Advocates website for at least a year.

k. Discussion and possible motion to approve this Community Impact Statement (CIS) draft letter in support of Council File CF 25-0193 Hanoi/Sister City which is a motion to approach the City of Hanoi to become a “Sister City” with LA and ultimately encourage them to end their dog and cat meat trade [for consumption].

- Jorge pulled up the following draft letter and read it as follows:
 The NWNC supports the motion of the City of LA to establish a Sister City relationship with Hanoi, Vietnam, as outlined in Council File 25-0193. We believe that fostering international partnerships through the Sister Cities program can enhance cultural exchange, economic collaboration, and global understanding.

As part of this proposed relationship, we encourage a dialogue that promotes ethical and humane treatment of animals, including advocating for the end of the dog and cat meat trade for consumption in Hanoi. The humane treatment of animals is an important issue for our community, and we recognize that such advocacy aligns with LA’s values of compassion and responsible stewardship.

The NWNC acknowledges the historical and cultural complexities surrounding this issue and supports a diplomatic approach that fosters positive engagement. By establishing a Sister City relationship, LA can serve as a partner in Hanoi’s continued development and provide a platform for meaningful discussions on animal welfare, ethical food practices, and shared global values.

We urge the LA City Council to move forward with this motion and ensure that humanitarian efforts remain a key component of this potential partnership.

- Kathleen Edwards made a motion to approve this CIS letter; Nicolas Haddad seconded this motion, and it passed.

Aye (5)	Diamond, Edwards, Haddad, Herzberg, and Jiménez
Abstain (1)	Lowell
No (3)	Kraft, Robinson, and Wood
Absent (1)	Delgado

- I. Discussion on NWNC booth volunteers participation at the Salute to Recreation Family Festival taking place at Northridge Park and Recreation Center on May 17th to 18th
 - The NWNC would like volunteers to staff their booth from noon to 8PM on Saturday and Sunday, May 17th and 18th. However, specific set-up times are not yet available.
 - Glenn Bailey recommended that the NWNC be situated near the Northridge East and Northridge South Neighborhood Councils. He added that [in previous years] the event closed at 5PM, and did not go into the evening.
 - Janis hopes to get 100% participation from all NWNC board members. Angelica participated in this event years ago as a child and as a teenager, and always had a great time. However, Jeff Diamond and Angelica will be out of town that weekend. Other board members will email Janis with their availability. Kathleen suggested inviting the NWNC candidates to participate in this event alongside current board members.

XXIV. Adjournment

- Jorge Jimenez made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10.24PM; Joel Lowell seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.