

**North West Neighborhood Council  
Regular General Board Meeting  
Tuesday, September 9th, 2025  
(Held on Zoom)**

**1. CALL TO ORDER:** Janis Kraft, president of NWNC called the meeting to order at 6:18 p.m. with Welcome Remarks. **BOARD MEMBER Roll Call:** Quorum was established with 10 board members (quorum is 7). Present were: Joel Lowell, Janis Kraft, Alanna Flax-Clark, Kathleen Edwards, Nicolas Haddad, Jeff Diamond, Krystal Sims, Nathan Lichtman, Richard Young, and Sam Dulys. Diana Delgado arrived at 6:30 p.m. bringing the quorum to 11. Absent: Kevin Herzberg

The board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**II. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Glenn Bailey**, speaking as an individual, reminded everyone that the Valley Alliance of NC meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month. At that meeting, there will be an update on SB79 which refers to high density developments.

**Joy** referred to her roles in Neighborhood Watch and CERT. She asked the board to report two large dead trees that need to be removed. A stakeholder suggested using the 311 app to report dead trees.

**Kathleen Edwards** referenced a comment made by Glenn Bailey regarding the City Council making a decision to change abstention votes from “No” to “Yes.”

**III. ANNOUNCEMENTS** - Comments from the Board Members on non-agenda items within the Board’s subject matter jurisdiction

a) October 7th, 2025 NWNC Executive Board Meeting on Zoom.

b) October 14th, 2025 NWNC General Board Meeting on Zoom. Janis said she would not be available on this date and suggested moving the meeting to Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup>. She will email everyone regarding availability.

c) Congress of Neighborhoods: Janis said she will be going and asked others to attend on Saturday September 27th, from 8:00am to 4:30pm at City Hall. Kathleen noted that it is a very good networking event and an opportunity to meet city officials. Glenn made a correction to the name of this event, then spoke about the different events going on during the Congress of Neighborhoods.

**IV. APPROVAL OF NWNC MONTHLY GBM MINUTES FOR JULY**

Kathleen noted that rather than appointing herself, she was nominated by Nicolas Haddad as Vice President of Administration. And Nathan Lichtman said that rather than nominating himself as Vice President of Outreach, he was nominated by Greg Wood.

**(Janis/Kathleen) approved the minutes as revised. The motion carried: 9-0-2.**

**Voting Yea (9):** Joel Lowell, Janis Kraft, Alanna Flax-Clark, Kathleen Edwards, Nicolas Haddad, Krystal Sims, Nathan Lichtman, Richard Young, and Sam Dulys.

**Opposed: (0)**

**Abstaining (2):** Jeff Diamond and Diana Delgado.

**V. APPROVAL OF NWNC MONTHLY GBM MINUTES FOR AUGUST 2025:**

Sam requested a revision to the word “tabled” on one item on the agenda. Janis also requested a revision. **The motion carried approved unanimously.**

**Voting Yea (11):** Joel Lowell, Janis Kraft, Alanna Flax-Clark, Kathleen Edwards, Jeff Diamond, Diane Delgado, Nicolas Haddad, Krystal Sims, Nathan Lichtman, Richard Young and Sam Dulys.

**Opposed: (0)**

**Abstaining (0)**

**VI. APPROVAL OF NWNC MONTHLY EXPENDITURE REPORT (MER) FOR AUGUST**

**2025:** Treasurer Joel Lowell noted that \$497.61 was rolled over from the last fiscal year into the current budget which is now at: \$23,234.00. Joel stated this is the smallest budget the NWNC has had to date.

**(Janis/Kathleen) moved approval of the August 2025 MER. The motion carried unanimously.**

**VII. Presidential Comments:** Janis restated that she will be out of town from 9/17/25 – 9/22/25 and may not be available to answer emails.

**VIII. GOVERNMENT REPORTS**

- **LAFD Battalion Chief Adrian Vasquez** reported that there isn’t much going on with incidents. The current concern is for Santa Ana winds which can rapidly spread fires. He preaches “Ready, Set, Go” to all stakeholders on preparing for emergencies and recommends using the Watch Duty app which shows fire activity in real time. On Sept. 18 at 6:30 p.m. at St. Eufrasier School Auditorium on Shoshone Ave, the Granada Hills North NC is hosting a Prevention Town Hall meeting where emergency preparations will be discussed, such as packing up medications, important paperwork, and supply of necessary items for several days.
- A stakeholder asked him to touch on the CERT program. He spoke about the CERT training and said these volunteers are trained to assist in emergencies.
- Currently, 42 positions were lost throughout LAFD due to the City’s budget cuts, including Battalion Chiefs.

a) Public Safety LAPD Devonshire Division. (non-emergency number 1 877-ASK LAPD)- No report.

b) CD 12 City Council Representative – No report.

c) Other Government Departments/Agencies – No report.

d) **Department of Neighborhood Empowerment** – NEA Vincent Autiero spoke on behalf of EmpowerLA. On Tuesday, they are out of the office for City Hall Day with meetings all day. There have been some budget cuts at the department. They have lost one staffer and will lose three more staff members by the end of this year.

Upcoming trainings: A CIS training was held recently and it was recorded and available. The Homelessness Liasion meeting will be held on Sept. 18, 6 p.m – 8 p.m. He spoke about the Congress of Neighborhoods with lots of great speakers. The bylaw amendment timeframe is now open. He suggested putting together an Ad Hoc committee if there's anything you want to change. April 1, 2026 is the deadline. Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> there will be a training on bylaws. Each NC can appoint up to 5 CIS filers.

- Kathleen pointed out that board members who serve in this capacity can't just file on their own; it has to be approved by the board.
- Joel added that a BAC (vote) is also required.
- Jeff asked if there is any feedback from EmpowerLA after a CIS is submitted.
- Vincent said the City Council members should be reviewing CISes to see what their constituents are saying.
- Kathleen added that all CISes are posted online by the City Clerk. She said that the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners can be asked to read the CIS so it becomes part of their minutes.
- Glenn said BONC has to agendize it first and if they do put it on the agenda, then you get up to 5 minutes to speak on it.

Regional Grievance Panels are being formed with three members a piece. A board member can be appointed to serve on one of these panels; deadline is Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>. Kathleen said she would like to serve in this capacity.

METRO is looking for reps to give input and reimagine public safety. They want to get more points of view and to have NC board members join their Public Safety Advisory Committee; the deadline to sign up is Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>.

e) **Budget Advocate**, [www.budgetadvocates.org](http://www.budgetadvocates.org) – Glenn Bailey noted that an email was sent out on Sunday. They will be starting meetings with city departments of how they set up the meetings and inviting people to join their teams. There will be a training on Saturday on Zoom for Budget Advocates, Reps, NC board members and anyone interested. Each departmental report will be compiled into a White Paper to make recommendations for the next fiscal year's budget.

## **IX. NEW BUSINESS**

- a) **Discussion and vote on NPG or Sponsorship for October 25, 2025 10 am – 1 p.m. Senior Fall Health Fair at the Wilkinson Center. Spend not to exceed \$1000.**

Rhonda Bunnin from OneGeneration, **Rhonda Bunnin, Wilkinson Sr. Center spoke about their event on October 25<sup>th</sup>, which is open to the public but focused on senior care.** Last year, over 200 seniors showed up and 70 vendors of resources came out. A sack lunch was provided and will be again at no cost. The \$1,000 sponsorship will cover costs to hold the event so it doesn't cost the seniors anything. The NWNC would have a booth and advertising plus a table, chairs and canopy.

Kathleen questioned the estimated cost of \$20,000 to put on the event which was listed on the NPG.

**(Joel/Jeff) moved to allocate \$500.00 for the Eat Right Sponsorship at the Senior Health Fair on Oct. 25<sup>th</sup>.**

- Joy said she was glad they are sponsoring this great organization.
- Kathleen asked about sponsorships and what would be required of the NC.
- Glenn explained that the processes are different for allocating the money as a sponsorship versus an NPG.
- Nathan asked if Rhonda could confirm whether the \$500 sponsorship would include the same benefits. She said it would.
- Cheri Norum said \$1,000 can still be allocated as an NPG. She shared that sponsorships required too much red tape.

**Joel amended his motion, with Kathleen seconding it, to spend \$500.00 on an NPG for the One Generation Health Fair. The motion carried unanimously: 11-0-0.**

**Voting Yea (11):** Joel Lowell, Janis Kraft, Alanna Flax-Clark, Kathleen Edwards, Jeff Diamond, Diane Delgado, Nicolas Haddad, Krystal Sims, Nathan Lichtman, Richard Young and Sam Dulys.

**Opposed: (0)**

**Abstaining (0)**

**b) Discussion and vote on the NPG for the November 1, 2025 art event at the Museum of the San Fernando Valley and Rancho del Cordillera del Norte.**

Northridge West, Northridge East and Northridge South have each received \$1200 NPGs.

Sandy Chukhadarian spoke representing the Museum of the San Fernando Valley and Rancho del Cordillera del Norte Public Arts Initiative. She said the Art Fair will be a place for community artists to sell their art at the Rancho, located at Nordhoff and Wilbur. She added that the date may be changed to Sunday, Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> or Sat. Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> from 12 p.m – 3 p.m.

- Cheri said she has run the Art Fair in the past and without NPGs, artists would be charged higher fees for a booth.
- Kathleen asked how the artists are chosen. Cheri and Sandy spoke about their process.
- Kathleen asked if the Rancho is ADA-compliant and said any contribution NWNC makes is contingent on getting that information.
- Glenn Bailey was asked whether the NPG should be changed before the vote takes place. He said the motion could probably be worded to indicate a time change for November.
- Vincent suggested clarifying it with Marion, the Neighborhood Funding Rep, as to whether the motion has the proper clarification.

- Joy, who is a fine artist, said she was disappointed at what she saw at the last Art Fair. She felt it was more like a Farmers' Market than an Art Fair.
- Sandy said this is only their second effort at putting on an Art Fair. They are working with volunteers and trying to make it affordable. Cheri added that the audience they are targeting is not going to pay for more expensive items like fine artwork.
- Glenn said at their executive board meeting for Northridge East NC, they approved the NPG for the requested amount of \$1,200.
- Janis questioned funding personnel costs. Sandy said they could amend their request to reduce it by \$300.00 if that's the case.
- Joel suggested stating costs under the equipment rental as opposed to labor costs, and that a vote take place pending a revised NPG.
- Alana spoke about the need for the venue to be ADA compliant.
- Nathan pointed out that the reps have stated it is ADA compliant and that further discussion would not be necessary.
- Sam noted that the website states that the site is ADA compliant.

**(Janis/Joel) moved that NWNC approve an NPG for \$1,200 for the Art Fair at the Museum for a date in early November 2025, contingent upon proof of ADA compliance.**

After further discussion, **(Janis/Joel) moved to table the motion until the NPG is revised. The motion carried unanimously: 11-0-0.**

**Voting Yea (11):** Joel Lowell, Janis Kraft, Alanna Flax-Clark, Kathleen Edwards, Jeff Diamond, Diane Delgado, Nicolas Haddad, Krystal Sims, Nathan Lichtman, Richard Young and Sam Dulys.

**Opposed: (0)**

**Abstaining (0)**

**c) Discussion and vote to set limit time allowed on board and public comments and debate.** Janis noted that at the Executive Board meeting, Nathan had proposed having a time limit of 2 minutes for public speakers while invited speakers get a few more minutes. And for debates or discussion on a particular item, 10 minutes would be allowed. Nathan added that he brought this item to the board to keep items moving along.

- Kathleen said she was opposed to this because debate should go on as long as it is needed to make a decision. She doesn't like the idea of putting a time limit on discussion.
- Krystal thought there should be a time limit on debate and that 2 to 3 minutes should be sufficient for public comment.
- Richard also spoke on having a timeframe.
- Nathan said that if 10 minutes was not enough for debate, he was open to 15 minutes.
- NEA Vincent suggested entering it into the Standing Rules.

- Kathleen suggested saying “up to 10 minutes for debate” although she doesn’t like time frames.
- Lisa Curothers asked for clarification on the time limit.
- Janis said each person would have 2 min. to speak and the board would have 10 minutes to debate.
- Kathleen suggested that the president can vary the time if there are a lot of people who want to speak, reducing the time for each speaker.
- Vincent said that this is true as long as everyone gets the same time.
- Sam said this was meant to set general limits but would not be a hardline.
- Krystal felt this sets a good standard for the board going forward.

**(Nathan/Sam) moved that starting at the next board meeting, limiting each public speaker to up to 2 minutes each and up to 10 minutes to board debate. If more time is needed, the board could vote to extend more time to that particular item.**

**The motion carried 10-1-0.**

**Voting Yea (10):** Joel Lowell, Janis Kraft, Alanna Flax-Clark, Kathleen Edwards, Jeff Diamond, Diane Delgado, Nicolas Haddad, Krystal Sims, Nathan Lichtman, and Sam Dulys.

**Opposed: (1)** Richard Young

**Abstaining (0)**

**d) 3 NWNC board member participate in Homeless Liaison Session on Sept. 18th from 6 p.m – 8 p.m.** Janis introduced this item asking for volunteers to attend this meeting. Glenn suggested appointing volunteers as the Homeless Liaison rather than making it specific to this timeframe for a training. Glenn stated that anyone can become a homeless liaison and they do not have to serve on the board. **This item was tabled for appointments until next month.**

**e) Update on the NWNC sharing the post office box with NENC. No update.**

**f) Appoint Authorized Representative for Digital Election Records: (Janis/Joel) moved to name Kathleen Edwards Authorized Representative for Digital Election Records as required by LA Office of the City Clerk.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**Voting Yea (11):** Joel Lowell, Janis Kraft, Alanna Flax-Clark, Kathleen Edwards, Jeff Diamond, Diane Delgado, Nicolas Haddad, Krystal Sims, Nathan Lichtman, Richard Young and Sam Dulys.

**Opposed: (0)**

**Abstaining (0)**

**g) Board action to discuss and vote on up to 5 board members to sign-up to be CIS filers. Item ta**

**bled to allow board members time to review the CIS recording.**

**h) Discussion and possible action for creating CIS for CF 25-0642. Title-Off Street Parking/Requirement Elimination/New Developments/Change of Use/Cost Benefit Analysis.**

Janis sent information about this Community Impact Statement to the board. After announcing this, Kathleen stated that Council File would remove a requirement for developers to provide parking and she pointed out that shop owners are having a hard time as it is. If new developments are put in without providing parking, it will only make it worse. She recommended that the board oppose it.

- Sam disagreed saying that the CIS doesn't prevent developers who want to have parking areas to provide for it. He thinks it would be a great step forward for the Valley to remove more parking lots as they take up a lot of space that could be used for other purposes. He also thinks the Valley should be less focused on cars.
- Kathleen responded saying the Valley wouldn't exist under those circumstances as it covers 260 square miles, which is much more than metropolitan areas like New York City or San Francisco where commuters take advantage of subway systems. She stated that removing parking would lower the quality of life and said that most of the businesses are opposed to this and most of the citizens are also opposed to it.
- Joel said he is in 100% in agreement with Kathleen to oppose this as parking requirements are needed for development.
- Nathan pointed out that by eliminating parking for new developments, those who own cars might be forced to park in residential areas, taking up residents' parking spaces.
- Sam felt that without making changes to improve the area, the area will stagnate.
- Glenn said he feels it would be great to have more pedestrian and bicycle friendly areas but he agreed that without sufficient parking, people would park in the surrounding neighborhoods.
- Janis said she lives in a condo and even though they have parking, some people have more than two cars and take up more than their share of the spaces for guests and it has become a nightmare because there's also no parking on the street.

**(Sam/Janis) moved to create a CIS regarding CF25-0642 without discussing the content of the CIS. The motion carried: 9-2-0 (Sam and Nathan).**

**The motion carried: 9-2-0.**

**Voting Yea (9):** Joel Lowell, Janis Kraft, Alanna Flax-Clark, Kathleen Edwards, Jeff Diamond, Diane Delgado, Nicolas Haddad, Krystal Sims and Richard Young.

**Opposed: (2)** Nathan Lichtman and Sam Dulys.

**Abstaining (0)**

**i) Discussion and possible action for creating CIS for CF 25-0002-S19. Title-State Zoning Standards/Train Stations/Major Bus Stops/7 Story Multifamily Housing/**

**Municipality Exemption/Housing Element.** This item was tabled.

**j) Committee zoom license has been ordered from Gibson Nyambura @ DONE.**

Janis announced that there will be two Zoom licenses for the board to use but for the time being, committee members need to request to use the one Zoom license that they presently have.

#### **X. NWNC COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a) Executive Committee (Janis Kraft) – No report.

b) Public Safety (Kathleen Edwards) – Tabled.

c) Government Affairs (Richard Young) – Richard said it is an overwhelming task to monitor all of the reports – over 200 files every month. However, his committee would be able to review any specific files that are referred to them. Kathleen said she has experience in this area and would speak with him offline. Glenn suggested he attend VANC and LAANC meetings to get familiar with what files are important to the NCs.

d) Planning and Land Use (Diana Delgado) – No report.

e) Elections (Janis Kraft) – No report.

f) Homelessness (Nathan Lichtman) – No report.

g) Beautification (Sam Dulys) – No report.

h) Budget (Joel Lowell) – No report.

i) Outreach (Nathan Lichtman) – Nathan said he is looking forward to holding a meeting soon and will be at the event on Oct. 25<sup>th</sup>, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Janis said she would help with manning the booth.

j) Education (Krystal Sims) – No report.

Janis reminded the board that there will probably have a special meeting to discuss the NPG request for the Art Fair. She will also email people about possible dates for the Oct. meeting.

**X. MEETING ADJOURNED at 10:07 pm.**

**-Minutes by Pat Kramer, AtWork-**