

**MISSION HILLS
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**
PRESIDENT: Ricky Angel
VICE-PRESIDENT: Marsha Soash
SECRETARY: Melissa Serrano
TREASURER: Maribel Carrillo



**MISSION HILLS
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**
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Minutes of the
**MISSION HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (MHNC)
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING Monday, July 24, 2017**
Best Friends Animal Society, 15321 Brand Blvd., Mission Hills, CA 91345

MHNC (and all other) Meeting Minutes are a summary; Minutes were not, are not and are never meant to be an exact, verbatim, word-for-word transcript or comprehensive record of what was said at a Meeting. Exceptions: Motions/Resolutions (as stated at the Meeting, which take precedence over versions written on the Agenda, if different); quotes (words that have quotation marks (“”)) at the beginning and ending of a word or words); and other wording from the Agenda such as the first paragraph(s) of some Items. Items are listed in and match the same order as on the Agenda.

I. WELCOMING REMARKS

a. Call to order & Flag Salute

President Angel introduced himself and called the Meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Mr. Angel announced that Ms. Soash will preside over the August [7th] Board Meeting. He noted Presidential “primary responsibilities” and challenges to having respectful and efficient meetings. He asked everyone to respect everyone else and listen to others, and to ask questions as questions, without commenting. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

b. Roll Call

Roll Call was taken by the Secretary. Eight of the 10 Board Members were present at the Roll Call: Dean Anderson, Ricky Angel (President), Jose Arevalo, Maribel Carrillo (Treasurer), Jose Castillo, Mooshy Ghassedi, Ed Sentowski and Marsha Soash (Vice-President). Savannah Pinedo and Melissa Serrano (Secretary) were absent (both excused). The MHNC quorum (the minimum number of Board Members needing to be present to take binding votes on Agendized Items) is seven (see the Bylaws at <https://lacity.quickbase.com/db/bj3apxsp3?a=q&qid=32&qskip=0&qrppg=1000&dlt a=su46~>), so the Board could take such votes. Ten of the 14 Board Seats were filled (by election or appointment). Four Board Seats were vacant [Vice-President; Business Owner #1 and #2; and Organizational Stakeholder]; to apply, see

<http://mhncnline.org/about-mhnc/board>. Also attended: nine Stakeholders and Guests.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS

Stakeholder Cliff Lobell commented on land use projects. Ricardo Benitez, State Assembly Candidate, described his community service and desire to serve.

III. COMMUNITY/GOVERNMENT REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

a. LA City Council District Representative

Brian Gavidia, Northeast Valley Representative for Mayor Eric Garcetti (cell 213.713.0960; ofc. 818.778.4990; Brian.Gavidia@LACity.org; <http://LAMayor.org>), was not present; there was no report.

b. LAPD Senior Leads

Philip Ruiz, LAPD Mission Division Senior Lead Officer (mobile/text 818-634-0519; ofc. 818-838-9843; 31524@LAPD.LACity.org; http://www.LAPDonline.org/Mission_Community_Police_Station), was not available; there was no report.

c. Other Government Departments/Agencies

Kathleen Quinn, Project Coordinator, L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) (818-374.9893; Kathleen.Quinn@LACity.org; www.EmpowerLA.org), had no report.

d. Community Organizations

No community organization representatives were present; there were no reports.

IV. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE MINUTES

a. General Board Meeting July 10th.

Mr. Angel requested and it was agreed to TABLE this to the August [7th] Board Meeting.

V. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO CHANGE PHYSICAL POSTING LOCATION FROM THE ARCO AT 11244 LAUREL CANYON BLVD TO THE STARBUCKS AT 15501 DEVONSHIRE ST OR ARCO STATION AT 14761 DEVONSHIRE ST.

Mr. Angel explained that the “owner . . . has been tearing [Agendas] down” before the Meetings. He listed possible alternate locations. Mr. Anderson will contact the Arco gas station Manager on Devonshire about posting Agendas there.

MOTION (by Mr. Sentowski, seconded by Mr. Anderson): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council selects the Arco gas station at 15508 Devonshire St. to post its Agendas there.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a voice vote; zero opposed; zero abstained.

VI. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO CREATE A PETITION TO ALLOCATE RESOURCES TO BRAND PARK.

Mr. Sentowski explained this is “to have a place for activities . . . for all of the families.” He listed officials to whom the petition would be sent. The cost would only be for the paper. Mr. Angel explained that the petition would be to prompt City Council District Seven (CD7) resources to be allocated to the Park. Mr. Sentowski wanted the Park to have Neighborhood Council and City Council offices. He will try to get at least 300 petition signatures, including from Movie Night, and will deliver and send them to CD7.

MOTION (by Ms. Ghassedi, seconded by Ms. Carrillo): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council will create a petition to allocate resources to Brand Park.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Sentowski will ask the Beautification and Cultural Affairs Committee to help get signatures; Mr. Angel indicated that Outreach will help.

MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the eight eligible voters present with seven in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Anderson, Angel, Arevalo, Carrillo, Ghassedi, Sentowski, Soash and Tillakaratne); one opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Castillo); zero abstained.

VII. STATUS OF FUNDS

Ms. Carrillo reported that the balance was \$41,866; \$134 was spent on the Post Office box. Mr. Castillo was concerned about the status of allocated funds. Ms. Carrillo reported that necessary forms were submitted in June; recently she learned that the City Clerk did not accept them. She will re-send and forward them to Ms. Quinn for help. Ms. Quinn indicated that the City Clerk answered that they “received the original banners request, but not the secondary one; they did not receive the medians [funding request] . . . [or] the flags.” She will try to retrieve the funds. Mr. Arevalo wanted to see hardcopies of the documents. Ms. Quinn suggested contacting City Councilwoman Monica Rodriguez because the City Council would have to vote to restore the funds to the MHNC. Ms. Carrillo explained challenges waiting for documents and information from others to complete Treasurer work.

VIII. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE MONTHLY EXPENDITURE REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE.

Mr. Angel requested and it was agreed to TABLE this Item to the August [7th] Board Meeting. Ms. Carrillo will email the MERs to Board Members before Board Meetings. Mr. Angel noted that Ms. Serrano, the Secretary, still is the Bank Card Holder and Signatory.

MOTION to TABLE (by Mr. Angel, seconded by Ms. Soash): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council TABLES approval of its June 2017 Monthly Expenditure Report to its August Board Meeting.

MOTION to TABLE PASSED; zero opposed; zero abstained.

IX. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPOINT NEW BOARD MEMBERS TO THE FOLLOWING VACANCIES:

- a. Business Owner Stakeholder x2 (Terms up in 2020) – Open to Stakeholders eighteen (18) years of age or older who work or own a business or business property within the NC boundaries.
Mr. Angel noted the above. There were no candidates.
- b. Residential Homeowner Stakeholder (Term up in 2020) – Open to Stakeholders eighteen (18) years of age or older who own a residence located within the NC boundaries.
Niranjala Tillakaratne described her background, qualifications and community service interest. Mr. Angel noted that, if Ms. Tillakaratne becomes a Board Member, Committee Memberships would be adjusted.

MOTION (by Mr. Angel, seconded by Mr. Arevalo): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council appoints Niranjala Tillakaratne to a Residential Homeowner Seat.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Angel reminded that the presiding Officer can make Motions.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the eight eligible voters present with all eight in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Anderson, Angel, Arevalo, Carrillo, Castillo, Ghassedi, Sentowski, Soash and Tillakaratne); zero opposed; zero abstained.

Ms. Quinn led Ms. Tillakaratne in reading aloud the Oath of Office. *New Board Member Niranjala Tillakaratne was Seated at this time, making nine Board Members present (the MHNC quorum is seven).*

- c. Organizational Stakeholder/Employee Stakeholder (term up in 2020) - Open to Stakeholders eighteen (18) years of age or older who participate in a religious institution, educational institution, community organization, non-profit organization, neighborhood association, school/parent group, faith based group, senior group, youth group, arts association, service organization, boys or girls club, cultural group, or environmental group within the NC boundaries.
Mr. Angel noted the above. There were no candidates.

X. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE FY 17-18 BUDGET PACKAGE:

Copies were available of templates for a Budget, Strategic Plan, Outreach Survey and Self-Assessment.

- a. Budget for FY 17-18
Ms. Quinn reminded that \$41,866 in funding is available this Fiscal Year in three categories: General and Operational; Community Improvement; and Neighborhood Purposes Grants. Mr. Angel urged, for now, allocating a third of

the funding to each Budget category; it can be changed. He explained the budget process and possibilities.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Ms. Soash): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council approves its Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Budget, dividing it equally into three categories of \$14,000 each, with the General and Operational category receiving \$134 less.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the eight eligible voters present with all eight in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Anderson, Angel, Arevalo, Carrillo, Castillo, Ghassedi, Sentowski and Soash); zero opposed; zero abstained. Ms. Tillakaratne was ineligible to vote due to not having current Ethics Training and/or Funding Training.

- b. Strategic Plan
- c. Outreach Survey as recommended by the Outreach Committee
- d. Self-Assessment

MOTION to TABLE (by Mr. Angel, seconded by Ms. Soash): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council TABLES approval of its Strategic Plan, Outreach Survey and Self-Assessment. to its August Board Meeting.

MOTION to TABLE PASSED; zero opposed; zero abstained.

XI. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON APPROVING WEB HOSTING FROM GO DADDY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$100.85.

Mr. Angel clarified about the domain name. The MHNC is trying to keep the cost to \$100 total for five years and to have the previous Webmaster release the password; the City Attorney is involved.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Ms. Soash): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council approves web hosting from GoDaddy in the amount of \$100.85.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the eight eligible voters present with all eight in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Anderson, Angel, Arevalo, Carrillo, Castillo, Ghassedi, Sentowski and Soash); zero opposed; zero abstained. Ms. Tillakaratne was ineligible to vote due to not having current Ethics Training and/or Funding Training.

Mr. Angel turned over the Presiding Officer duties to Ms. Soash at this time.

XII. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE FUNDING UP TO \$200.00 FOR INFORMATIONAL FLYERS ON THE MHNC TO BE DISTRIBUTED AT MOVIE NIGHT.

Mr. Angel explained that the event will be at Pico Adobe Park. He will post draft flier versions. Around 1,000 fliers would be printed.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Ms. Soash): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council approves funding up to \$200.00 for informational flyers on the MHNC to be distributed at Movie Night.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the eight eligible voters present with all eight in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Anderson, Angel, Arevalo, Carrillo, Castillo, Ghassedi, Sentowski and Soash); zero opposed; zero abstained. Ms. Tillakaratne was ineligible to vote due to not having current Ethics Training and/or Funding Training.

XIII. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON MHNC PARTICIPATING IN NATIONAL NIGHT OUT ON AUGUST 1ST.

Mr. Angel explained National Night Out [<https://natw.org>].

MOTION (by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Angel): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council approves participating in National Night Out on August 1st.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the nine eligible voters present with all nine in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Anderson, Angel, Arevalo, Carrillo, Castillo, Ghassedi, Sentowski, Soash and Tillakaratne); zero opposed; zero abstained.

XIV. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO RE-APPROVE BEAUTIFICATION OF MEDIANS BY AMERICAN HERITAGE WITHIN THE MHNC BOUNDS UP TO \$2,800.00 FOR THE CURRENT FY AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BEAUTIFICATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE.

Mr. Sentowski explained this and described the coverage area for one month; this would not be for the entire year. Ms. Quinn noted that this was approved by the MHNC at its May 24th Board Meeting and those funds would be allocated from either the last or this Fiscal Year, to be determined by the City Clerk.

Board Member Jose Castillo left at this time, making eight Board Members present (the MHNC quorum is seven).

MOTION to TABLE (by Ms. Soash, seconded by Mr. Sentowski): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council re-approves beautification of medians by American Heritage within the MHNC bounds up to \$2,800.00 for the current Fiscal Year as recommended by the Beautification and Cultural Affairs Committee.

MOTION to TABLE PASSED; zero opposed; zero abstained.

XV. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON DRAFTING THE FOLLOWING COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENTS:

- a. Value Capture Ordinance – Increases Density by 33% and creates more low income housing.
- b. Portable Housing Linkage Fee

Mr. Angel said he emailed information 2 ½ weeks ago. He explained the issues.

MOTION to TABLE (by Mr. Angel, seconded by Ms. Soash): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council TABLES this and remaining Agenda Items to adjournment.

MOTION to TABLE PASSED; zero opposed; zero abstained.

XVI. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPOINT/REMOVE MEMBERS OF THE ZONING AND LAND-USE COMMITTEE.

See above Item #15.

XVII. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPOINT/REMOVE MEMBERS OF THE BEAUTIFICATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE.

See above Item #15.

XVIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Public Safety Committee
- b. Zoning and Land-Use Committee
- c. Budget and Finance Committee
- d. Beautification and Cultural Affairs
- e. Outreach Committee
- f. Bylaws and Standing Rules Committee

See above Item #15.

XIX. LIAISON REPORTS

- a. FilmLA Liaison – Karen Martin
- b. Homelessness Liaison – Jose Arevalo and Ricky Angel
- c. Planning Liaison – Dean Anderson

See above Item #15.

XX. BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

See above Item #15.

XXI. Adjournment

Mr. Angel declared the Meeting adjourned at 9:04 p.m.; zero opposed.

The first paragraph of some Items, Motions/Resolutions and other wording may have been copied from the Agenda. Minutes written by DL, possibly edited by MHNC. The MHNC Minutes page is <http://mhnconline.org/agendas-minutes>.