

**MISSION HILLS
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**
PRESIDENT: David Kritzer
VICE-PRESIDENT: Dean Anderson
SECRETARY: Mangwi Atia
TREASURER: John DiGregorio



**MISSION HILLS
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**
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Minutes of the
**MISSION HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (MHNC)
GENERAL BOARD MEETING, Monday, April 2, 2018**

LAPD Mission Area Police Station, Timothy M. Falco Community Room
11121 Sepulveda Boulevard, 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 David Kritzer introduced himself and called the Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

b. Roll Call

Roll Call was taken by the President. Eight of the 11 Board Members were present at the Roll Call: Dean Anderson (Vice-President), Jose Arevalo, Mangwi Atia (Secretary), Jose Castillo, Joseph Fuchs, David Kritzer (President), Savannah Pinedo and Niranjala Tillakaratne. Andrew Charlton (unexcused), John DiGregorio (Treasurer) (excused) and Marisol Salazar (excused) were absent. 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. Eleven of the 14 Board Seats were filled (by election or appointment). Three Board Seats were vacant [Homeowner, Renter and Organizational/Employee; to apply, see <http://mhnconline.org/about-mhnc/board.>] Also attended: 15 Stakeholders and Guests.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS

Joe Shammass, Candidate for Congress (www.JoeShammass.com), described his background and requested that the MHNC host a candidate forum for the June 10th

election. Another commenter requested help appealing a beer and wine license denial of a sports bar at Lassen and Sepulveda, which is not open.

III. COMMUNITY/GOVERNMENT REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

a. LA City Council District Representative

Juan Solorio, Field Deputy for L.A. City District Seven Councilmember Monica Rodriguez (ofc. 818-756-8409; Juan.Solorio@LACity.org; <http://CD7.LACity.org>), said “we’re still working on the homelessness issue,” including the encampment at Chatsworth and the 118 Freeway; he encouraged reporting illegal activity.

b. LAPD Senior Lead Officer

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), reported that Part One crime is up from last year. He described grab-and-run thefts at stores. He encouraged calling the Police non-emergency phone number [1-877-ASK-LAPD (1-877-275-5273)] for non-emergencies and described special events out of the Mission Hills area to which he has been assigned. A homeless encampment cleanup was done at Chatsworth and the 405 Freeway; other homeless people were moved and removed from various places. L.A. City Municipal Code (LAMC) 85.02 [<https://www.lacity.org/for-residents/popular-services/los-angeles-municipal-code-lamc-8502-vehicle-dwelling>] describes yellow and green zones where recreational vehicles (RVs) are allowed or not allowed to park; yellow zones do not allow parking after 9:00 p.m. Mr. Solario noted that, currently, only two marijuana dispensaries in Mission Hills are legal.

c. Other Government Departments/Agencies

Semee Park, Director of Operations, L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) (213-978-1551; Semee.Park@LACity.org; www.EmpowerLA.org), noted that event approval requests are due by May 20th; check requests by June 1st; and credit card uses by June 20th.

d. Community Organizations

There were no other reports or announcements at this time.

IV. Discussion and possible action to approve Minutes

a. General Board Meeting February 5, 2018

The following correction was requested: page three, Item #V, “Atwi” should be “Atia” [also on page 11, Item #XXV].

MOTION (by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Arevalo): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its February 5, 2018 General Board Meeting as corrected.

MOTION PASSED; zero opposed; zero abstained.

b. Special Board Meeting February 26, 2018

MOTION (by Ms. Atia, seconded by Mr. Anderson): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its February 26, 2018 Special Board Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED; zero opposed; zero abstained.

c. General Board Meeting March 5, 2018

MOTION (by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Ms. Tillakaratne): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its March 5, 2018 General Board Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED; zero opposed; zero abstained.

V. Discussion and possible action to appoint new Board Members to the following vacancies:

- a. Organizational/Employee (1) 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.
 - b. Residential Renter (1) – Open to Stakeholders eighteen (18) years of age or older who rent a residence located within the NC boundaries.
 - c. Residential Homeowner (1) – Open to Stakeholders eighteen (18) years of age or older who rent a residence located within the NC boundaries.
- Mr. Kritzer noted the above; there were no appointments.

VI. Discussion and possible action on appointing Chairs and Members to the following Committees:

1. Public Safety
 - a. Current Chair - Vacant
 - b. Current Members – Dean Anderson, Dave Brown, John Samuelson
There were no other volunteers for this Committee.
2. Zoning and Land Use
 - a. Current Chair – Joe Fuchs
 - b. Current Members – Dean Anderson, Nelly Gonzalez, Rodney Gonzalez
There were no other volunteers for this Committee.
3. Budget and Finance
 - a. Current Chair – John DiGregorio
 - b. Current Members – Jose Castillo, Marisol Rodriguez
There were no other volunteers for this Committee.

4. Beautification and Cultural Affairs

a. Current Chair - Vacant

Ms. Tillakaratne volunteered to be the Chair.

b. Current Members - Joe Fuchs, Nelly Gonzalez, Rodney Gonzalez, Niranjala Tillakaratne.

It was noted that Savannah Pinedo already was a Member of this Committee.

5. Outreach

a. Current Chair – David Kritzer

b. Current Members - Jose Arevalo, Joe Fuchs, Nelly Gonzalez, Rodney Gonzalez

There were no other volunteers for this Committee.

6. Bylaws and Standing Rules

a. Current Chair – John DiGregorio

It was noted that Mangwi Atia is the Chair, not John DiGregorio.

b. Current Members – Dean Anderson, Mangwi Atia

It was noted that Mangwi Atia is the Chair and John DiGregorio is a Member.

VII. Further discussion and possible action On Appointment of Website “Point Person”

Mr. Kritzer explained the need to appoint a single “Point Person.” Mr. Fuchs and Mr. Anderson supported this.

MOTION (by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Fuchs): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council appoints Mangwi Atia as its website Point Person.

MOTION PASSED; zero opposed; zero abstained.

VIII. Discussion and possible action to accept the recommendation of Vice-President Dean Anderson re: selection of Administrative Assistant.

Mr. Kritzer explained the selection process. Mr. Anderson described that he “did three interviews . . . one candidate . . . is the most qualified.” He recommended David Levin: “he’s been with us 6 ½ years.”

MOTION (by Mr. Kritzer, seconded by Mr. Fuchs): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council accepts the recommendation of Vice-President Dean Anderson regarding the selection of an Administrative Assistant to appoint David Levin as the Administrative Assistant.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Atia wanted the Administrative Assistant to assist with identifying and utilizing community resources.

MOTION PASSED; zero opposed; one abstained (MHNC abstentions are counted as “yes” votes).

IX. Discussion and possible action re: Conditional Use Permit (CUP) application of Shell Gas Station located at 11274 Laurel Canyon Boulevard.

Copies were distributed, provided by Jennifer Oden, “here on behalf of the owner/operator,” of “Proposed Conditions for Shell Gas Station . . .” and of photos of the Station. She said “it’s been there several years”; they want a “Type 20 beer and wine License.” She assured that “no singles . . . would be allowed” and described conditions. Mr. Castillo was concerned that “grab and run” and other crime may be attracted. Mr. Anderson was concerned about loitering and more. No Motion was made or vote taken.

X. Discussion and possible action re: rental of smaller storage space for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Mr. Kritzer explained that he and Mr. Anderson looked and “there wasn’t a whole lot of stuff” in the space, which is at US Storage on Brand and Sepulveda near the Best Friends Animal Society. He described the contents and will bring a proposal to the next General Board Meeting. No Motion was made or vote taken.

XI. Discussion and possible action to approve funding up to \$100.00 for the purposes of sponsorship of Mission Hills Food Truck Festival to be held on April 7, 2018 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Copies were distributed of an event flyer. Stakeholder Rodney Gonzalez presented, saying it is “a great . . . outreach event.” Ms. Atia noted the need for 501(c)3 non-profit verification and other documents.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Kritzer): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council approves funding \$100.00 for the purposes of sponsorship of Mission Hills Food Truck Festival to be held on April 7, 2018 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., subject to budget approval.

DISCUSSION: there was discussion of staffing the MHNC event booth.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the seven eligible voters present with all seven in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Anderson, Arevalo, Atia, Castillo, Fuchs, Kritzer and Tillakaratne); zero opposed; zero abstained. Ms. Pinedo was ineligible to vote due to not yet being of age (18) to vote on financial matters.

XII. Discussion and possible action re: allocation of funds up to \$100.00 per month to stock dog waste bags to be purchased on an as needed basis at Brand and Devonwood Parks. Proposed by CD7 Councilwoman Monica Rodriguez.

Mr. Solario said “we’re working with Rec and Parks”; CD7 is not ready with a quote and he recommended Tabling this Item.

MOTION to TABLE (by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Kritzer): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council TABLES Item #XII.

MOTION to TABLE PASSED; zero opposed; zero abstained.

XIII. Discussion and possible action for MHNC to prepare and submit a Community Impact Statement (CIS) regarding multiple marijuana dispensaries in Mission Hills.

Mr. Kritzer explained issues of loitering and trash. It was recommended to contact the L.A. Dept. of Cannabis Regulation [<http://cannabis.lacity.org/department-cannabis-regulation>] to get information and/or complain. Mr. Fuchs described loitering at a dispensary “in front of kids going to school.” Mr. Kritzer observed that “they’re not supposed to be smoking [marijuana] in public.” Mr. Solario reported that CD7 “reached out to our City Attorney’s Office”; they will identify legal and illegal dispensaries. He and a Stakeholder urged reported illegal dispensaries.

MOTION to TABLE (by Mr. Kritzer, seconded by Ms. Atia): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council TABLES Item #XIII to get more information.

MOTION to TABLE PASSED; zero opposed; zero abstained.

XIV. LIAISON REPORTS

- a. FilmLA Liaison
- b. Homelessness Liaison
- c. Planning Liaison

Ms. Martin and Ms. Rathbone were not present and there were no reports.

XV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

Mr. Kritzer noted that Committees have not yet met; there were no reports.

XVI. BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Pinedo attended the Panorama City Youth Council Meeting and is considering establishing such a group in Mission Hills. It would address subjects such as education and school safety. An adult Board Member volunteer supervisor is needed. Ms. Pinedo requested that this be Agendized for the next MHNC Board Meeting. Mr. Kritzer relayed that Mr. DiGregorio communicated that funding trainings will be April 10th downtown, April 23rd in Canoga Park and April 24th downtown. Mr. Kritzer is checking the MHNC Post Office Box.

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to ADJOURN (by Mr. Castillo, seconded by Mr. Kritzer).

MOTION to ADJOURN PASSED; zero opposed; zero abstained.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 8:24 p.m.

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>.