

**MISSION HILLS  
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**  
EXECUTIVE OFFICERS  
PRESIDENT: Joe Fuchs  
VICE-PRESIDENT: Andy Charlton  
SECRETARY: Rebecca Ruiz-Penuela  
TREASURER: Wendy Diaz-Antonio



**MISSION HILLS  
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**  
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**MISSION HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (MHNC)**  
**GENERAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES**, Monday, August 2, 2021  
DRAFT Minutes [to be replaced by "Approved \_[Month]\_ \_[date]\_, 201\_[year]\_"]

In conformity with the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 (March 17, 2020) and due to concerns over COVID-19, this duly noticed meeting was held entirely online and telephonically.

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. Call to Order** by Joe Fuchs

President Fuchs called the Meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

**II. Roll Call**

Roll Call was taken by the President. Nine of the 12 Board Members were present at the Roll Call: Sherry Brown, Andrew Charlton (Vice-President), Wendy Diaz-Antonio (Treasurer), Daniel Escamilla, Joe Fuchs (President), Gabriel Garcia Mendoza, Rojelio Perez, Rebecca Ruiz-Penuela (Secretary) and Ronnie Veliz. Stephanie Ruiz-Perez arrived later.

Joe Cabrera (excused) and Jonathan Flores (unexcused) 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=su46~>), so the Board could take such votes. Twelve of the 13 Board Seats were filled (by election or appointment). One Board Seat was vacant [Business Owner]; to apply, see <http://mhnconline.org/about-mhnc/board>. Also attended: at least 11 Stakeholders and Guests.

*Board Member Stephanie Ruiz-Perez arrived at this time (7:08), making 10 Board Members present (the MHNC quorum is seven).*

**III. GOVERNMENT REPORT**

a. Office of Mayor Eric Garcetti- Caroline Menjivar.

Caroline Menjivar, Northeast Valley Representative for Mayor Eric Garcetti ([Caroline.Menjivar@LACity.org](mailto:Caroline.Menjivar@LACity.org); <http://LAMayor.org>), was not present and there was no report.

- b. Office of Councilmember Monica Rodriguez, CD7- Dominique Vitti.  
Dominique Vitti, a Field Deputy for L.A. City District Seven Councilmember Monica Rodriguez (ofc. 818-756-8409; [Dominique.Vitti@LACity.org](mailto:Dominique.Vitti@LACity.org); <http://CD7.LACity.org>), reported that the City Council increased enforcement regarding not blocking public sidewalks, especially by schools and parks. “A lot of cleaning” has been done and work to house unhoused people, especially by the 405 Freeway/Devonshire St. intersection. Parking restriction signs will be installed on Bartee between Minnehaha and Sharp. She explained enforcement, services and housing work. Mr. Veliz encouraged reading the Ordinance and believed there was a lack of evidence for it.

*The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #III. f.*

- c. Office of Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, 3rd District.  
Jessica Orellana, a Field Deputy for L.A. County District Three Supervisor Sheila Kuehl (818-901-3831; [JOrellana@bos.LACounty.gov](mailto:JOrellana@bos.LACounty.gov); <http://www.lacounty.gov/government/supervisors/sheila-kuehl>), was not present and there was no report.
- d. Office of Assemblymember Luz Rivas, AD39.  
Julissa Hernandez, a Field Representative for State 39th District Assemblymember Luz Rivas (504-3911; [Julissa.Hernandez@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Julissa.Hernandez@asm.ca.gov); <https://a39.asmdc.org>), reported that outreach was done to the homeless encampment at Minnehaha and Sharp; she can update.
- e. Office of State Senator Robert Hertzberg, SD18.  
Edwin Amaya, District Representative for State 18th District Senator Bob Hertzberg (818-901-5588; [Edwin.Amaya@sen.ca.gov](mailto:Edwin.Amaya@sen.ca.gov); <http://senate.ca.gov/hertzberg>), was not present and there was no report.
- f. Office of Congress-member Tony Cardenas, 29th District - Osvaldo Ramirez.  
U.S. 29th District of California Congressman Tony Cardenas (ofc. 818-221-3718; <http://cardenas.house.gov/contact>; <http://cardenas.house.gov>), reported on recent legislation. He encouraged communicating with elected officials to advise them of needs. He answered many questions and encouraged getting vaccinated and, if needed, tested for the COVID-19 Coronavirus.

*The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #III. d.*

- g. Office of LAUSD Board member Kelly Gonez, 6th District.  
Michael Menjivar, Deputy Director of Community Engagement for Kelly Gonez, LAUSD District Six Board Member and Board President (cell 818-358-5042; ofc. 213-241-6388; [Michael.Menjivar@lausd.net](mailto:Michael.Menjivar@lausd.net); <http://achieve.lausd.net/gonez>; Facebook and Instagram: @KellyForLASchools; Twitter: @Kelly4LASchools; Student Advisory Cabinet: [www.bit.ly/bd6studentcabinet](http://www.bit.ly/bd6studentcabinet)), reported.
- h. LAPD Senior Leads or other commanding officers.  
Philip Ruiz, an LAPD Mission Division Senior Lead Officer (cell/text 818-634-0519; ofc. 818-838-9843; [31524@LAPD.LACity.org](mailto:31524@LAPD.LACity.org);

[http://www.LAPDOnline.org/Mission\\_Community\\_Police\\_Station](http://www.LAPDOnline.org/Mission_Community_Police_Station)), was not present and there was no report.

i. Other Governmental Department/Agencies.

John Darnell, a Neighborhood Council Advocate, L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) [213-978-1551; [John.Darnell@LACity.org](mailto:John.Darnell@LACity.org); [www.EmpowerLA.org](http://www.EmpowerLA.org)], reported that a new Code of Conduct policy is available.

**IV. ADMINISTRATIVE – Discussion and/or possible action to approve Monthly Expenditure Reports (MERs).**

a. May 2021

Ms. Diaz-Antonio showed slides of the “Monthly Expenditure Report” and a receipt(s), statement(s) and/or invoice(s).

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Charlton, seconded by Ms. Ruiz-Penuela): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council approves its May, June and July 2021 Monthly Expenditure Reports as presented.

**FUNDING MOTION WITHDRAWN** (by Mr. Charlton).

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Charlton, seconded by Ms. Ruiz-Penuela): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council approves its May 2021 Monthly Expenditure Report as presented.

*Board Member Wendy Diaz-Antonio was unavailable to vote at this time, making nine Board Members present online (the MHNC Board quorum is seven).*

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the nine eligible voters present with all nine in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Charlton, Escamilla, Fuchs, Mendoza, Perez, Ruiz-Penuela, Ruiz-Perez and Veliz); zero opposed; zero abstained.

b. June 2021

Ms. Diaz-Antonio showed slides of the “Monthly Expenditure Report” and a receipt(s), statement(s) and/or invoice(s).

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Charlton, seconded by Ms. Ruiz-Penuela): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council approves its June 2021 Monthly Expenditure Report as presented.

*Board Member Wendy Diaz-Antonio returned by this time, making 10 Board Members present online (the MHNC Board quorum is seven).*

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 10 eligible voters present with all 10 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Charlton, Diaz-Antonio, Escamilla, Fuchs, Mendoza, Perez, Ruiz-Penuela, Ruiz-Perez and Veliz); zero opposed; zero abstained.

c. July 2021

Mr. Fuchs requested and it was agreed to TABLE this Item.

**V. ADMINISTRATIVE – Discussion and/or possible action to approve MHNC Board of Governors Meeting minutes.**

a. June 2021

The following correction was requested: page five, Item #6. a., “Mr. Fuchs nominated Wendy Diaz-Antonio” should be “Mr. Fuchs nominated Ronnie Veliz.”

**MOTION** (by Mr. Charlton, seconded by Ms. Ruiz-Penuela): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council Board of Governors approves the Minutes of its June 7, 2021 General Board Meeting as amended and its July 6, 2021 General Board Meeting as written.

**MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the 10 eligible voters present with six in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Charlton, Escamilla, Fuchs, Mendoza, Perez and Ruiz-Penuela); four opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Brown, Diaz-Antonio, Ruiz-Perez and Veliz); zero abstained..

b. July 2021

See above Item #5. a.

**VI. ADMINISTRATIVE - Discussion and possible action** to appoint a member of the MHNC as point of contact to reply to emails sent in by constituents or other agencies.

Ms. Ruiz-Penuela nominated herself. Mr. Veliz nominated Ms. Diaz-Antonio.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Fuchs, seconded by Mr. Veliz): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council appoints Ms. Diaz-Antonio and Ms. Ruiz-Penuela as the MHNC points of contact to reply to emails sent in by constituents or other agencies.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 10 eligible voters present with all 10 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Charlton. Diaz-Antonio, Escamilla, Fuchs, Mendoza, Perez, Ruiz-Penuela, Ruiz-Perez and Veliz); zero opposed; zero abstained.

**VII. ADMINISTRATIVE - Discussion and/or possible action** to change the colors on our MHNC banners located throughout Mission hills. (Rebeca Ruiz)

Ms. Ruiz-Penuela showed slides, explaining that the “banners . . . have been in shambles.” She described where the banners are. Light brown, dark brown, or the original purple backgrounds were available. Mr. Veliz encouraged surveying Stakeholders about their preference. Mr. Charlton noted that it took a year to choose the current background color.

**MOTION** (by Ms. Ruiz-Penuela, seconded by Ms. Brown): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council will change the colors on our MHNC banners located throughout Mission Hills.

**MOTION to TABLE** (by Mr. Charlton, seconded by Mr. Fuchs): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council TABLES Item #s VII. and VIII.

**MOTION to TABLE PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 10 eligible voters present with all 10 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Charlton, Diaz-Antonio, Escamilla, Fuchs, Mendoza, Perez, Ruiz-Penuela, Ruiz-Perez and Veliz); zero opposed; zero abstained.

Mr. Fuchs will re-Agendize this.

**VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE - Discussion and possible action** to approve the cost of the new MHNC banners with the improved color change. (Rebeca Ruiz)

See above Item #VII. Mr. Fuchs will re-Agendize this.

**IX. PUBLIC SAFTEY - Discussion and/or possible action** for a community clean up sponsored by Cal-Trans in partnership with the MHNC and the Granada Hills NC at the abandoned homeless encampments throughout Mission Hills freeway on ramps. Locations and dates to be approved.

Mr. Fuchs clarified that this refers to the southbound 405 Freeway/Devonshire St. off-ramp. He explained that the MHNC for at least 1 ½ years has been working with Caltrans and CD7 to get that area cleaned up.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Fuchs, seconded by Mr. Perez): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council will co-sponsor a community clean up sponsored by Cal-Trans in partnership with the MHNC and the Granada Hills Neighborhood Councils at the abandoned homeless encampment at the southbound 405 and Devonshire off-ramp on August 14, 2021 from 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 10 eligible voters present with all 10 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Charlton, Diaz-Antonio, Escamilla, Fuchs, Mendoza, Perez, Ruiz-Penuela, Ruiz-Perez and Veliz); zero opposed; zero abstained.

**X. Zoning and Land use - Discussion and/or possible action** regarding the possible development project at 15149 Mission Hills Road behind Holy Cross hospital.

**MOTION to POSTPONE** (by Mr. Fuchs, seconded by Mr. Charlton): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council POSTPONES Item #X to the next Board meeting.

**MOTION to POSTPONE PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 10 eligible voters present with all 10 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Brown, Charlton, Diaz-Antonio, Escamilla, Fuchs, Mendoza, Perez, Ruiz-Penuela, Ruiz-Perez and Veliz); zero opposed; zero abstained.

**XI. OPERATIONS – Discussion and/or possible action** regarding filling committee chair and members positions as required. Article VII Section 3 of MHNC’s bylaws

state: "Standing Committees shall be comprised of at least two (2) Board members and may include any interested Stakeholders. All Committee Chairs shall be appointed by the President and confirmed by the Board. With the exception of the Executive Committee, Committee members shall be appointed by the President and ratified by the Board."

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

**MOTION to POSTPONE** (by Mr. Fuchs, seconded by Mr. Charlton): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council POSTPONES Item #XI to the September Board meeting.

**MOTION to POSTPONE PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 10 eligible voters present with all 10 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Brown, Charlton, Diaz-Antonio, Escamilla, Fuchs, Mendoza, Perez, Ruiz-Penuela, Ruiz-Perez and Veliz); zero opposed; zero abstained.

## **XII. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

- a. Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Board's jurisdiction.

Stakeholder John Hales said that City Council File 12-0460-S4, regarding Processes and Procedures between the City and Neighborhood Councils, "looks to reduce or remove any interactions with the City in relation to planning and zoning" and that one-third of Neighborhood Councils have submitted statements against it. Ms. Brown requested that an Outreach Committee report be Agendized for the next Board meeting. They "had a great meeting" July 13th. She reported that Harvard-Westlake school purchased the Weddington property; she wanted to question Harvard-Westlake about their intended property uses. Mr. Fuchs encouraged sending Agenda items to him by one week before the next Board meeting.

## **XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION to ADJOURN** (by Mr. Fuchs, seconded by Ms. Ruiz-Perez).

**MOTION to ADJOURN PASSED** unanimously; zero opposed; zero abstained.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 10:14 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>.*