

**MISSION HILLS
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**
EXECUTIVE OFFICERS
PRESIDENT: Brad Klimovitch
VICE-PRESIDENT: Jesse Martinez
SECRETARY: Richard Flores
TREASURER: Maribel Carrillo



**MISSION HILLS
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MISSION HILLS
Neighborhood Council

Minutes of the
MISSION HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (MHNC)
GENERAL BOARD MEETING
Monday, April 7, 2014

at the 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, not an exact, verbatim, word-for-word transcript of what was said at a Meeting. The only two exceptions are the Motions shown in italics and quotes shown with quotation marks (“ ”) at the beginning and ending of a word or words. The Minutes are not, nor were they ever meant to be, a comprehensive record of what was said about an issue or project.

1. Call to Order / Introductions

President Brad Klimovitch introduced himself and called the Meeting to order at 7:12 p.m. He noted that this is the MHNC’s 10th anniversary.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by former Board Member Roberto Martin.

3. Roll Call

Roll Call was taken by the Assistant Secretary. Ten of the eleven Board Members were present at the beginning of the Meeting: Jose Arevalo, Maribel Carrillo, Richard Flores, Raymond Garcia, Tom Johnson, Brad Klimovitch, Jesse Martinez, Borzou Rahimi, Clint Scott and Richard Tocher. Mooshy Ghassedi arrived later. Board Members absent: none. The MHNC quorum (the minimum number of Board Members needing to be present to take binding votes on Agendized Items) is seven (see <http://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/Mission-Hills-NC-Bylaws.pdf>), so the Board could take such votes. Eleven of the 14 Board Seats were filled. Three Board Seats were vacant: At Large, Business Owner and Youth Representative (16-25 years old). Also attending: approximately 50 Stakeholders and Guests.

4. Introduction of newly elected MHNC Members, and Oath of Office.

MHNC Co-Founder and former Board Member Tom Mole led the Board, which was elected at the March 8th Election, in reading aloud the Oath of Office. [Applause.]

5. Nomination of MHNC President

Mr. Klimovitch introduced Lydia Grant, BONC [L.A. Board of Neighborhood Commissioners] Commissioner [Lydia.Grant@LACity.org; 213.978.1551; cell 818.470.6629; www.EmpowerLA.org], and Melvin Canas, Project Coordinator, L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) (213-978-1551; Melvin.Canas@LACity.org; www.EmpowerLA.org). Mr. Klimovitch noted that three Board Seats are still available: At Large, Business Owner and Youth Representative (16-25 years old). Ms. Grant explained BONC's role, Mr. Canas described DONE's role and both encouraged contacting them for help. Mr. Canas described the Executive Board voting procedure and read the MHNC Bylaws description of the President's responsibilities. Mr. Martinez nominated Brad Klimovitch to be President; Mr. Klimovitch accepted the nomination and was elected by acclamation. He noted that "community outreach" is part of all Board Members' responsibilities and that Board Members need the support of all Stakeholders.

6. Nomination of MHNC Vice-President

Mr. Canas read the MHNC Bylaws description of the Vice-President's responsibilities. Mr. Klimovitch nominated Jesse Martinez to be Vice-President; Mr. Martinez accepted the nomination and was elected by acclamation. He encouraged everyone to "reach out to recruit new people."

7. Nomination of MHNC Secretary

Mr. Canas read the MHNC Bylaws description of the Secretary's responsibilities. Mr. Klimovitch nominated Richard Flores to be Secretary; Mr. Flores accepted the nomination and was elected by acclamation. He thanked everyone for their support.

Board Member Mooshy Ghassedi arrived around this time.

8. Nomination of MHNC Treasurer

Mr. Canas read the MHNC Bylaws description of the Treasurer's responsibilities. Mr. Klimovitch nominated Maribel Carrillo to be Treasurer; Ms. Carrillo accepted the nomination and was elected by acclamation. She thanked everyone for their support and Mr. Martinez for recruiting her. Mr. Canas reminded the Board that their Board Roster of contact information is needed as soon as possible by DONE. Also, the MHNC needs to appoint and vote upon a P-Card (Purchase Card) Holder and Second Signatory.

9. Community Service Recognition Awards: Jerrilyn Hayashi and John Samuelson.
Mr. Klimovitch noted that Ms. Hayashi and Mr. Samuelson were unable to attend this Meeting but will be given their Certificates of Appreciation.

10. Community Service Recognition Awards: Past MHNC Members.
Mr. Klimovitch introduced Stakeholders for recognition of their community service, who then received Certificates of Appreciation. [Applause.] He described how past Board Members recruited him. He presented a framed photo of former Board Members to Stakeholder Betty Ley.

Board Member Tom Johnson left at this time.

11. Approval of Board Minutes: Feb. 3, 2014 Meeting.

MOTION (by Mr. Klimovitch, seconded by Mr. Arevalo): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its February 3, 2014 Board of Governors Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with all 10 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Arevalo, Carrillo, Flores, Garcia, Ghassedi, Klimovitch, Martinez, Rahimi, Scott and Tocher).

12. Executive Officer Report(s).

Mr. Klimovitch reported that the Mission Hills sign/monument at the corner of Brand and Sepulveda is “waiting for finishing touches”; he will advise when it is ready to be dedicated. Committee Chairs are needed for the Outreach, Beautification and Public Safety Committees. He encouraged outreach and event organizing help.

13. Briefing on Budget & Finance and other operational/administrative matters.

Approve MHNC Budget. Set next Budget and Finance Committee meeting date. Mr. Klimovitch explained that outgoing Treasurer Mr. Martinez will train new Treasurer Ms. Carrillo. Mr. Martinez distributed and reviewed copies of the “MHNC 2013-2014 Profit & Loss Detail July through June, 2014” and the “[MHNC] Budget for Fiscal Year July 2013-June 2014” and reviewed recent expenditures. Election outreach was allocated \$4,500; \$4,363.72 was spent. A mailer was sent to 7,000 Mission Hills households at a cost of \$2,030.40. He reminded that the remaining funding needs to be allocated during this Fiscal Year (ending June 30th) or it will be swept back by the City. He encouraged funding ideas. Mr. Klimovitch reminded Stakeholders that they “have a say” in how funding is allocated. He said that the Daily News Election ad was purchased “in collaboration” with other Neighborhood Councils and that the Committee will meet “within the next couple of weeks.”

14. Reports / announcements from Public Officials, Community Representatives.

Joseph Chicas, of L.A. Mayor Eric Garcetti’s Office of Veterans Affairs, announced and copies were distributed of a flier for the “Veterans & Family Resource Expo” Wednesday, June 18th, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the National Guard Armory, 17330 Victory Blvd., Van Nuys (818-701-9800). Ruben Zaragoza, Senior Area Director for L.A. City District Seven Councilman Felipe Fuentes (818-919-8315; Ruben.Zaragoza@LACity.org; <http://CD7.LACity.org>), presented Certificates of Appreciation for former Board Members Jerrilyn Hayashi and John Samuelson. He reported that CD7 asks land developers “have you spoken to the community?” There will be a May 9th 6:00-10:00 p.m. “Battle of the Bands” at Pacoima’s Richie Havens Park; bands are sought.

15. Report from LAPD Senior Lead Officer, Basic Car 19A43 SLO Phil Ruiz.

Philip Ruiz, LAPD Mission Division Senior Lead Officer (mobile/text 818-634-0519; office 818-838-9843; 31524@LAPD.LACity.org; http://www.LAPDonline.org/Mission_Community_Police_Station), reviewed recent crime statistics. Sepulveda between Devonshire and Lassen is being “hit hard.” He reminded not to “leave anything in plain sight” in vehicles and described recent arrests. He encouraged reporting suspicious activity to him or the LAPD non-

emergency number (818) 734-2223 [or 1-877-ASK-LAPD]. Mr. Zaragoza encouraged “immediately” calling 3-1-1 to report graffiti “to show . . . we need more funding.” Mr. Martinez encouraged to download and use the “MyLA311” phone application. Officer Ruiz clarified that legal marijuana users are only supposed to use it, like alcohol, at their home.

16. Briefing on Committee activities.

Outreach: Mooshy Ghassedi

Ms. Ghassedi encouraged Stakeholders’ input.

Zoning and Land Use: Ray Garcia and Brad Klimovitch

Mr. Garcia reported that the Committee met and discussed that “the DWP promised to take some action” about the apparently illegal uses at 14825 Fox St. He said that “we met with a DWP person . . . the berm is gone; they put up a fence . . . it’s right on the corner of Chatsworth and Fox.” Mr. Klimovitch added that “the problem is mostly gone.”

Elections: Jesse Martinez

Mr. Martinez thanked volunteers, gave them Certificates of Appreciation and described his valuable experience as an Assistant Poll Manager for three other Neighborhood Councils.

Public Safety: Betty Ley & Tom Johnson

Mr. Klimovitch reported for Mr. Johnson that emergency preparedness guides are available; more information is at the www.Ready.gov website. Ms. Ley reminded “not to drink and drive” and, for security, to park your vehicle “in your garage [or] in a lit area.” She reported that “a lot of . . . criminals are going through your trash . . . it needs to be cross-shredded.” She encouraged that, if you see people on bicycles cruising a street while wearing dark clothes and wearing a backpack, to report it to the police as suspicious activity. A Stakeholder encouraged disposing of papers with personal information on them into more than one trash can. Ms. Ley also reported that the LAPD, Caltrans, the California Highway Patrol, City Council District Seven and State Assembly staff are working to deal with “homeless encampments near freeway ramps.” Also, some prostitutes are “human trafficking” victims; the Mary Magdalene Project can help them. Stakeholder Richard Arroyo was concerned that the Highway Patrol is stopping drivers in a dimly-lit area by the off ramp in their neighborhood; he encouraged the MHNC to help get a light installed for officers’ and neighbors’ safety.

New Business

17. Motion by Brad Klimovitch: [see the below Motion].

Mr. Klimovitch described the Motion.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Klimovitch, seconded by Mr. Arevalo): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council moves \$136.28 in unspent Election Outreach funds from Budget Line 34 to Line 28 Board Retreat.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with all 10 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Arevalo, Carrillo, Flores, Garcia, Ghassedi, Klimovitch, Martinez, Rahimi, Scott and Tocher).

18. Motion by Brad Klimovitch: [see the below Motion].

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Klimovitch, seconded by Mr. Martinez): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council moves \$191.28 in unspent National Night Out funds from Budget Line 37 to Line 28 Board Retreat.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with all 10 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Arevalo, Carrillo, Flores, Garcia, Ghassedi, Klimovitch, Martinez, Rahimi, Scott and Tocher).

19. Motion by Brad Klimovitch: [see the below Motion].

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Klimovitch, seconded by Mr. Garcia): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council moves \$100.00 from the Staffing/Temp Help Budget Line 29 to Line 28 Board Retreat.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with all 10 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Arevalo, Carrillo, Flores, Garcia, Ghassedi, Klimovitch, Martinez, Rahimi, Scott and Tocher).

20. Motion by Brad Klimovitch: [see the below Motion].

Mr. Klimovitch described the Motion.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Klimovitch, seconded by Mr. Tocher): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council allocates \$427.79 for an MHNC Board Retreat Meeting Department of Neighborhood Empowerment New Board Training Session Saturday April 26, 2014 from 12:30 p.m. until 2:30 p.m. at Buon Gusto Ristorante in Mission Hills.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with all 10 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Arevalo, Carrillo, Flores, Garcia, Ghassedi, Klimovitch, Martinez, Rahimi, Scott and Tocher).

21. Motion by Brad Klimovitch: [see the below Motion].

Mr. Klimovitch explained the Motion and described the “excellent” location.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Klimovitch, seconded by Ms. Ghassedi): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council allocates \$1250.00 already earmarked on Budget Line 39 to host the “Annual Senior Outreach Event” at the Bermuda Mobile Home Park in Mission Hills on Saturday May 24, 2014 from 12pm to 3pm.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with all 10 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Arevalo, Carrillo, Flores, Garcia, Ghassedi, Klimovitch, Martinez, Rahimi, Scott and Tocher).

22. Motion by Brad Klimovitch: [see the below Motion].

Mr. Klimovitch described the event.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Klimovitch, seconded by Mr. Martinez): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council allocates \$3000.00 already earmarked on Budget Line 38 to host the “Annual Movies in the Park Event” at the newly remodeled Andres Pico Adobe in Mission Hills on Saturday June 7, 2014 from 5 pm to 10 pm.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Klimovitch explained that the funding would be for venue rental, a projectionist, food and other event expenses.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with all 10 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Arevalo, Carrillo, Flores, Garcia, Ghassedi, Klimovitch, Martinez, Rahimi, Scott and Tocher.)

Old Business: None

23. Housekeeping / Council Business

There was no other MHNC business at this time.

24. General Public Comments

Juan Gonzalez, of the SoCal Gas Company, reported that customers “will receive notification” in the next 30-45 days that gas meters will be taking readings “wirelessly . . . back to [the SoCal Gas] headquarters . . . you will still continue to receive a bill.” They will be working “to replace the front plate” of the meter, which “takes 10-15 minutes.” He encouraged that, if you are concerned about who is doing the work, to call them [1-877-238-0092; <http://www.socalgas.com>].

Shonzael Faye, Executive Director of the Imagination Connection (818.624.6237; Shon.F@ImaginationConnection.org; www.ImaginationConnection.org), reported that “we’ve been working with senior citizens and at-risk youth.” He requested and Mr. Klimovitch agreed to Agendize a presentation by them, maybe in May or June.

Pastor Bill of “the little red brick church south of Devonshire,” Chapel of the Cross, 10000 Sepulveda Blvd., announced an April 26th 10:00 a.m. Health Fair there with “free screenings.”

25. Adjournment

MOTION (by Mr. Klimovitch, seconded by Mr. Flores): to **ADJOURN** the Meeting.

MOTION PASSED without any objection.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 9:36 p.m.

Minutes written by DL.