

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



**MISSION HILLS
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**
PO Box 7604
Mission Hills, CA 91346
Telephone: 818-902-2361
E-mail: Board@MHNCOnline.org
Website: www.MHNCOnline.org



Minutes of the
**MISSION HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (MHNC)
GENERAL BOARD MEETING
Monday, May 5, 2014**

at the LAPD Mission Area Police Station, Timothy M. Falco Community Room
11121 Sepulveda Boulevard, Mission Hills, CA 91345

1. Call to Order/Introductions

President Brad Klimovitch introduced himself and called the Meeting to order at 6:55 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

3. Roll Call

Mr. Klimovitch explained that Speaker Cards were available. Roll Call was taken by the Secretary. Ten of the 12 Board Members were present at the beginning of the Meeting: Jose Arevalo, Maribel Carrillo, Richard Flores, Raymond Garcia, Mooshy Ghassedi, Brad Klimovitch, Jesse Martinez, Borzou Rahimi, Guillermo Salamanca, Richard Tocher. Board Member Tom Johnson arrived later. Board Member absent: Clint Scott (excused). 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. All 12 of the 12 Board Seats were filled. No Board Seats were vacant. Also attending: 20 Stakeholders and Guests.

4. Approval of Minutes

MOTION (by Mr. Klimovitch, seconded by Mr. Arevalo): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its April 26, 2014 Board of Governors Meeting as written.

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

The following correction was requested to the May 1, 2014 Special Board of Governors Meeting Minutes Item #11: "\$1,539.34" should be "\$1,983.85."

MOTION (by Mr. Klimovitch, seconded by Mr. Arevalo): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its May 1, 2014 Special Board of Governors Meeting as corrected.

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

5. Executive Officer Report(s).

Mr. Klimovitch reported that the Mission Hills sign/monument to be installed at Sepulveda and Brand Blvds. will be dedicated June 7th before the Movie in the Park. The MHNC will sponsor a May 24th, 12:00 – 3:00 free seniors event at Bermuda Mobile Home Park.

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

Approve MHNC Budget. Set MHNC Board/ Budget and Finance Committee meeting for June 2014 to set fiscal year budget July 2014 through June 2015.

Treasurer: Ms. Carrillo reported that "all our expenses are detailed" in the February, March and April 2014 Monthly Expenditure Reports. The balance is \$24,573.36.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Martinez, seconded by Mr. Arevalo): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council approves its February 2014 Monthly Expenditure Report as presented.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Martinez reviewed expenses. Mr. Klimovitch reminded that all Board Members except Mr. Salamanca are eligible to vote on funding Motions.

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

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Martinez, seconded by Mr. Arevalo): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council approves its March 2014 Monthly Expenditure Report as presented.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Martinez reviewed expenses and noted that "for the Election we came in under budget."

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

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Martinez, seconded by Mr. Arevalo): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council approves its April 2014 Monthly Expenditure Report as presented.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Martinez reviewed expenses.

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

Mr. Martinez noted that line item #43 is \$114.19, an average of “\$11 per meeting” for “food and refreshments.” Mr. Klimovitch explained where the MHNC gets its funding and that it partners in “community collaboration” with such organizations as Hamer Toyota and Galpin Honda. The MHNC will need to decide how to spend the \$37,000 available during the next Fiscal Year from July 1st [2014] through June 30th [2015]. Ms. Carrillo reminded that the Demand Warrant deadline is May 15th; the P-Card [Purchase Card] deadline is June 13th. Mr. Klimovitch requested to have a Special Meeting to finish allocating this Fiscal Year’s funds. He and Mr. Martinez encouraged Stakeholders to submit funding ideas. The Board agreed to have a Special Board Meeting on Wednesday, June 4th at 6:30 p.m.

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

Ruben Zaragoza, Senior Area Director for L.A. City District Seven Councilman Felipe Fuentes (office 818- 485-0600; Ruben.Zaragoza@LACity.org), encouraged submitting requests for tree-trimming and other City services. Officials will outreach June 7th to remind residents that fireworks are illegal in Los Angeles and to invite them to official fireworks shows. He reported that “the Council Office did agree to sponsor the fireworks party car.” Mr. Martinez clarified that “the 4th of July Committee . . . is totally not related to the MHNC.”

Greg Bartz, Community Liaison, DWP (L.A. Dept. of Water and Power) (213-367-2800, Greg.Bartz@ladwp.com), said of their “Contact” Newsletter that “a lot of the material in it is very, very informative.” Customer Service calling hours are Mondays-Fridays 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. and Saturdays 7:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. The “Turf Removal Rebate” program gives \$2 per square foot of turf replaced by drought-tolerant plants up to a maximum of 2,000 square feet or \$4,000. He cautioned to be aware of phone scammers pretending to be DWP representatives and to call if you see suspicious activity involving DWP equipment.

8. 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. If you see suspicious activity, such as a bicyclist with a backpack cruising back and forth, it’s possible “they’ve got their tools in that bag.” You can also report tagging (“don’t get involved” with the tagger(s)) and private fireworks, which are illegal in Los Angeles. Mr. Martinez described copper wire theft; “it takes them five minutes to take out . . . we have to keep our eyes open.”

Board Member Tom Johnson arrived by this time, making 11 Board Members present (the MHNC quorum is seven).

[This Agenda Item was continued after Item #9.] Mr. Flores was concerned that a safety flier “profiles” young people, saying “95% who dress like this aren’t taggers.”

9. Briefing on Committee activities.

Outreach: Jose Arevalo

Mr. Arevalo reminded about the May 24th, 12:00 – 3:00 free seniors event at Bermuda Mobile Home Park and the June 7th Mission Hills sign/monument installation before the Movie in the Park. Also, 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].

Zoning and Land Use: Ray Garcia

Mr. Garcia indicated that there was no report.

Public Safety: Betty Ley & Tom Johnson

Mr. Johnson reported that the next Valley Disaster Preparedness Fair will be held September 27, 2014.

Beautification and Cultural Affairs

Mr. Tocher will work with Mr. Martinez.

New Business

10. Presentation by Shon Faye from the Imagination Connection. This a 501(c)3 Non-Profit Organization located in Mission Hills, California. Its mission is to take the arts (as a mobile arts program) to Seniors, Adults with Developmental Disabilities, At-Risk Youth, Alzheimer’s Patients and Veterans. Shonzael Faye, Executive Director of the Imagination Connection (IC) (818.624.6237; Shon.F@ImaginationConnection.org; www.ImaginationConnection.org), showed a short film and presented. Stakeholders encouraged working with the IC, which started in 2011 and serves people 10 to 15 participants per week from around the Valley every other Sunday at Bermuda Mobile Home Park and other locations. Volunteers are needed.

11. Motion by Brad Klimovitch to approve a Neighborhood Purpose Grant for \$2000.00 to the Imagination Connection.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Klimovitch, seconded by Ms. Carrillo): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council approves a Neighborhood Purposes Grant for \$3,500.00 to the Imagination Connection.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Klimovitch explained that the funding would be used for supplies. There was discussion about the amount of the proposed allocation.

FUNDING MOTION FAILED by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with four in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Carrillo, Garcia, Klimovitch and Rahimi); six opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Arevalo, Flores, Ghassedi, Johnson, Martinez and Tocher).

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Klimovitch, seconded by Mr. Garcia): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council approves a Neighborhood Purposes Grant for \$2,000.00 to the Imagination Connection.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Klimovitch explained that the funding would be used for supplies.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with nine in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Carrillo, Flores, Garcia, Ghassedi, Johnson, Klimovitch, Martinez, Rahimi and Tocher); one opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Arevalo).

12. **Presentation** by President and CEO Ken Craft, with the Hope of the Valley Rescue Mission. *[This paragraph is from the Agenda.]* Having served nearly 20 years as a pastor, 6 years with a Fortune 500 company and another 8 years as a Mission Director of a homeless shelter, he is committed to engaging his heart and head when it comes to overseeing the work of the Mission. He realizes that a successful Rescue Mission must maintain a balance between finances and faith, passion and purpose, compassion and conviction. Don’t expect to find Ken huddled in his office. His hands on approach to caring for the needs of the homeless and hungry serve as a model of servant leadership to his staff and other volunteers. His passion is to help “the least of these” and assist them on the road to recovery. Hope of the Valley Mission Statement: Hope of the Valley Rescue Mission exists to tangibly demonstrate God’s love to the Hungry, Homeless and Hurting of the San Fernando Valley by offering Hope, Hot Meals, Housing, Health Services and Healing to those in need.

Mr. Kraft said that “last year we served over 100,000 hot meals” and described other facilities and programs available. He announced that they purchased the building across the street to build to build a “recuperative care shelter,” a “state-of-the-art facility,” for which they applied to the City for permits. He stated “the recidivism rate” can “dramatically” drop when such services are provided. “This is what’s known as a closed-end shelter . . . you can’t walk up and get a meal . . . [or] a shower.” Jonathan Lopez, representing Kaiser Permanente, said “they’re an excellent organization . . . Kaiser is sponsoring them financially . . . the closest recuperative care center is downtown.” Mr. Kraft said “there will not be a soup kitchen” at the Mission Hills facility. Mr. Klimovitch recommended more community outreach by the MHNC and the Rescue Mission. A straw (unofficial) poll of Stakeholders present indicated that 11 supported the project; none opposed.

13. **Motion** [see below Motion].

MOTION (by Mr. Klimovitch, seconded by Mr. Rahimi): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council will write a general letter of support for the Hope of the Valley Rescue Mission located at 11134 Sepulveda Blvd. Mission Hills Ca. 91345.

MOTION FAILED by a roll call vote of the eleven eligible voters present with five in

favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Carrillo, Ghassedi, Johnson, Rahimi and Tocher); three opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Arevalo, Garcia and Martinez); three abstained (Flores, Klimovitch and Salamanca).

- 14. Request for volunteers** to assist the MHNC Outreach Committee during the “Annual Senior Outreach Event” at the Bermuda Mobile Home Park in Mission Hills on Saturday May 24, 2014 from 12pm to 3pm.
Mr. Klimovitch noted the above.

- 15. Motion** [see below Motion].

MOTION (by Mr. Klimovitch, seconded by Mr. Martinez): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council will hold a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony Saturday June 7, 2014 at 5pm. prior to the “Annual Movies in the Park Event”, at the corner of Sepulveda Blvd. and Brand Blvd. to dedicate to the “Welcome to Mission Hills” sign to the stakeholders of our community.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the eleven eligible voters present with all 11 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Arevalo, Carrillo, Flores, Garcia, Ghassedi, Johnson, Klimovitch, Martinez, Rahimi, Salamanca and Tocher).

- 16. Request for volunteers** to assist the MHNC Outreach Committee during the Annual Movies in the Park Event at the newly remodeled Andres Pico Adobe in Mission Hills on Saturday June 7, 2014 from 6pm to 10pm.
Mr. Klimovitch noted the above.

Old Business: None

There was no old business at this time.

- 17. Housekeeping/Council Business.**

Mr. Martinez reported that information is available about the City’s proposed half-cent sales tax increase.

- 18. General Public Comments**

Chris Corral, a San Fernando High School Teacher, will request around \$1,000 in funding for sports equipment, especially uniforms. They’ve raised \$700 so far. Mr. Klimovitch indicated that this may be agendaized for a Special Board Meeting. Bob Hertzberg, State Senate 18th District Candidate, described his extensive government experience and reform interests.

- 19. Adjournment**

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

MOTION PASSED with no objection.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 9:23 p.m.

Minutes written by DL.