

**MISSION HILLS
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**
EXECUTIVE OFFICERS
PRESIDENT: Jesse Martinez
VICE-PRESIDENT: open
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, September 8, 2014

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 Jesse Martinez introduced himself and called the Meeting to order at 6:46 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

3. Roll Call

Roll Call was taken by the Minutes Writer. Eight of the 11 Board Members were present at the beginning of the Meeting: Jose Arevalo, Maribel Carrillo, Mooshy Ghassedi, Tom Johnson, Jesse Martinez, Guillermo Salamanca, Clint Scott, Richard Tocher. Board Member Borzou Rahimi arrived later. Two Board Members were absent: Richard Flores and Raymond Garcia (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 <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 (by election or appointment). Three Board Seats were vacant: At Large, Business Owner and Youth. Also attending: 21 Stakeholders and Guests.

4. Approval of Minutes

MOTION (by Mr. Martinez, seconded by Mr. Arevalo): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its August 4, 2014 Board of Governors Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the eight eligible voters present with all eight in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Arevalo, Carrillo, Ghassedi, Johnson, Martinez, Salamanca, Scott and Tocher)

5. Report from LAPD Senior Lead Officer, Basic Car 19A43.

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), reported that crime is down “-6%” from one year ago. There are continuing issues on “the Sepulveda corridor.”

Board Member Borzou Rahimi arrived at this time, making nine Board Members present (the MHNC quorum is seven).

Officer Ruiz continued by describing the arrest of a shoplifting suspect and a shooter.

6. Executive Officer Report.

There was no report at this time.

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

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #13.*] Yolanda Fuentes, District Director for L.A. City District Seven Councilman Felipe Fuentes (818-756-8409; Yolanda.Fuentes@LACity.org), encouraged contacting her for help. The Brand Blvd. median sprinkler will be repaired. A City Ordinance requires murals to be maintained; CD7 is “working with the artist” of the San Fernando High School mural on Laurel Canyon Blvd.

Franklin Ochoa, Field Representative for State 39th District Assemblyman Raul Bocanegra (818-504-3911; Franklin.Ochoa@asm.ca.gov; <http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a39>), reported that 16 of the Assemblyman’s Bills are “on their way to the Governor’s Office,” including SB1839, the Film Tax Credit bill.

[There was no Agenda #8 or #9.]

10. Briefing on Committee activities.

Outreach: Mooshy Ghassedi
Ms. Ghassedi indicated that there was no report.

Zoning and Land Use: Ray Garcia & Borzou Rahimi

Mr. Scott reported for Mr. Garcia that the Committee met August 27th and had “a nice turnout.” The Primestor project [the proposed Primestor/Mission Hills Plaza redevelopment at 10310 - 10430 Sepulveda Blvd., bounded by Devonshire St., San Jose St. and Columbus Ave.) and bicycle lanes striping were discussed. The Committee recommended that President Martinez draft a letter to Primestor CEO and Co-Founder Arturo Sneider for him to present at the October MHNC Board Meeting with specific information that the Committee requested, then for the Board to follow up to invite City Councilman Fuentes to a separate Town Hall Meeting. [See below Item #16.] Regarding the bike lanes, Mr. Scott reported that “the plans are all done.” Mr. Martinez added that L.A. City Planning Dept. Planner Tim Fremaux [Tim.Fremaux@LACity.org] presented to the MHNC [August 4, 2014]. Mr. Martinez requested the Committee to “put together a survey” to guide the Board on recommendations to the City.

Public Safety: Tom Johnson

Mr. Johnson reminded about the free Valley Disaster Preparedness Fair will be Saturday, September 27th, 10:00-2:00 at Fire Station 87 [10124 Balboa Blvd., just south of Devonshire St., Granada Hills]. Information is available about preparing for before, during and after a disaster, including when and how to turn off and on the gas. Emergency services “will be overwhelmed” if there is a major disaster.

Beautification: Richard Tocher

Mr. Tocher reported that the Committee meets on second and fourth Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at Chapel of the Cross Church, 10000 Sepulveda Blvd.; all are welcome. The mural rework project on Chatsworth Ave at the 405 freeway “was clearly abandoned” but restoration work cannot proceed because of legal issues. The Committee is seeking more project ideas and will survey Stakeholders through the website.

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

Approve MHNC August expenditure report.

Ms. Carrillo reviewed recent expenditures.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Martinez, seconded by Mr. Rahimi): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council approves its August 2014 Monthly Expenditure Report.

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, Ghassedi, Johnson, Martinez, Rahimi, Salamanca, Scott and Tocher).

12. Briefing of 2014 Budget Day (8/16/14): Maribel Carrillo & Jose Arevalo

Ms. Carrillo reported that the L.A. City Budget is available at <http://www.lamayor.org/openbudget>. Mr. Arevalo described Budget Day and the Budget Advocates [<http://BudgetAdvocatesLA.com>], who encourage feedback.

13. Q&A with Deputy City Attorney Ayelet Feiman: Purpose to meet Deputy City Attorney Assigned to Mission Hills area.

Ayelet Feiman (818.374.6837; Ayelet.Feiman@LACity.org; <http://atty.LACity.org/Criminal/NeighborhoodProsecutorProgram/index.htm>), described her background. The Neighborhood Prosecutor Program is “to ticket long-standing problems.” It is separate from the City Attorney’s Neighborhood Council Advice Division. Neighborhood Prosecutors “prosecute misdemeanors.” The problem could be a problem home. She encouraged contacting her about long-standing issues. They are working to shut illegal marijuana dispensaries, which continue to “pop up.” She clarified that “ignorance is no defense . . . the property owner is just as responsible . . . we prosecute both” when owners and/or landlords rent to illegal businesses. Lawsuits often include conditions which property owners and/or operators must meet to avoid prosecution, such as trash pickup, graffiti removal and better lighting. Crimes must be “tied to the location.” Ms. Feiman also said “we’re looking to create neighborhood panels” of volunteers for a new Neighborhood Justice Program that is starting for “quality of life concerns.”

14. Motion by Richard Tocher: [see the below Motion].

Mr. Tocher distributed copies of a proposed MHNC flier. He said information “is pulled from our website.” He described outreach materials to be purchased, including computer mousepads.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Tocher, seconded by Mr. Scott): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council will use a previously allocated amount of \$3,000.00 from Category 200 Outreach for branding material/marketing materials, for package that has been put together.

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, Ghassedi, Johnson, Martinez, Rahimi, Salamanca, Scott and Tocher).

15. Motion by Jesse Martinez: [see the below Motion].

Ms. Ghassedi described her events participation experience.

MOTION (by Mr. Tocher, seconded by Mr. Scott): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council appoints Board Member Mooshy Ghassedi as Outreach Chairperson.

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

16. Motion by Raymond Garcia: [see the below Motion].

[See above Item #10.] Mr. Martinez explained that Zoning and Land Use Committee Chair Mr. Garcia indicated that the Committee recommends that the Board contact Mr. Sneider, then have a Town Hall Meeting. Mr. Martinez will work with the Committee to invite Mr. Sneider.

MOTION (by the Committee): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council approves the recommendation of its Zoning and Land Use Committee to have the President of the MHNC write a letter to Arturo Sneider from PRIMESTOR inviting him to the MHNC October 6th Board of Governors meeting. Purpose is to discuss plans for the redevelopment of the Mission Plaza.

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

Mr. Martinez said that Mr. Sneider will be invited as above.

17. Motion by Richard Flores: [see the below Motion].

Mr. Martinez explained the need and usefulness of the item.

MOTION (by the Committee): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council will purchase a visual timer to allow the Board and Stakeholders to know an exact amount of time one has to speak and present. Funds to be allocated from budget Category 100 (Operations) as Office Equipment and Supplies. Amount not to exceed \$50.00.

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

Old Business

18. Discussion of assignments for The Valley Disaster Preparedness Fair,
scheduled September 27, 2014.

Mr. Martinez encouraged volunteers. Mr. Arevalo, Ms. Carrillo, Ms. Ghassedi, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Martinez, Mr. Salamanca, Mr. Scott and Mr. Tocher volunteered.

19. Housekeeping/Council Business.

There was no further business.

20. General Public Comments.

Mr. Johnson reminded about the September 20 Congress of Neighborhood Councils at City Hall; there will be training on how Neighborhood Councils function. Mr. Martinez encouraged seeing www.EmpowerLA.org for more information.

21. Adjournment

Mr. Martinez declared and it was agreed to **ADJOURN** the Meeting at 8:33 p.m.

Minutes written by DL.