

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



**MISSION HILLS  
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**  
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Minutes of the  
**MISSION HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (MHNC)  
GENERAL BOARD MEETING  
Monday, October 6, 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; 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: Motion(s) (included as stated at the Meeting, or, if not stated, as written on the Agenda); quotes (words that have quotation marks (“ ”) at the beginning and ending of a word or words); and Agenda wording copied into the Minutes.

**1. Call to Order/Introductions**

President Jesse Martinez introduced himself and called the Meeting to order at 6:50 p.m.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mr. Martinez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. Roll Call**

Roll Call was taken by the Minutes Writer. Seven of the 11 Board Members were present at the beginning of the Meeting: Jose Arevalo, Raymond Garcia, Mooshy Ghassedi, Tom Johnson, Jesse Martinez, Borzou Rahimi and Richard Tocher. Board Member arrived later. Four Board Members were absent: Maribel Carrillo, Richard Flores, Guillermo Salamanca and Clint Scott (all 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: 17 Stakeholders and Guests.

#### **4. Executive Officer Report.**

Mr. Martinez indicated that there was no report at this time.

#### **5. Approval of Minutes** for August 4, 2014 meeting.

It was explained that the August 4<sup>th</sup> Minutes already were approved; the September 8<sup>th</sup> Minutes need to be approved.

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

**MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the seven eligible voters present with six in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Arevalo, Ghassedi, Johnson, Martinez, Rahimi, Tocher); one abstained (Garcia).

#### **6. 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](http://www.LAPDonline.org/Mission_Community_Police_Station)), was not present and there was no report.

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

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #11.*] Ray Verches, SoCal Gas Company Advanced Meter Project representative, distributed information and said “all we’re doing is a retrofit” of existing meters; “the installation only takes about 10 or 15 minutes . . . all of the work is done by Gas Company employees . . . the team will leave you a door hanger to let you know they were there . . . there’s no need for them to go into your” home. He said “your service stays on”; it will not be shut off to install the retrofit. He described blue and white Gas Company vehicles and uniforms. He asked people to call if they have special access needs. Mr. Verches explained that “the information is encrypted . . . it won’t have any personal information.” The batteries “last for about 25 years . . . it will allow us to read your meter automatically . . .

William DeLoya Gutierrez of Metro (213.922.7479) announced November 6, 12 and 13 “community information meetings about the East San Fernando Valley Corridor project.” He described the proposed route for a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line or a light-rail train. Also, recently fares increased; however, with a TAP card you can transfer within two hours for free. He encouraged contacting him with questions.

Melvin Canas, Project Coordinator, L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) (213-978-1551; [Melvin.Canas@LACity.org](mailto:Melvin.Canas@LACity.org); [www.EmpowerLA.org](http://www.EmpowerLA.org)), encouraged reading the Department’s Friday Newsletters and to submit Community Impact Statements (CISs) “on pending [City] Council Files.”

**8. Briefing on Committee activities.**

Outreach: Mooshy Ghassedi

Ms. Ghassedi reported that the Committee will meet this month and has two new Members.

Zoning and Land Use: Ray Garcia & Borzou Rahimi

Mr. Garcia reported that on September 15<sup>th</sup> Mr. Martinez sent a letter to Primestor/Mission Hills Plaza CEO and Co-Founder Arturo Sneider “to discuss the remodeling of Mission Plaza.” A Primestor representative said Mr. Sneider “will come . . . and will make arrangements eventually” and that he was out-of-town this month. Mr. Martinez specified that Mr. Sneider “made a verbal commitment for November 3<sup>rd</sup>.” Mr. Martinez announced that Mr. Garcia needs to step down as Committee Chair; the position is available.

Public Safety: Tom Johnson

Mr. Johnson reported that “the Disaster Preparedness Fair was a great success . . . more than 1,500 people attended.”

Beautification: Richard Tocher

Mr. Tocher reported that the Committee “meets second and fourth Thursdays monthly.” He described efforts to get City services for the mural restoration.

**9. Briefing on Budget & Finance and other operational/administrative matters.**  
**Approve MHNC September expenditure report.**

Treasurer: Mr. Martinez, for Ms. Carrillo reviewed recent expenses on the Monthly Expenditure Report.

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

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

**New Business**

- 10. Presentation** on Domestic Violence by Managing Director of NVAMC: Brad Klimovitch is the Managing Director of North Valley Anger Management Consultants in Mission Hills and the Vice President of the California Association of Anger Management Providers (CAAMP), providing Certified Anger Management and Domestic Violence Batterer’s Intervention education services to self-referred and court referred clients. Brad also coordinates the (no cost) Victims of Violent Crime Counseling Program for North Valley Anger Management with his colleague Karen Fincher with their agency motto: “Better Tomorrows Begin Today.”

NVAMC Managing Director Brad Klimovitch said “October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month.” He described that “domestic violence isn’t just a man and a

woman fighting and that it may not be just one time; it could be long-term. He said “help is available . . . pick up a phone . . . it touches everybody.” Services are available in different languages from different agencies. Search the Internet for such phrases as “credentialed batterers intervention programs.”

11. **Q&A** Amanda Mejia External Affairs, Area Representative East Valley Office of Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti: Purpose is to have Amanda introduce herself, so our community can future build the relationship with our Mayor’s office.

Amanda Mejia, the Mayor’s East Valley Area Representative (213.978.0812; Amanda.Mejia@LACity.org), encouraged calling 3-1-1 for services and use the “MyLA311” phone application that “allows you to take pictures” of, for example, potholes and send them to the City. Their Twitter address is LAMayorsOffice and they have two Facebook accounts.

12. **Motion** by Jesse Martinez to Appoint Zoning & Land use Chairperson: Motion is to appoint Borzou Rahimi as Zoning & Land Use Chairperson.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Martinez, seconded by Mr. Johnson): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council appoints Board Member Borzou Rahimi as its Zoning & Land Use Chairperson.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Rahimi described his related professional experience.

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

13. **Motion** by Jesse Martinez to Appoint Youth Representative: Motion is to appoint Christopher Jacobo as the Youth Representative.

Mr. Martinez explained that the Pacoima Neighborhood Council Youth Representative referred Mr. Jacobo. Mr. Jacobo described his community service and interest “to make the City more accessible to the youth.”

**MOTION** (by Mr. Martinez, seconded by Mr. Arevalo): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council appoints Stakeholder Christopher Jacobo as the Youth Representative.

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

Mr. Jacobo was Seated with the Board.

14. **Motion** by Jesse Martinez to work with EmpowerLA on leasing an office: Purpose is to have the MHNC have office & storage space available to become more efficient when getting community business done.

Mr. Martinez the need for Board Members “to have somewhere to physically do our work” and to store supplies and records. Mr. Canas described how DONE would “send payment to the landlord” and process the request; DONE’s Jeff Brill may have a list of City facilities in Mission Hills. Mr. Rahimi suggested the space also be able to accommodate meeting space.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Martinez, seconded by Ms. Ghassedi): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council will work with EmpowerLA on leasing an office: Purpose is to have the MHNC have office & storage space available to become more efficient when getting community business done.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Canas noted that Neighborhood Councils cannot enter into contracts; they must work with DONE.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the eight eligible voters present with all eight in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Arevalo, Garcia, Ghassedi, Jacobo, Johnson, Martinez, Rahimi, Tocher).

### **Old Business**

There was no old business at this time.

### **15. Housekeeping/Council Business**

There was no other business at this time.

### **16. General Public Comments**

Irene Hand described efforts to increase services from DONE. Patty Lopez, State 39th District Assembly Seat Candidate (818.554.7810), described her community interests and asked for November 4<sup>th</sup> Election support. Holly Rasey, Director of Development, North Valley Family YMCA, (818-271-5059; HollyRasey@ymcala.org; <http://www.ymcala.org/north-valley>), described their Thanksgiving giveaway of “two recyclable bags” each of household essentials to needy families. Bob Hertzberg, State Senate 18th District Candidate, described his extensive government experience.

### **17. Adjournment**

**MOTION** (by Mr. Martinez, seconded by Ms. Ghassedi): to **ADJOURN** the Meeting.

**MOTION PASSED** without any objection.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 8:07 p.m.

Minutes written by DL.