

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



**MISSION HILLS  
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**  
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Minutes of the  
**MISSION HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (MHNC)  
GENERAL BOARD MEETING  
Monday, December 1, 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 6:45 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** -- Mr. Martinez led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Roll Call**

Roll Call was taken by the Secretary. Eight of the 13 Board Members were present at the beginning of the Meeting: Jose Arevalo, Maribel Carrillo, Mooshy Ghassedi, Christopher Jacobo, Tom Johnson, Jesse Martinez, Clint Scott and Mayra Torres. Five Board Members were absent: Richard Flores, Raymond Garcia, Borzou Rahimi, Guillermo Salamanca and Richard Tocher (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. Thirteen of the 14 Board Seats were filled (by election or appointment). One Board Seat was vacant: Business Owner. Also attending: 30 Stakeholders and Guests.

4. **Executive Officer Report.** – Mr. Martinez reported on Executive matters.

**5. Approval of Minutes** of November 3, 2014 meeting.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Martinez, seconded by Mr. Johnson): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its November 3, 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, Jacobo, Johnson, Martinez, Scott and Torres)

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

Philip Ruiz, Senior Lead Officer, LAPD Mission Division (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)), distributed a crime map and reviewed the latest statistics; crime is “minus 9.9%” from last year. He reminded to not leave valuables or gifts in vehicles; “they’re guys sitting in the parking lot in cars watching you.” He gave a burglary report of valuables stolen from a car in a cemetery and in a church parking lot during services. Officer Ruiz encouraged to crush and recycle gift boxes; don’t let them be seen sticking out of trash bins.

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

Yolanda Fuentes, District Director for L.A. City District Seven Councilman Felipe Fuentes (818-919-8309; Yolanda.Fuentes@LACity.org), announced a holiday parade on Van Nuys Blvd. CD7 is working to have vandalism repaired on the San Fernando High School mural. Mr. Martinez expressed concern that Stakeholders have not received replies to information requests made to the City Council Office.

Gabriela Marquez, Field Representative for U.S. 29th District of California Congressman Tony Cardenas (818-667.9501; Gabriela.Marquez@mail.house.gov; <http://cardenas.house.gov>), reported that their office is now at 8134 Van Nuys Blvd., Panorama City by Titus St. south of Roscoe Blvd. They are helping sign people up for Covered California health insurance to comply with the Affordable Care Act. The Congressman supports HR642 for parents of children with disabilities and is working to support and protect small businesses from computer hacking. Help is available for organizations to apply for federal funding. Mr. Martinez expressed concern that no Congressman’s representative has appeared for a while at an MHNC meeting and that the Congressman never has appeared.

[*This report was made after Item #10.*] Lydia Grant, BONC [L.A. Board of Neighborhood Commissioners] Commissioner [213.978.1551; Lydia.Grant@LACity.org; Commissioners@EmpowerLA.org; [www.EmpowerLA.org](http://www.EmpowerLA.org)], described BONC’s role; all Meetings are open to the public. She described the importance of Neighborhood Councils submitting Community Impact Statements. Ms. Grant explained that the City is trying to maintain streets that are in relatively good condition, and then will work on worse condition streets.

**8. Briefing on Committee activities.**

Outreach: Mooshy Ghassedi  
Ms. Ghassedi reported that the Committee did not meet in January.

Zoning and Land Use: Borzou Rahimi

Mr. Scott reported that the Committee will meet January 19<sup>th</sup>. There will be an ad hoc Pacoima Spreading Grounds Subcommittee Meeting on December 17<sup>th</sup>.

Public Safety: Tom Johnson

Mr. Johnson reported that the Committee is working to organize a CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) class (818-756-9674; [www.cert-la.com](http://www.cert-la.com), [lafdcert@LACity.org](mailto:lafdcert@LACity.org)).

Beautification: Richard Tocher

Mr. Martinez reported that the Committee is working on the restoration of the mural on Chatsworth Ave at the 405 Freeway.

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

Approve MHNC October expenditure report.

Copies were distributed of the “Monthly Expenditure Report for: November” 2014. Ms. Carrillo reviewed recent expenditures.

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

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the six eligible voters present with all six in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Arevalo, Carrillo, Ghassedi, Johnson, Martinez and Scott). New Board Member Ms. Torres was not yet eligible to vote. Mr. Jacobo was ineligible to vote due to not yet being of age (18) to vote on financial matters.

**New Business**

**10. Introduction of newly elected MHNC Members, and “Oath of Office.”** Newly elected Board Members Christopher Jacobo and Mayra Torres to take the “Oath of Office.”

Ms. Grant led Mr. Jacobo and Ms. Torres in reading aloud the Oath. Both had previously been appointed to the Board [Mr. Jacobo at the October 6<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting and Ms. Torres at the November 3<sup>rd</sup> Board Meeting].

**11. Presentation by PRIMESTOR** on outreach survey and possible action by Board to use this survey for outreach: The survey is in response to the community’s request that PRIMESTOR understand the types of tenants the Mission Hills Stakeholders would like to see.

Vanessa Delgado, Primestor representative (888.722.3702; [MissionHillsPlaza@Primestor.com](mailto:MissionHillsPlaza@Primestor.com); <http://www.primestor.com>), distributed copies of and reported on the survey. The survey also is available on the Internet [see <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/missionhillsplaza>] and takes less than four minutes to complete; you can indicate what you want and what you do not want. She clarified that “it’s a Primestor-sponsored” survey, not an MHNC survey. She said Primestor is doing survey outreach “door-to-door . . . right around the property.” Results will be

reported in February. References to the project being in 2015-2016 have been removed from the website. Information is also available through Guillermo Urias at (213) 223-5534.

12. **Q&A with Representative John Bodenchak from County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works Water Resources Division**: Purpose is to have representatives give a presentation and answer questions on the “Pacoima Spreading Grounds” Project.

Mr. Bodenchak, a Project Manager for the L.A. County Dept. of Public Works [<http://dpw.LACounty.gov>], presented slides along with Ken Zimmer of the DPW’s Water Conservation Section. They described that a Spreading Grounds “is an earthen, unlined basin”; water is treated and re-directed for various uses, including drinking. They explained that the LA Aquaduct only provides 10% of Los Angeles’ water; 75% is bought and imported; 13% is from groundwater; and 2% is recycled water. The Pacoima Spreading Grounds (PSG) boundaries are Woodman, Fillmore and Arleta. Water is piped into the PSG, then “percolates down into the groundwater.” The PSG can fill within 12 hours in a major rainstorm. The DPW is trying to avoid more flooding of Arleta Ave. The project would “combine and deepen the basins” and refill them “with higher permeability soil . . . replace the intake canal with buried pipes . . . construction is scheduled to begin in Spring/Summer of 2016 and last approximately two years . . . the initial study should be out this December” regarding CEQA [the California Environmental Quality Act]. They expect the project to use “around 180 to 240 trucks per day.” They said “we work to try to minimize our impact as much as possible . . . on the community.” Mr. Bodenchak and Mr. Zimmer described potential air quality mitigation efforts and would consider ways to create open space recreational area as part of the project. The DPW will prepare either an Environmental Impact Report [EIR] or a Mitigated Negative Declaration [MND]; there will be at least a 45-day public comment period. More information is at <http://dpw.lacounty.gov/wrd/Projects/PacoimaSG/index.cfm> and <http://dpw.lacounty.gov/wrd/Projects/PacoimaSG/PacoimaSG-Fact-Sheet.pdf> [email address: [SpreadingGrounds@dpw.lacounty.gov](mailto:SpreadingGrounds@dpw.lacounty.gov)].

**Old Business** -- There was no old business at this time.

13. **Housekeeping/Council Business** -- There was no more business at this time.

14. **General Public Comments** -- There were no public comments at this time.

15. **Adjournment**

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

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a hand vote with all eight in favor.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 8:28 p.m.

Minutes written by DL.