

**MISSION HILLS
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**
EXECUTIVE OFFICERS
PRESIDENT: Jesse Martinez
VICE-PRESIDENT: open
SECRETARY: Mayra Torres
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, January 5, 2015

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** -- The Pledge of Allegiance was said.
3. **Roll Call**

Roll Call was taken by the Minutes Writer. Ten of the 13 Board Members were present at the beginning of the Meeting: Jose Arevalo, Maribel Carrillo, Raymond Garcia, Christopher Jacobo, Tom Johnson, Jesse Martinez, Borzou Rahimi, Guillermo Salamanca, Clint Scott, Richard Tocher. Board Members Richard Flores and Mooshy Ghassedi arrived later. One Board Member was absent: Mayra Torres (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: 21 Stakeholders and Guests.

4. Executive Officer Report.

Mr. Martinez described the Neighborhood Councils Presidents meeting with LAPD Captain Chamberlain; Mr. Martinez requested that the Captain advise the MHNC further in advance when there will be fill-in Senior Lead Officers.

5. Approval of Minutes for December 1, 2014 meeting. *[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #13.]*

The following corrections to the draft December 1, 2014 Board Meeting Minutes were requested: page three, Item #8: "Ms. Ghassedi reported that the Committee did not meet in January" should be "Ms. Ghassedi reported that the Committee did not meet in November"; and page four, Item #15, "MOTION (by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Johnson)" should be "MOTION (by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Arevalo)."

MOTION (by Mr. Martinez, seconded by Mr. Scott): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its December 1, 2014 Board of Governors Meeting as corrected.

MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the 12 eligible voters present with 11 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Arevalo, Carrillo, Flores, Ghassedi, Jacobo, Johnson, Martinez, Rahimi, Salamanca, Scott and 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), was not present and there was no report.

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

There were no reports or announcements at this time.

8. Briefing on Committee activities.

[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #12.]

Outreach: Mooshy Ghassedi

Ms. Ghassedi reported that the Committee will meet to plan events.

Zoning and Land Use: Borzou Rahimi

Mr. Rahimi reported that the Committee met December 17th and discussed a possible Memorandum of Understanding, heavy truck traffic and pollution regarding the Pacoima Spreading Grounds (PSG). The Committee next will meet January 19th. The ad hoc Pacoima Spreading Grounds Subcommittee elected Stakeholder

Elizabeth Marx as its Chair and will meet here Tuesday, February 10th, 6:15-8:30 p.m. An initial report has been issued regarding the PSG.

Public Safety: Tom Johnson

Mr. Johnson reported that the Committee is working “to coordinate with the Councilman’s Office” a CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) (818-756-9674; www.cert-la.com, lafdcert@LACity.org) training. Mr. Martinez announced the annual Homeless Count on Tuesday, January 27th [sign up at <http://LAHSA.org>].

Beautification: Richard Tocher

Mr. Tocher reported that the Committee met with Ruben Zaragoza, Senior Area Director for L.A. City District Seven Councilman Felipe Fuentes (office 818-485-0600; Ruben.Zaragoza@LACity.org; <http://CD7.LACity.org>), about getting the Chatsworth mural cleaned.

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

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

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Carrillo, seconded by Mr. Rahimi): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council approves its December 2014 Monthly Expenditure Report as presented.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 11 eligible voters present with all 11 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Arevalo, Carrillo, Flores, Garcia, Ghassedi, Johnson, Martinez, Rahimi, Salamanca, Scott and Tocher); zero opposed; zero abstained. Mr. Jacobo was ineligible to vote due to not yet being of age (18) to vote on financial matters.

New Business

10. Discussion and possible action on asking Council member Felipe Fuentes to change the Current field rep for the Mission Hills Area: Purpose is to make sure the Mission Hills area has the best possible representative from CD7 in our community.

Copies were distributed of emails sent between the MHNC and CD7 staff and Councilmember Fuentes about the “mural on Chatsworth” and about the Buon Gusto “parking situation.”

Mr. Martinez expressed concern about L.A. City District Seven Councilman Felipe Fuentes (818-485-0600; Felipe.Fuentes@LACity.org; <http://CD7.LACity.org>) requesting that this Agenda Item be removed from the Agenda and believed that CD7 has had a “lack of action” about community issues including the parking situation at Buon Gusto Restaurant and maintenance of the Sepulveda and Brand

median. Stakeholder Pamela Goldfinger of the Mission Hills Action Group believed that more outreach was needed before the MHNC makes a request to change the CD7 field representative and that the lack of action is not the representative's fault. Joe Lozano and other Stakeholders also were concerned about the lack of action. Mr. Tocher and Mr. Rahimi believed that communication from CD7 can be much improved. Mr. Martinez emphasized the need for CD7 to keep the MHNC informed.

Board Member Mooshy Ghassedi arrived at this time, making 11 Board Members present (the MHNC quorum is seven).

11. Q&A with Council Member Felipe Fuentes (CD7): Purpose is to make sure Council Member Felipe Fuentes is up to date on issues the Mission Hills community needs addressed and how we can work together to address these issues.

Councilmember Fuentes was concerned about the City's ability to provide services while still having a large deficit (\$179 million this Fiscal Year). He said "we will . . . do a better job of communicating time frames." He described the effort to follow the Community Plan regarding housing. Stakeholder Irene Tovar believed some developers do not follow "the rules that they agreed to" in building housing including at the development on Wolfskill St. near Chatsworth St. Councilmember Fuentes encouraged to "keep in contact with our Office" about such concerns and sidewalk repairs, tree trimming and more. The Councilmember requested that a camera being used to film the Meeting be turned off before he stated his personal cell phone number for Stakeholders to personally contact him with concerns; Mr. Martinez declined to ask that the camera be turned off. Councilmember Fuentes wrote his personal cell phone number on business cards he gave to Stakeholders.

Board Member Richard Flores arrived at this time, making 12 Board Members present (the MHNC quorum is seven).

Mr. Johnson requested and Councilmember Fuentes offered help organizing another CERT training. The Councilmember wants to replace medians landscaping "with drought-tolerant vegetation"; funding "comes from the General Fund." Legislation he introduced and the City Council passed will start monthly DWP billing. He explained that some water pipes are breaking because the drought has dried and deteriorated materials. Also, City law allows recognized muralists to retain control of their murals; the City cannot remove murals, including the San Fernando High School mural that keeps getting tagged and graffitied. There is a plan to coat the mural to make it harder to tag or graffiti and to remove tagging and graffiti if needed. He noted that most murals are "respected" and not tagged or graffitied. However, he does not support the idea that people should be able to install murals wherever they or homeowners want.

12. Discussion and possible action on moving funding into Community Improvement Projects: Purpose is to work with our community and Bureau of street services

(BSS) on Community Improvement Projects such as but not limited to Tree Trimming, Side walk grinding etc.

Copies were distributed of the "Bureau of Street Services Personal City Services Program Price List." Mr. Tocher reported on pending projects and the funding need.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Tocher, seconded by Mr. Rahimi): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council re-allocates \$11,000 from its Budget Category 200 Outreach to Category 300 Community Improvement.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the 11 eligible voters present with nine in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Arevalo, Carrillo, Garcia, Ghassedi, Martinez, Rahimi, Salamanca, Scott and Tocher); one opposed ("No" or "Nay") (Flores); one abstained (Johnson). Mr. Jacobo was ineligible to vote due to not yet being of age (18) to vote on financial matters.

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

13. Housekeeping/Council Business: Introduce new issues for consideration by the Council at its next Meeting for placement on the next Board/Stakeholders Meeting Agenda.

Mr. Martinez expressed concern about the increasing number of homeless people. Mr. Arevalo described efforts to help homeless veterans, including encouraging them to use shelters; he would like the MHNC to address this. City Councilmember Fuentes expressed support for "permanent supportive housing" for homeless people; he is working with Habitat for Humanity and other San Fernando Valley City Councilmembers to build more such housing.

14. General Public Comments

Ankur Patel, Candidate for the L.A. Community College Board, listed his priorities.

15. Adjournment

Mr. Martinez declared and it was agreed to **ADJOURN** the Meeting at 9:26 p.m.

Minutes written by DL. *The first paragraph of some Items is directly from the Agenda.*