

**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, March 2, 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 6:50 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** -- Mr. Jacobo led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Roll Call** (Secretary)

Roll Call was taken by the Secretary. Eight of the 13 Board Members were present at the beginning of the Meeting: Jose Arevalo, Raymond Garcia, Christopher Jacobo, Tom Johnson, Jesse Martinez, Borzou Rahimi, Richard Tocher and Mayra Torres. Five Board Members were absent: Maribel Carrillo, Mooshy Ghassedi and Guillermo Salamanca (all excused), and Richard Flores and Clint Scott (both unexcused). 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: 22 Stakeholders and Guests.

4. **Executive Officers Report.** – There was no report at this time.

5. **Approval of Board Minutes** for February 2, 2015 Meeting.

MOTION (by Mr. Rahimi, seconded by Mr. Martinez): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its February 2, 2015 Board of Governors Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a hand vote with none opposed.

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), reported that crime is down “16% for the year total Part 1 crimes.” Most complaints are about graffiti and homeless people. He noted that “we’re limited on what we can do . . . we take a crime report for vandalism.” He described efforts to enforce transience laws within legal restrictions. He talked with some homeless people who keep moving back-and-forth between some of the same locations, causing the removal process to keep having to be restarted. He noted that some people “want to be homeless” and refuse help. Posting “no trespassing” signs helps enable the Police to enforce the law. L.A. City Fire Captain Chris Bustamante (Fire Station 75; 818.756.8675; Christopher.Bustamante@LACity.org), introduced himself and offered help.

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

* Mayor Eric Garcetti office East Valley Field rep. – There was no report.

* 39th State Assembly District Patty Lopez: Field rep for Mission Hills.

Bill Ulmer and Ricardo Benitez, Field Representatives for State 39th District Assemblymember Patty Lopez (818-504-3911; William.Ulmer@asm.ca.gov; Ricardo.Benitez@asm.ca.gov; <http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a39>), introduced themselves and reported that Assemblymember Lopez submitted 14 bills, mostly for human services; see their website. There will be a legislative briefing March 27th, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at a location to be determined. March 28th there will be a Job Fair at Dodger Stadium.

* 29th District Congressman Tony Cardenas Field rep. – There was no report.

* CD7 Felipe Fuentes Office update on medians in Mission Hills and other action items.

Tania Soto, Area Director for L.A. City District Seven Councilman Felipe Fuentes (818-756-8409; Tania.Soto@LACity.org; <http://CD7.LACity.org>), described work for a March 7th Community Cleanup, the March 16th celebration of the new Devonwood Park playground, and the March 18th Business Watch Meeting. She is working with Neighborhood Prosecutor Ayelet Feiman (818.374.6837; Ayelet.Feiman@LACity.org; <http://atty.LACity.org/Criminal/NeighborhoodProsecutorProgram/index.htm>), about illegal uses of residential lots, including for storage of heavy equipment. Ms. Soto

also is working on the medians at the Sepulveda and Brand Mission Hills Monument and at Sepulveda and Devonshire.

8. Briefing on Committee activities.

Outreach: Mooshy Ghassedi

Ms. Ghassedi was not present. Mr. Martinez emphasized the need for outreach and will Agendize it for the next Board Meeting.

Zoning and Land Use: Borzou Rahimi

Mr. Rahimi reported that the Committee met February 24th and discussed the Application for additions to Ararat Assisted Living Homes. The Committee will next meet March 17th at 7:30 p.m. at the Best Friends Animal Society, 15321 Brand Blvd.

Public Safety: Tom Johnson. Update on 8th Valley Disaster Preparedness event slated for September/October 2015

Mr. Johnson reported that the next free and educational Valley Disaster Preparedness Fair will be September 26th at Fire Station 88. The Committee will next meet in late March. Mr. Martinez requested for the Committee to Agendize funding the Fair.

Beautification: Richard Tocher

Mr. Tocher reported that there will be a March 14th Community Cleanup.

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

Treasurer Ms. Carrillo was not present; no report or Motion was made or vote taken.

New Business

10. PRIMESTOR Reps to update on Mission Hills Plaza: Purpose is to update the Stakeholders on survey and other updates from the Mission Hills Plaza.

Vanessa Delgado, Primestor representative (888.722.3702; MissionHillsPlaza@Primestor.com; <http://www.primestor.com>), distributed copies of "Community Questionnaire Results." Representatives Evette Gonzalez and Travis Erwell presented and reviewed the results. Residents equaled 78% of the 683 total respondents; 94% were within the 91345 zip code. Ms. Gonzalez noted that 18% want a department store and 16% a discount store. Primestor/Mission Hills Plaza CEO and Co-Founder Arturo Sneider said the Plaza's new name will be "Olivo at Mission Hills." Ms. Delgado said they hope to present a plan in April or May.

11. Discussion and possible action on the community improvement projects as identified by the Beautification Committee: Adjustment to the original budget for project as outlined BSS discussions to move forward.

Mr. Tocher met with the City Bureau of Street Services and discussed the cost of tree trimming on Bevis Ave. between Septo St. and Mayall St.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Tocher, seconded by Mr. Rahimi): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council will allocate \$1,000 from Budget Category 300 Community Improvements for tree trimming by the L.A. City Bureau of Street Services on Bevis Ave. between Septo St. and Mayall St. and \$1,000 for tree trimming on the south/residential side of Brand Blvd. between Memory Gardens and Noble Ave. in addition to the up to \$6,000 funding allocated for tree trimming for each area at its February 2, 2015 Board Meeting for a total of up to \$7,000 for each area.

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, Johnson, Martinez, Rahimi, Tocher and Torres); zero opposed; zero abstained. Mr. Jacobo was ineligible to vote due to not yet being of age (18) to vote on financial matters.

- 12. Discussion and possible action** on moving funds for up keep on the area surrounding the Welcome to Mission Hills Sign: Purpose is to maintain the monument area looking as nice as possible. We need to buy some new rubber mulch as some has blown away and get some weed control products etc.

Mr. Martinez described the issue.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Martinez, seconded by Mr. Arevalo): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council will move \$300 in funding from Budget Category 200 Outreach to a new subcategory of Outreach named “Welcome to Mission Hills monument maintenance.”

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, Johnson, Martinez, Rahimi, Tocher and Torres); zero opposed; zero abstained. Mr. Jacobo was ineligible to vote due to not yet being of age (18) to vote on financial matters.

- 13. Discussion and possible action** on Board approving CERT Training: Purpose is for Board to discuss possible approval of CERT training that will be scheduled for March.

Mr. Johnson described work with CD7’s Tania Soto and the LAFD to have a free CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) (818-756-9674; www.cert-la.com, lafdcert@LACity.org) training on March 14, 21 and 28, 2015. Classes would be eight hours each. Mr. Tocher believed that the class first needed more outreach.

MOTION (by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Arevalo): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council supports having a CERT training on March 14, 21 and 28, 2015.

MOTION PASSED by a hand vote.

- 14. Discussion and possible action** on Board approving funding for CERT Training: Motion to recommend to the MHNC Board a funding line of \$2,000 for CERT Training to cover cost of venue, outreach fliers, training information, refreshments, CERT training Documentation, etc.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Martinez): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council allocates up to \$2,000 from Budget Category 200 Outreach for a CERT training on March 14, 21 and 28, 2015.

DISCUSSION: Classes would be from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. and include disaster preparedness training and breakfast and lunch. Fire Captain Bustamante added that it would include CPR training. Mr. Johnson noted that, in a disaster, the Fire Dept. will first travel to and focus upon public services locations such as hospitals, not homes. People under 18 years of age can attend the training but cannot be certified until they become 18 years of age.

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, Johnson, Martinez, Rahimi, Tocher and Torres); zero opposed; zero abstained. Mr. Jacobo was ineligible to vote due to not yet being of age (18) to vote on financial matters.

Mr. Johnson will email a class flier.

15. **Discussion and possible action** on application for additions to Ararat assisted living Homes: Purpose is to have Zoning and land use present their findings and recommend to the Board possible action.

Mr. Rahimi reported that the Applicant presented to and the Land Use Committee supports the application. Applicant Nazar Ashjian (818.501.2998; Ashjian@earthlink.net) and Architect Robert Simonian presented and displayed a site plan and renderings. Providence Holy Cross Hospital and Bishop Alemany High School are to the south; to the north it is vacant. A DWP power line easement is to the west; to the east is parking. The original Plan was approved by the City in 2010; they are requesting a new Plan approval. There would be a 254-bed Skilled Nursing Facility and they are proposing to add a three-story 19,000 square-foot building that would add patient rooms and staff space. Mr. Ashjian said “we’re running out of space . . . we are adding additional parking . . . in excess of the Code requirements.” They described their work with the Hospital and other nearby facilities and invited Board Members to tour the facility and have lunch.

MOTION (by Mr. Rahimi, seconded by Mr. Johnson): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council supports the Plan approval application for additions to Ararat Assisted Living Homes.

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

16. **Discussion and possible action** on the (PSG) ad hoc Committee Budget: Purpose is for zoning and land use to discuss possible budget for outreach on the (PSG) ad hoc Committee.

Mr. Rahimi requested and it was agreed to TABLE this Item.

17. Discussion and possible action by Board to create an ad hoc Committee on the search for a new webmaster approved by D.O.N.E.: Purpose is to have the ad hoc Committee choose a new webmaster that is approved by DONE for our website services.

Mr. Martinez explained that DONE [the L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment] created a list of approved webmasters; the MHNC's current webmaster is not on the list, so the MHNC needs to change its webmaster and move its website. Moving the website is estimated to cost \$3,000. Volunteers are needed. Mr. Tocher emphasized the urgency of quickly resolving this for communications and outreach.

MOTION (by Mr. Martinez, seconded by Mr. Arevalo): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council will create an ad hoc Webmaster Search Committee.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Johnson volunteered to help.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the eight eligible voters present with all eight in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Arevalo, Garcia, Jacobo, Johnson, Martinez, Rahimi, Tocher and Torres); zero opposed; zero abstained.

Old Business

18. 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. Arevalo distributed copies of fliers about the North Valley Occupational Center's May 8th 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. free Job and Resource Fair at 11450 Sharp Ave., Mission Hills, CA 91345 (www.NVOC.org).

19. General Public Comments

The City will do another street repairs "blitz" in September.

20. Adjournment

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

MOTION PASSED without any objection.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 9:03 p.m.

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