

**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, April 6, 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** – Presiding Officer and Treasurer Maribel Carrillo introduced herself and called the Meeting to order at 6:54 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** -- The Pledge of Allegiance was said.
3. **Roll Call** (Secretary)

Roll Call was taken by the Minutes Writer. Seven of the 13 Board Members were present at the beginning of the Meeting: Jose Arevalo, Maribel Carrillo, Christopher Jacobo, Tom Johnson, Borzou Rahimi, Clint Scott and Richard Tocher. Five Board Members were absent: Raymond Garcia (unexcused), Mooshy Ghassedi (unexcused), Jesse Martinez (excused), Guillermo Salamanca (unexcused) and 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. Twelve of the 14 Board Seats were filled (by election or appointment). Ms. Carrillo announced that Richard Flores resigned. Two Board Seats were vacant: Business Owner and Renter. Also attending: 23 Stakeholders and Guests.

**4. Executive Officers Report.**

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #7.*] Ms. Carrillo indicated that there was no report.

**5. Approval of Board Minutes March 2, 2015 Meeting.**

**MOTION** (by Mr. Rahimi, seconded by Mr. Tocher): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its March 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](http://www.LAPDonline.org/Mission_Community_Police_Station)), reported that “we’re at minus 10% for the year.” The March Business Watch Meeting was attended by 25-30 people; the next Meeting will be April 23<sup>rd</sup>. He described a recent “distraction burglary” in which one person distracted the resident while one or more others stole from the residence. He encouraged calling 9-1-1 if you see suspicious activity. A medical marijuana shop on Sepulveda was caught illegally selling marijuana and “shut down.” Officer Ruiz clarified that medical marijuana only is supposed to be smoked at home, not outside or anywhere else.

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

Mayor Eric Garcetti office East Valley Field rep.

No representative was present and there was no report.

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

Ricardo Benitez, Field Representative for State 39th District Assemblymember Patty Lopez (818-504-3911; [Ricardo.Benitez@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Ricardo.Benitez@asm.ca.gov); <http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a39>), encouraged calling them for services. He presented Certificates of Appreciation to Stakeholders Pamela Cardello and her husband, and Joe Lozano. [Applause.] Mr. Benitez described working with Caltrans to clean Freeway ramp areas. Stakeholder Richard Arroyo was concerned that Caltrans has not cleared tall weeds and brush next to private properties. Bill Ulmer, another Field Representative for Assemblymember Patty Lopez (818-504-3911; [William.Ulmer@asm.ca.gov](mailto:William.Ulmer@asm.ca.gov)), encouraged to “call Caltrans first” or make online requests. Also, Assemblymember Lopez’ bills soon will be voted upon.

29th District Congressman Tony Cardenas Field rep.

Jacqueline Serrano, Field Representative for U.S. 29th District of California Congressman Tony Cardenas (ofc. 818-781-7407; cell 818-821-4684;

Jacqueline.Serrano@mail.house.gov; <http://cardenas.house.gov>), reported they are accepting nominations and internship applications from high school and college students. The Congressman is sponsoring legislation protecting business databases. They will have another grants workshop by early June.

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](mailto:Tania.Soto@LACity.org); <http://CD7.LACity.org>), reported that they are working to get tree trimming on Bevis Ave. and other streets. Also, the City lost a lawsuit and now must give homeless people “72 hours to leave the premises.” She said that “none of the [regular] homeless individuals in Mission Hills want services . . . we’re trying to offer shelter . . . we’re working with Ayelet Feiman, the Neighborhood Prosecutor” (818.374.6837; [Ayelet.Feiman@LACity.org](mailto:Ayelet.Feiman@LACity.org); <http://atty.LACity.org/Criminal/NeighborhoodProsecutorProgram/index.htm>).

Any other Officials or reps that may have been left out

Greg Bartz, Community Liaison, DWP (L.A. Dept. of Water and Power) (213-367-2800, [Greg.Bartz@ladwp.com](mailto:Greg.Bartz@ladwp.com)), distributed copies of and noted their “2014 Briefing Book.” He reminded to contact DWP security if you have a question about DWP personnel or other concerns. He explained why the DWP has to consider the system water pressure before turning off broken hydrants and other equipment. They are “working on going to monthly billing.”

#### **8. Briefing on Committee activities.**

Outreach: Mooshy Ghassedi

Ms. Ghassedi was not present and there was no report.

Zoning and Land Use: Borzou Rahimi

Mr. Rahimi reported that the City Council will consider issues relating to the Pacoima Spreading Grounds.

Public Safety: Tom Johnson

Mr. Johnson reported on the “successful CERT training” by the LAFD.

Beautification: Richard Tocher

Mr. Tocher reported on the “successful tree trimming on Bevis . . . with the help of CD7.” A total of 25 trees were trimmed. Mr. Tocher indicated they are working to get more trees trimmed. Ms. Carrillo reported that some residents refused to move their vehicles to make room for tree trimming to be done, despite “no parking” signs.

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

Approve MHNC February & March expenditure report.

Treasurer: Ms. Carrillo reviewed expenses. The balance is \$29,037.09.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Ms. Carrillo, seconded by Mr. Arevalo): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council approves its March 2015 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, Johnson, Rahimi, 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** by the Board to reconsider outreach Chair Position: Outreach is considered to be a permanent and on-going function of the MHNC. The Outreach Committee shall meet at least once a quarter. “That has not been met”. <http://mhnconline.org/Committees/outreach>

Mr. Tocher explained the issue. Ms. Ghassedi has not responded to multiple attempts to communicate with her. There was discussion that a number of Board Members have frequently been absent. It was agreed to TABLE this Item.

- 11. Discussion and possible action** by Board to appoint an Outreach chairperson: Outreach is considered to be a permanent and on-going function of the MHNC.

See above Item #10. It was agreed to TABLE this Item.

- 12. Discussion and possible Action** [see the below Motion].

Ms. Carrillo explained the Motion and invoice copies were distributed.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Ms. Carrillo, seconded by Mr. Johnson): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council allocates \$499.23 in funding to pay an invoice from SOS Survival Products to pay the MHNC’s portion of the Valley Preparedness Fair. Funding motion was previously approved in July 2014 unanimously by a roll call vote of the ten eligible voters present with all ten in favor.

**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, Johnson, Rahimi, 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.

- 13. Discussion and possible action** by Board to consider renting a storage unit. A storage space is needed to store MHNC marketing / branding material, tools, paperwork old and new, etc.

Mr. Tocher “received quotes from three storage facilities, all in Mission Hills”; he described the quotes: Mission Hills Self-Storage on Rinaldi, 5’ x 10’ = \$105 per month; Nova Storage Mission Hills on Rinaldi, 8’ x 10’ = \$148 per month; and US Storage on South Brand, 7 ½’ x 10’ = \$104.85 per month.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Tocher, seconded by Mr. Arevalo): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council allocates funding of \$104.85 per month to rent a 7 ½' x 10' storage unit from US Storage at 15237 S. Brand to store MHNC marketing / branding material, tools, paperwork old and new, etc.

**DISCUSSION:** The contract is month-to-month; the MHNC credit card will be billed between the first and tenth each month.

**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, Johnson, Rahimi, 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.

- 14. Discussion and possible action** to approve funding for Marketing / Branding products: Purpose is to have material available for events as a way of outreach. Examples are Tot Bags, Flash lights, Pens, Mouse pads, Magnets, brochures, Water Bottles, ETC, all with our logo and info

Ms. Carrillo noted that at least three price quotes are needed before voting on this.

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

**15. Housekeeping/Council Business**

Ms. Carrillo wanted to acknowledge the work of street crossing guards. Mr. Tocher reported that Chapel of the Cross Church (10000 Sepulveda Blvd.) would like a \$2,000 Neighborhood Purposes Grant from the MHNC. Ms. Carrillo reported that, according to the Mission Hills Plaza Bowling Alley restaurant owner, the Bowling Alley and pro shop did not retrofit their facilities according to the satisfaction of the LAFD and their insurance company. The retrofit has been estimated to cost at least \$500,000. It was requested to Agendize the status of the Bowling Alley and the Primestor project. Mr. Rahimi reported that Ken Craft, President and CEO of Hope of the Valley Rescue Mission, agreed to update the MHNC.

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

**17. Adjournment**

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

**MOTION PASSED** with no objection.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 9:08 p.m.

Minutes written by DL, possibly edited by MHNC. *The first paragraph of some Items, Motions/Resolutions and other wording may have been directly copied from the Agenda.*