

**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, August 3, 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: Motions/Resolutions (as stated at the Meeting, which take precedence over versions written on the Agenda, if different); quotes (words that have quotation marks ("")) at the beginning and ending of a word or words); and other wording from the Agenda such as the first paragraph(s) of some Items. Items are listed in and match the same order as on the Agenda.

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

Roll Call was taken by the Minutes Writer. Eight of the 11 Board Members were present at the beginning of the Meeting: Jose Arevalo, Maribel Carrillo, Christopher Jacobo, Jesse Martinez, Borzou Rahimi, Guillermo Salamanca, Clint Scott and Richard Tocher. Board Member Mayra Torres arrived later. Two Board Members were absent: Raymond Garcia and Tom Johnson (both 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://mhnconline.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/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: Business Owner, Organizational, and Renter. [To apply, see <http://mhnconline.org/about-mhnc/board.>] Also attending: 41 Stakeholders and Guests.

4. **Executive Officers Report** -- Mr. Martinez indicated there was no report at this time.
5. **Approval of Board Minutes** July 6, 2015 Meeting.

MOTION (by Mr. Martinez, seconded by Mr. Scott): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its July 6, 2015 Board of Governors Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote with seven in favor (Arevalo, Carrillo, Jacobo, Martinez, Salamanca, Scott and Tocher); one abstained (Rahimi).

[After this, Item #17, General Public Comment, was addressed.]

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

[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #17.] 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), described his jurisdiction. Crime is up 3% since last year. He reminded not to leave valuables in vehicles and to lock windows in vehicles and homes. He noted the impact of Proposition 47, which “reduced a lot of the crimes” from felonies to misdemeanors. He encouraged to “continue to call in the activity” and described logistical law enforcement challenges. He described trying to help a homeless person who refused help. He reminded that, if he is not available, “the front desk is open 24 hours” every day and “all fireworks are illegal” all year in L.A. County. Some fireworks sound like gunshots. Officer Ruiz encouraged that, if you suspect a vendor is illegal, call the [L.A. County] Health Dept. [213-974-1311; info@lacounty.gov; <http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov>].

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

* Mayor Eric Garcetti office East Valley Field rep.

No representative and there was no report.

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

Bill Ulmer, Field Representative for State 39th District Assemblymember Patty Lopez (818-504-3911; William.Ulmer@asm.ca.gov; <http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a39>), reported that the Assembly returns in September; meanwhile, Assemblymember Lopez is visiting events and groups and has 12 legislation bills pending. There will be a September 23rd “Senior Scam Forum” at a location to be determined.

* 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 that there will be a Domestic Violence Resources Forum August 13th. The next annual Government Day will be August 15th at Panorama Mall. The Congressman is accepting applications from high school and college students for their Community Youth Advisory Board, which meets two to four times per year. There will be a September 26th Job Fair at Pacific Charter School. The Post Office will relocate from Devonshire to the Sepulveda Annex; the same services will be provided and public comment is welcomed.

* 18th District California State Senate Field rep.

State 18th District Senator Bob Hertzberg (818-901-5588; <http://sd18.senate.ca.gov/contact/email>; <http://senate.ca.gov/hertzberg>), described on a map his area representing “about a million people.” The State budget is \$262 billion; the City’s is \$8 billion. His local office is at 6150 Van Nuys Blvd., 4th floor; a community room is available. He has 44 interns of all ages and is adding more. He reported that “we’re creating vote centers . . . where you can drop off your ballots for 14 days . . . to make it convenient for you.” There’ll still be polling places on Election Day. He described an “amnesty program” he developed to get more tickets paid faster and help drivers keep their licenses. He is proposing legislation to allow drivers to make a court appearance before paying a ticket, and to reduce small business taxes. He supports the Senate Bill 28 Assisted Suicide bill. He explained his work to address homelessness.

8. Briefing on Committee activities.

Outreach: Richard Tocher

Mr. Tocher reported that the Committee is “developing and deploying a new website” and will meet in late August.

Zoning and Land Use: Borzou Rahimi

Mr. Rahimi reported that the Committee will meet on August 17th.

Public Safety: Tom Johnson

Mr. Tocher cautioned to remove stagnant water to avoid mosquitos and the West Nile Virus.

Beautification: Richard Tocher

Mr. Tocher reported that the Committee will jointly meet with Outreach in late August.

Board Member Guillermo Salamanca left the room at this time, making eight Board Members present (the MHNC quorum is seven).

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

Approve MHNC July expenditure report.

Treasurer Ms. Carrillo reviewed the Monthly Expenditure Report (MER); there only was a \$41.10 expense. The balance was \$41,958.90.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Martinez, seconded by Mr. Rahimi): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council approves its July 2015 Monthly Expenditure Report as presented.

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

New Business

10. Status report on the meeting with the personnel of Fire Station 75:

Stakeholder Irene Tovar reported that she met June 19th with Fire Station staff.

Board Member Guillermo Salamanca returned to the room at this time, making nine Board Members present (the MHNC quorum is seven).

Ms. Tovar believed that Station resources “are in no way comparable” with other Fire Stations; she asked what they need and encouraged helping press for more. She noted that an official indicated that improvements are not planned soon even if funding is available. She was concerned that there is much flammable dry brush in the area. Ms. Tovar recommended that the MHNC write a letter to the Fire Dept. Mr. Martinez described efforts to get replies from the Fire Dept. and encouraged emailing ideas.

11. Discussion and possible action on the revised design for the Primestor shopping center’s incorporation the historic bowling alley building into the design of Olivo Shopping Center and possible application for nomination of the bowling alley building to the City of Los Angeles for historic designation. Primestor representatives to give an update on Mission Hills Plaza: Update for the community to be followed by a Q&A.

Copies were distributed of a May 27, 2015 letter to the MHNC from the Los Angeles Conservancy about “the potential impact on the historic Mission Hills Bowl” of the “proposed project at the Mission Hills Plaza.” Mr. Rahimi described Primestor’s presentation to the Zoning and Land Use Committee: “they offered to keep the bowling alley building” and “incorporated” it “into their plans.” A site plan was displayed for “the Olivo Project at Mission Hills.” Vanessa Delgado, Primestor Director of Development (888.722.3702; MissionHillsPlaza@Primestor.com; <http://www.primestor.com>), stated that “the bowling alley is potentially historic . . . the bowling alley is eligible for registry on the City, State and National Registers . . . we will help the Neighborhood Council in getting it deemed historic.” She described Primestor’s intention to preserve bowling alley architecture, noting “we can’t damage its ability to be deemed historic . . . we’ll pay for services with HRG [Historic Resources Group] to get it deemed historic . . . I don’t know what it’s going to be.”

She said that the inside “doesn’t appear to be historic.” She indicated that “we’re going to close that driveway” next to “the former bowling alley”; expect construction to start “early next year.” There will be a Public Hearing in December. She said “we’re going to be filing demolition permits for portions of the property.” Primestor bought the two homes near San Jose Ave. in 2006; they will be demolished. A Menchies or a Yogurtland would be in the area near Millie’s Restaurant. There is a “proposed fitness center” near the former bowling alley. Mr. Rahimi noted that fitness center customers would mainly use the back/east lot.

Ms. Delgado said that some combination of tenants, including Millie’s, Chase Bank and Payless Shoes, “will remain open through this process . . . Ralph’s [Market] didn’t choose to stay”; she said there’ll be “a neighborhood Target . . . the first in Los Angeles.” She said “we’re trying to discourage cars from coming onto San Jose and Columbus”; around 135 bicycle spaces will be provided in racks by the Target and nearby. Also, she said “no signs or lights will actually shine onto the residences . . . we asked [the Post Office] to meet with us but nobody called us back.”

MOTION (by Mr. Rahimi, seconded by Mr. Scott): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council supports its Zoning and Land Use Committee's recommendation and the revised design of the Primestor shopping center incorporating the historic bowling alley building into the design of Olivo Shopping Center and Primestor's support for the application for nomination of the bowling alley to the City of Los Angeles for historic designation.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Martinez asked and most Stakeholders at this Meeting supported the project.

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

12. Discussion and Possible Board action on the ZLU recommendation for new medical offices located at 15555 W. San Fernando Mission Blvd: Update on the project from the ZLU Committee.

Mr. Rahimi reported that the Committee supported the one-story project.

MOTION (by Mr. Rahimi, seconded by Mr. Scott): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council supports its Zoning and Land Use Committee's recommendation and supports the application for a new medical office building at 15555 W. San Fernando Mission Blvd.

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

- 13. Discussion and possible Board action** on Webmaster's Core Responsibilities: Approval of webmasters responsibilities from outreach Committee meeting. This will help the Committee find the right vendor for our Board.

Copies were distributed of a list of "MHNC Desired Webmaster Responsibilities." Mr. Rahimi requested that the website be able to accept comments to Committees. Bids are being sought.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Tocher, seconded by Mr. Rahimi): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council allocates up to \$4,000 from its Outreach budget for migration and development of its website.

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

- 14. Discussion and possible Board action** regarding post card mailer used to announce MHNC's sidewalk repair outreach effort: This will help the Committee gather data on where the repairs are needed

Mr. Tocher "would like help" deciding "where the sidewalk repairs are needed." It may include the area all the way to the curb. He encouraged help getting quotes for the mailer. Mr. Scott believed that the work would not be transparent if it is not on the MHNC website.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Tocher, seconded by Mr. Rahimi): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council allocates up to \$3,500 to gather information about sidewalk repairs and develop it at the Committee.

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

Mr. Tocher clarified that the funding would be allocated from the Outreach budget.

- 15. Discussion and possible Board action** regarding the DontTrashMissionHills.com website for compiling location information of needed MH sidewalk repairs.

There was discussion of who would administer the information.

MOTION (by Mr. Tocher, seconded by Mr. Rahimi): The Mission Hills Neighborhood Council will utilize the DontTrashMissionHills.com website to gather information for sidewalk repairs in Mission Hills contingent upon approval from the L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment and, if needed, the City Attorney.

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

Old Business

- 16. 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 noted that, if a sound system is desired, Board Members need to arrive by 6:00 p.m. to set it up.

17. General Public Comments

Stakeholder Joe Lozano was concerned about illegal vending.

Board Member Mayra Torres arrived at this time, making nine Board Members present (the MHNC quorum is seven).

Ann Porter of Move to Amend (<http://MoveToAmend.org>) described their work. She explained that “corporations are not people . . . we should be able to regulate campaign contributions.” Their short film “A Question of Personhood” [at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WaKWLUU2IHU>] explains more. Stakeholder Pamela Cardello thanked Assemblymember Patty Lopez and her staff for helping clean Freeway ramps.

[The Meeting then went back to Item #6.]

Near the end of this Meeting Ms. Cardello requested help with weed and trash removal.

18. Adjournment

Mr. Martinez declared the Meeting **ADJOURNED** at 9:10 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.* The MHNC Minutes page is <http://mhnconline.org/agendas-minutes>.