

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



**MISSION HILLS
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**
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Notes of the
**MISSION HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (MHNC)
DISCUSSION**

Monday, February 1, 2016

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** -- Per the L.A. City Attorney's Office, since no quorum was present, there was no call to order and no Meeting was held; this only was a discussion at which comments were heard. No Motions were made or votes taken. President Jesse Martinez introduced himself and started the discussion at 6:45 p.m.
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance** -- Mr. Martinez led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3. Roll Call** (Secretary)
Five of the 11 Board Members were present at the beginning of the discussion, which is not a quorum: Jose Arevalo, Raymond Garcia, Christopher Jacobo, Jesse Martinez and Richard Tocher. One Board Member arrived later: Guillermo Salamanca. Five Board Members were absent: Maribel Carrillo (excused), Tom Johnson (excused), Borzou Rahimi (excused), Clint Scott (excused) and Mayra Torres (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://mhnconline.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Mission-Hills-NC-Bylaws.pdf>), so at this time the Board could only take public comments and could not have any official discussions, and could not make any Motions or take any 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://mhnonline.org/about-mhnc/Board.>] Also attending: 37 Stakeholders and Guests.

4. Executive Officers Report.

Mr. Martinez presented a Certificate of Appreciation to the Minutes Writer.

5. Approval of Board Minutes. January.

No quorum was present; no Motion was made or vote taken.

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

Philip Ruiz, LAPD Mission Division Senior Lead Officer (mobile/text 818-634-0519; ofc. 818-838-9843; 31524@LAPD.LACity.org; http://www.LAPDOnline.org/Mission_Community_Police_Station), reported that, last year, crime increased 11% in Mission Hills; body cameras on Police are “helping.”

Board Member Guillermo Salamanca arrived at this time (6:55), making six Board Members present, one short of the MHNC quorum of seven.

Officer Ruiz encouraged starting Neighborhood Watches. He described law enforcement on homeless encampments near Chatsworth and the 405 Freeway and near Rinaldi and Laurel Canyon.

7. Briefing on Committee activities.

Outreach: Richard Tocher

Mr. Tocher reported that, for Election outreach, two mailers were sent, a cable TV ad was placed and there was a coffee shop event.

Zoning and Land Use: Borzou Rahimi

Mr. Garcia indicated for Mr. Rahimi that there was no report at this time.

Public Safety: Tom Johnson

Mr. Johnson was not present and there was no report.

Beautification: Richard Tocher

Mr. Tocher deferred to below Item #12.

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

Approve MHNC expenditure reports.

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

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

New Business

9. Discussion and Possible Action on approval of the Oct 2015 outreach mailer:

Purpose to cover a prior expenditure.

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

- 10. Discussion and Possible Action** on MP Printing and Mailing services (as Vendor) for mailer distribution for the Oct 2015 Mailer: Purpose is to cover a prior expenditure.
Mr. Martinez requested and it was agreed to TABLE this Item.
- 11. Discussion and Possible Action** on Approval of postage- deposit for the amount of 1,111.25 to MP printing and mailing, and payment of remaining balance of 983.10(with all funds deducted from outreach): purpose is to cover prior expenditure Oct 2015.
Mr. Martinez requested and it was agreed to TABLE this Item.
- 12. Discussion and Possible Action** to Amend Support Letter to PRIMSTOR: To include” Request “for PRIMSTOR to “donate” their “required” 1% art fee to be utilized by Mission Hills Neighborhood Council for a “Comprehensive” public art and beautification project along the Sepulveda corridor starting at Brand Blvd and Sepulveda going south toward Devonshire st.
Andrea Wilson, Executive Director, California Artists Coalition of Los Angeles (424-248-3545; AndreaWilson@aol.com), explained that art projects can be funded by construction development fees. Vanessa Delgado, Primestor Director of Development (888.722.3702; MissionHillsPlaza@Primestor.com; <http://www.primestor.com>), was concerned that doing this would “change the support letter” that the MHNC issued in August 2015. She noted Primestor’s long-term consistent effort working with the MHNC and the community, including about public art. Mr. Canas reminded that Neighborhood Councils cannot accept donations. He encouraged the MHNC to work with the City Cultural Affairs Department and City Council District Seven to have funds allocated in Mission Hills. There was extensive discussion of the potential control and use of such funding. No Motion was made or vote taken.
- 13. Primestor with an update on the new Olivo at Mission Hills shopping center:**
Developer keeping us up to date with project.
Ms. Delgado reported that “we’re in the process of getting everybody’s input on the entitlement document.” Their Hearing will be around March 10th. They are outreaching “door-to-door” about the project around the community. There will be a small Target, a 24-hour Fitness, Chipotle, Menchie’s, The Habit and more.
- 14. Presentation by Pastor Karl Cruz on New Direction for Youth Program:**
Purpose is to introduce themselves and the work they are doing in the Mission Area in relations to Gang Intervention.
Pastor Cruz works with GRYD (Gang Reduction and Youth Development program). He described work to “eliminate any retaliation” between gangs, and to reduce violence and sex trafficking.
- 15. Discussion on air quality in the Mission Hills Area:** Several Stakeholders have complained about air quality in our community.
Mr. Martinez noted that he “was asked . . . to put [this] on the Agenda.”

16. Discussion on the 2016 NC Elections: “Last call for candidates” Update on NC 2016 Elections that will be held April 2, 2016.
Mr. Martinez updated about this.

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

- * Mayor Eric Garcetti office East Valley Field rep.
Brian Gavidia, Northeast Valley Representative for Mayor Eric Garcetti (cell 213.713.0960; ofc. 818.778.4990; Brian.Gavidia@LACity.org; <http://LAMayor.org>), described available help, including the Arts Activation Fund.
- * 39th State Assembly District Patty Lopez: Field Rep.
Ricardo Benitez, Field Representative for State 39th District Assemblymember Patty Lopez (818-365-2464; Ricardo.Benitez@asm.ca.gov; <http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a39>), reviewed the Assemblymember’s recent work, including on adult education, a youth tax credit, child care and more. He offered help with housing and immigration. Their new office is at 302 S. Brand, #212 in the Family Values Center at Cedros and Seles.
- * 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>), offered help regarding Social Security, healthcare, education, housing and immigration. She announced a Congressional Art Competition open to submissions. They are working on the issue of slow mail delivery in one area. The Congressman will attend a February 16th Block Captains Meeting.
- * 18th District California State Senate Field rep.
No representative was present and there was no report.
- * 6th District LAUSD Board Member Monica Ratliff Field Rep.
David Gonzalez, Field Representative for Monica Ratliff, L.A. Unified School District Six Board Member (213-241-6388; David.Gonzalez3@lausd.net), reported that they are collecting “School Experience Surveys” by February 11th. The new Superintendant is Michelle King. There will be a Town Hall Meeting March 1st at 9:00 a.m. at Pacoima Middle School with Ms. Ratliff and Ms. King.
- * NC Budget Advocates.
No representative was present and there was no report.
- * CD7 Council-member Felipe Fuentes Office.
No representative was present and there was no report.
- * Any other Officials or reps that may have been left out.
Jay Handal, Neighborhood Councils Elections Director, encouraged people to become candidates; the application deadline is February 5th. Mr. Martinez noted there are 19,000 people in Mission Hills.

Melvin Canas, Neighborhood Empowerment Analyst, L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) (cell 323-972-7782; ofc. 818-374-9953; Melvin.Canas@LACity.org; www.EmpowerLA.org), offered help.

Greg Bartz, Community Liaison, DWP (L.A. Dept. of Water and Power) (213-367-2800, Greg.Bartz@ladwp.com), offered help with billing and service issues. He distributed copies of and noted their "Power Infrastructure Plan 2015." He said "all of the" rate increases "would be going toward improving the infrastructure." Their website has "water wasters" and conservation information. He noted work to convert lawns to drought-tolerant plants and to recycle water. Mr. Bartz noted that 500 employees are retiring by April 1st and 4,000 more are eligible to leave soon after that; many opportunities are available from construction to administration.

Lydia Grant, BONC [L.A. Board of Neighborhood Commissioners] Commissioner [818.470.6629; LydiaJeanGrant@gmail.com; www.EmpowerLA.org], reported that the Commission asked the City Council to provide more meeting spaces for Neighborhood Councils. She encouraged the Board to submit Community Impact Statements on citywide issues.

Mr. Martinez announced a February 9th Pacoima Spreading Grounds meeting.

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

18. Housekeeping/Council Business – There was none at this time.

19. General Public Comments

Bennie Bernal, Candidate for Congress (BennieBernalForCongress.com), spoke about the Pacoima Spreading Grounds project. Joanne Fernandez, State 39th District Assembly Candidate, described her background, qualifications and experience. Joe Shammas, Candidate for Congress (JoeShammasForCongress.com), described his background and interests. Dr. Ramin Ganjianpour (cell 310-428-6860; RGanjian@aol.com), an orthopedic surgeon, would like community input about a 1.7 acre parcel available next to Holy Cross Hospital on which he could build a medical facility. It is zoned A-2 and would need a zone change.

20. Adjournment

The Discussion was ended at 9:11 p.m.

Notes written by DL, possibly edited by MHNC. *The first paragraph of some Items and other wording may have been directly copied from the Agenda.* The MHNC Minutes page is <http://mhnconline.org/agendas-minutes>.