

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



HOLLYWOOD HILLS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL OFFICERS

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HOLLYWOOD HILLS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

C/O Department of Neighborhood
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HOLLYWOOD HILLS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

BOARD MEETING

March 17, 2021

6:00pm

Zoom Meeting Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82322561987>

Meeting ID: 823 2256 1987

Phone Dial in: +1-669-900-6833 Code: 82322561987

In conformity with the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 (MARCH 17, 2020) and due to concerns over COVID-19, the Hollywood Hills West Neighborhood Council meeting will be conducted entirely telephonically.

Every person wishing to address the Neighborhood Council must dial (669) 900-6833, and enter 82322561987 and then press # to join the meeting. Instructions on how to sign up for public comment will be given to listeners at the start of the meeting.

The public is requested to dial *9, when prompted by the presiding officer, to address the Board on any agenda item before the Board takes an action on an item. Press *6 to unmute yourself after you have been called on. Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the Board's jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Board is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future Board meeting. Public comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board. Agenda is posted for public review: on bulletin boards at the Durant Library Branch, Community Center, 11243 Empowerment Blvd, Los Angeles, and electronically on the Hollywood Hills West Neighborhood Council website www.hhwnc.org and on the Department Of Neighborhood Empowerment, www.empowerla.org. You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to L.A. City's Early Notification System at <https://www.lacity.org/subscriptions>

In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting, may be viewed at our website at www.hhwnc.org, or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact the Board Secretary at secretary@hhwnc.org.

In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting may be viewed at 200 N. Spring Street Los Angeles, CA 90012 and at our website: www.empowerla.org or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact Name at (213) 978-1551 or email: NCsupport@lacity.org

If you are compensated to monitor, attend, or speak at this meeting, City law may require you to register as a lobbyist and report your activity. See Los Angeles Municipal Code §§ 48.01 et seq. More information is available at ethics.lacity.org/lobbying. For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or ethics.commission@lacity.org

As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, and other auxiliary aids and/or services, may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment by email: NCsupport@lacity.org or phone: (213) 978-1551.

**ALL ITEMS LISTED ON THIS AGENDA ARE SUBJECT TO:
POSSIBLE ACTION, INCLUDING A BOARD MOTION AND
VOTING ON THE MOTION.**

PROCESS FOR RECONSIDERATION: The Board may reconsider and amend its action on items listed on the agenda if that reconsideration takes place immediately following the original action or at the next regular meeting. The Board, on either of these two days, shall: (1) Make a Motion for Reconsideration and, if approved, (2) hear the matter and Take an Action. If the motion to reconsider an action is to be scheduled at the next meeting following the original action, then two items shall be placed on the agenda for that meeting: (1) A Motion for Reconsideration on the described matter and (2) a Proposed Action should the motion to reconsider be approved. A motion for reconsideration can only be made by a Board member who has previously voted on the prevailing side of the original action taken. If a motion for reconsideration is not made on the date the action was taken, then a Board member on the prevailing side of the action must submit a memorandum to the Secretary identifying the matter to be reconsidered and a brief description of the reason(s) for requesting reconsideration at the next regular meeting. The aforesaid shall all be in compliance with the Ralph M. Brown Act.

Agenda

1. **Call to order by President, Anastasia Mann**
2. **Roll Call by Secretary, Britta Engstrom**
3. **Approval of February 2021 Minutes**
4. **Guest Speaker: Jeffrey Prang, LA County Assessor**
5. **Public Official Reports**
 - a) CD4 – Rachel Fox, Office of Councilwoman Nithya Raman
 - b) CD13 – Sean Starkey, Office of Councilman Mitch O’Farrell
 - c) Mayor’s Office, Central Area NC Rep, Angie Aramayo
 - d) LAPD – Hollywood & North Hollywood Divisions
 - e) Neighborhood Prosecutor, Hollywood Division, Ethan Weaver
 - f) LAFD – Chief Hogan
 - g) LADOT – Brian Gallagher
 - h) LADWP – Michael Ventre, Senior Public Relations Specialist
 - i) 46th Assembly District, Stephanie Mkhlian, Office of Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian
 - j) 43rd Assembly District, Seamus Garrity from the Office of Assemblymember Laura Friedman
 - k) 50th Assembly District- Josh Kurpies, Office of Assemblyman Richard Bloom
 - l) 25th Senatorial District, Vickere Murphy, District Representative, Office of Anthony Portantino
 - m) 3rd Supervisorial District, Erin Seinfeld, Office of Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
 - n) 28th Congressional District, Michael Aguilera-Gaudette, Office of Congressman Adam Schiff
 - o) 26th Senate State District, Allison Towle, Office of Senator Ben Allen
 - p) 24th Senate State District, Baydsar Thomasian, Office of Senator Maria Elena Durazo
 - q) Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, Lorenzo Briceno
 - r) Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks, Joe Losorelli & Stephanie Smith
 - s) Hollywood Bowl/Stratiscope, Angela Babcock
6. **President’s Report (Anastasia Mann)**
 - a) Decision Re: 2021-2023 Board Installation Date Option per DONE

Motion: HHWNC Board to approve the installation of the newly elected board for 2021-23 to be installed at the first scheduled meeting in July 2021, the start of the city’s new fiscal year.

- b) HHWNC Regional Grievance Panel Appointment for NC Central Division by Request of Empower LA. Our deadline extended from Feb 5th.

Motion: to approve appointment of _____, HHWNC Board Member, to the Regional Grievance Panel.

Description: Appointment of Regional Grievance Panelist (non-election related)

DONE requested that NCs take board action to recommend one board member to serve as a panelist to sit on a Regional Grievance Panel by Friday, February 5, 2021. We received this notification on Feb 4th and we're granted an extension.

DONE may develop mandatory training and consultation with the City Attorney before a panelist serves.

Panels will rep the City's seven areas. DONE will randomly select three panelists from the NC region to serve on the Regional Grievance Panel.

In May 2015, City Council approved the grievance ordinance which can be viewed on the DONE's website.

- c) E-Mail & Zoom Video retention.
Brown Act - 30 day requirement.
Board discussion re retention. Possible motion and Vote.
- d) Next meeting date is April 21, 2021.

7. **First Vice-President's Report (Orrin Feldman)**

- a) **Motion:** To oppose CF#09-0969-S3 which recommends raising appeal fees payable by any person other than the project development applicant from the current fee of \$89 to a new fee of \$16,000.

NOTE: HHWNC nor any other community body received any public notice of this intent. The hearing is scheduled for April 6th. The prior recommendation by the Dept of City Planning was a raise from \$89 to \$158. This exorbitant increase negatively impacts many if not most individuals throughout the City of Los Angeles from participating in this legal process.

- b) A resolution to be adopted by the HHWNC Board as a letter from President Anastasia Mann & First Vice President Orrin Feldman to Samantha Millman on 3/18/2021.

Motion: TO APPROVE sending the following letter to the president of the LA Planning Commission, Ms. Samantha Millman, co-signed by HHWNC President and First Vice President:

Ms. Samantha Millman
President, City Planning Commission
201 N. Figueroa Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Ms. Millman:

HHWNC is the largest certified Neighborhood Council in the City of Los Angeles. At HHWNC's monthly board meeting held last night, March 17th, the following motion was adopted by a vote of X to Y.

It is well-known that HHWNC's huge area encompasses many diverse communities stretching between the borders of "Downtown Hollywood" to West Hollywood to Studio City to Burbank.

On February 17, 2021 at a public meeting, your CPC Commissioners mischaracterized areas within HHWNC boundaries. Our HHWNC boundaries include much more diversity than several of your commissioners alleged to the public as well as fellow Commissioners. Those comments struck many participants and stakeholders as racial and/or racist stereotyping, ageist, anti-historical preservation and, to some who have a long memory, as sour grapes, and gripes for one Commissioner, David Ambroz, who had lost an election some years ago to represent the Sunset/Spaulding Square Area 7 portion on HHWNC's board. This very portion, also known as Corridor 5, was the actual subject of discussion.

HHWNC's volunteer Board is elected, not hand selected, and open to all qualified Stakeholders. HHWNC's Board membership has been diverse since HHWNC's 2002 founding. The various seated Boards and Area Stakeholders have worked tirelessly for twelve years now with the City's Planning Department and different CD4 representatives to make the Hollywood Community Plan Updates 1 and 2 reflect the neighborhoods' desires for preservation, while still encouraging appropriate growth.

Any observation of the multiple buildings along La Brea south of Franklin Avenue clearly illustrates a portion of the massive development that has occurred within our borders. HHWNC has never objected to a development that has guaranteed the protection of residents being evicted and provided with appropriate compensation and TRULY affordable housing options. Sadly, this has not been the case. Instead of creating new "affordable" housing, many of these "projects" were diverted to small hotels in Hollywood, some of which have become AirBNBs, and all leaving many of our stakeholders homeless.

A particular location in which HHWNC has supported appropriate growth is on the Sunset Boulevard Corridor, which is a narrow commercial strip running down the middle in between two large Historic Preservation Overlay Districts to the South and North of the boulevard. HHWNC's support for the two-block project underway at 7400/7500 Sunset Boulevard is a good example where HHWNC has supported appropriate growth.

HHWNC requests and urges the City Planning Commission to revisit the aforementioned Sunset Boulevard Corridor 5 issues and adopt the Planning Department's staff current recommendations as appropriate for the narrow corridor running in between the two HPOZs. The Sunset Boulevard Corridor 5 issue(s) should be considered in the context of what the proposed plan is, which is "a community plan". The CPC Commissioners comments on March 18th that Corridor 5 height limitations and FARs should be increased to support "the regional center" in the core downtown Hollywood area would undercut the HCPU2 draft's goal of preserving a good balance of future growth in that corridor with the adjacent HPOZs.

HHWNC urges the City Planning Commission to adopt the Planning Department's staff recommendations in the Hollywood Community Plan Update 2 as it was presented on February 18th. Those recommendations reflect lengthy in person meetings and discussions between and among several different HHWNC boards, renters, home and condo owners, the local residents' associations, and the department. Those current HCPU2 draft provisions would allow for significant increases in height limitations and FARs on the Sunset Boulevard corridor.

HHWNC also urges the City Planning Commission to direct the Planning Department to release the draft Final Environmental Impact Report so that there can be some transparency as to what is now in, and what is now out of, the HCPU2.

c) Councilmember Raman re: Planning Commission

Motion: HHWNC requests City Council Member Nithya Raman to (i) reconsider her position with regard to whether the height limitations on the Sunset Boulevard Corridor should be removed, (ii) undertake the conversation and engagement process with HHWNC and the Sunset Boulevard Corridor's residents and associations, which she committed to doing during her campaign and even during a recent podcast interview, and; (iii) support the Planning Department's staff recommendations as presented to the City Planning Commission meeting on February 17, 2021.

8. **Treasurer's Report (Matt Shichtman)**

- a) Board Member Reimbursements -- None
- b) Approve November Monthly Expenditure Report

Motion: The Board of the Hollywood Hills West NC approves the February 2021 Monthly Expenditure Report submitted by Treasurer Matt Shichtman.

9. **Second Vice President's Report (Jane Crockett)**

- a) 2021 HHWNC Election Update

HHWNC ELECTION DATE: March 16, 2021

RETURN BALLOT: BALLOT DROP BOX
Friday, March 12 @ 9am - Tuesday, March 16 @ 8 pm

Region 5 Drop Box Locations
https://clerk.lacity.org/sites/g/files/wph606/f/2021_NC_VBM_Drop_Box_Region_5.pdf

RETURN BALLOT: USPS
Deadline to Postmark Ballot: March 16, 2021
Deadline to Receive Postmarked Ballots: March 26, 2021

Official Results Due/Certification Deadline: April 1, 2021

10. **Secretary's Report (Britta Engstrom)**

11. **Committee Reports**

- a) **Area 6 (Mary Yarber)**
 - i. Wattles Farm and Neighborhood Gardeners
Speaker: Toby Leaman

Motion: The HHWNC approves an NPG of \$1,942.30 for Wattles Farm and Neighborhood Gardeners to purchase new tools including wheelbarrows, spades, loppers, pruners, and wheelbarrow wheels.

- b) **Parks and Open Space (Jeffery Masino) / Area 6 (Mary Yarber)**

- i. Updates on the reopening currently closed portions of Runyon Cyn Park due to COVID-19 safety measures (including the East Trail and Upper Runyon view point), gradual phase out of COVID park monitors, and other on-going matters from stakeholder inquiries. (LA Rec & Parks representative will be present).
- ii. Report on March 4, 2021 meeting between LA Rec & Parks, HHWNC, and Friends of Runyon (per LA Rec & Parks agreement).

c) **Infrastructure/Social Justice Ad Hoc Committee (Danielle Mead)**

- i. Social Justice Ad Hoc Committee Report

The SJAHC believes that displaying preferred pronouns with participant names on Zoom meetings creates a more inclusive environment and fosters a sense of belonging. The SJAHC voted to utilize preferred pronouns for our ad hoc committee meetings moving forward and welcomes any other board members who wish to join us in this practice at committee and board meetings.

d) **Area 7 (Lincoln Williamson), Outreach (Mihail “Kyle” Naumovski) and Community & Youth Relations (Jeremy Saunders)**

- i. Banners at Gardner Elementary

The banner would be affixed to a chain link fence near the corner of Gardner Street and Hawthorn Avenue. Amounts in excess of the cost of the banner would be used for general FoG support of Gardner, such as financial support for physical education, music, and art programs. The banner would approximately be posted from May 2021 until August 2022. The banner would include “Hollywood Hills West Neighborhood Council”, HHWNC’s web site address, and HHWNC’s logo. Gardener’s principal, Karen Hollis, has sent a letter supporting the display of an HHWNC banner to be hung on one of the fences bordering the campus. The text of the banner to be approved by Area 7, Outreach and Community Enrichment Chairs. Currently proposed the text would read: “Hollywood Hills West Neighborhood Council has provided funds supporting student services at the school.” The banner would include HHWNC’s web site address, along with including its logo.

Motion: The Hollywood Hills West Neighborhood Council approves funding \$1,000 to FoG (aka Friends of Gardner, a 501(c)(3)), as a Neighborhood Purpose Grant. The grant shall be used to fund the purchase of a 4’x4’ banner promoting Neighborhood Council community outreach and enrichment.

- ii. Ukuleles for Gardner Elementary

Friends of Gardner (tax ID: 27-3697347) is dedicated to supporting Gardner Street Elementary School (“Gardner”), a K-5 LAUSD public school, located in Council District 4, and Hollywood Hills West Neighborhood Council Area 7.

The ukulele instruments will be purchased from West Music, a large wholesaler of musical instruments, for approximately \$55 each (Makala MK-s Soprano Ukulele). FoG has also received a grant from The Classics for Kids Foundation, which provided \$1,900, and together with the proposed NPG, the school will have approximately 80 instruments. There would then be sufficient instruments to provide to each fourth and fifth grade student. The instruments would be checked out to students during the school year, and returned to the school during the summer break. Gardener’s principal, Karen Hollis, has sent a letter supporting the purchase,

distribution, and storage of the instruments during the summer break. Gardner has musical instruction, which will assist students in learning how to play the ukulele.

Motion: The Hollywood Hills West Neighborhood Council approves funding \$2,475 to FoG (aka Friends of Gardner, a 501(c)(3), as a Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG). The grant shall be used to fund the purchase of 45 ukuleles, which will then become the property of LAUSD.

- iii. The following motion was approved at an Area 7 and Infrastructure meeting on March 7, 2021. Only Area 7 Stakeholders voted on the motion.

HHWNC Area 7 requests Los Angeles City Councilmember 4th District Nithya Raman to amend her letter to support the current CPIO draft on Sunset Boulevard, Corridor 5, between Fairfax and Vista Street.

Motion: Hollywood Hills West Neighborhood Council requests Los Angeles City Councilmember 4th District Nithya Raman to amend her February 17, 2021 statement on the Hollywood Community Plan to support the current draft Community Plan Implementation Overlay (CPIO) for Sunset Boulevard, Corridor 5, between Fairfax and Vista Street.

e) **Area 2 (Chandan St Clare)**

- i. **NPG Funding for Valley View Elementary**

Valley View Elementary is requesting funding to purchase 13 iPads at a total cost of \$5,000 to replace the ones the teachers are currently using. The iPads are essential to the teachers in delivering daily instruction to the students, whether it be at home through virtual instruction, or in person at school. Teachers are also expected to complete student assessments consistently throughout the year, that can only be done on a touch device. The iPads the teachers are currently using were purchased over 5 years ago and the school's IT liaison has confirmed that they will need to be replaced as soon as possible.

Valley View Elementary is not a Title I school; therefore they have limited school funds and greatly rely on support from the community. A letter of support and appreciation from the PTA at Valley View Elementary is attached to this agenda.

Speaker: Susan Kim, Principal – Valley View Elementary

Motion: HHWNC approve a Neighborhood Purpose Grant of \$5000 for Valley View Elementary to purchase 13 iPads for the teachers at the school.

- ii. **NPG Funding for LAFD Fire Station 76**

There are six firefighters at every shift and this totals 18 individuals who reside at the fire station for at least half of the week; all of whom who need the ability to store their food and supplies without taking space from another shift. During the past year with all the events that took place, from the pandemic and civil unrest, to the inevitable yearly brush fires, the firefighters found out the hard way that their current food storage system is greatly lacking.

The Neighborhood Purpose Grant will enable Fire Station 76 to purchase two large commercial refrigerators and a freezer to correct this situation and help preserve food and supplies for all members assigned to the station. This in turn will help the station function more efficiently, improve working conditions, and allow the firefighters to continue to serve the community without additional stress.

Speaker: Alfred Leon, Captain, -LAFD Fire Station 76

Motion: HHWNC approve a Neighborhood Purpose Grant of \$4612.01 for LAFD Fire Station 76 to install two commercial refrigerators and a freezer to meet the needs of the station.

f) **Community & Youth Relations (Jeremy Saunders) and Area 8 (Serra Aladag)**

- i. Community & Youth Relations and Area 8 Joint meeting on 3/18 at 6:30pm

Join us for an informative and eye-opening conversation with Dr. Jorge Partida, Chief of Psychology at Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health, about COVID's effect on our mental health and substance abuse.

g) **Public Safety – Homelessness Liaison (Paul Jenkins)**

- i. Outside Event Announcement: 2021 State of Homelessness Town Hall - Webinar

Mar 18, 2021 06:00 PM

Hosted by Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA)

Register at: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_RPm7sGgbR96tVqSX6SYYxA or see our calendar event at: hwwnc.org/event/the-state-of-homelessness-2021

12. **Public Comments** – Comments from the public on agenda items and non-agenda items within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction. Public comments are limited to 2 minutes per speaker.

13. **Adjournment**

Attachment for Agenda Item 11. e) i.



Valley View Elementary PTA
6921 Woodrow Wilson Drive Los Angeles, CA 90068
323-851-0020
president@valleyviewelementary.org
EIN 95-6206655

March 8, 2021

Dear Hollywood Hills West Neighborhood Council,

I am writing on behalf of the Valley View Elementary PTA in support of our Principal Kim's request for funding the purchase of iPads.

We have worked with HHWNC for years to the benefit of all in the Valley View Community. Your continued generosity will enable our Teachers to reach a wide age range of students with student-centered differentiated instruction. There are many ways an iPad can enhance the education experience, with features of portability, customization, flexibility. Moreover, as we remodel into the next mode of instruction, these tools will help facilitate a smoother transition, for both the Teachers and the Students. Your contribution makes it possible for us to, as best we can, plan for the challenges coming to our community.

On behalf of the Board, Association and, above all the students of Valley View, thank you for investing in our future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lita E. R. O'Donnell".

Lita E. R. O'Donnell
VVE PTA President, 2019 - 2021