



**North Hills Community Association
Board meeting Minutes
Claremont Hotel, Berkeley Room
June 19, 2023**

Board Member Attendance: Carolyn Burgess, Dan Conolly, Donna Karch, David Kessler, Nancy Mueller, Vicki Oliveira

Committee Chair Excused: Katie Kochounian

Guests in Attendance: Helen Cahen, Arthur Guimardes

Call to order: Dan Conolly called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm

Presentation: Helene Cahen and Arthur Guimardes are Safer Highlands Board members; they had asked for, and received permission, to address the NHCA Board. They presented a petition, which requests that the City of Oakland supply additional police services to Beat 13Y. Their goal is to collect 500 signatures from residents of Beat Y13. After their presentation they left the meeting.

Adoption of Agenda: The agenda was reviewed and approved.

1. Review and Approval of Minutes: Carolyn Burgess moved to approve the Minutes of May 15, 2023. Vicki Oliveira seconded. Motion carried 6-0.

2. Treasurer's Report: None

3. Committee Reports

A. Garden and Events: Vicki Oliveira

1. Gardening with the Goats: Vicki reported that she had met with Martin Matarese, former supervisor of wildland management for the City of Oakland, now with Ecosystems Concepts, a goat grazing company. Martin confirmed that the

goats would be at the Gateway Garden and Pavillion on Tuesday, June 20, 2023 from 4-6 p.m. for a festive neighborhood gathering. Vicki and Dan will organize popcorn, lemonade and do the set up. Carolyn volunteered to help.

2. 2nd Annual Ice Cream Social, Plant Sale Fundraiser:

Vicki is organizing an Ice Cream Social, with ice cream donated from Dreyer's, on August 19th. NHCA may have a raffle at the event.

3. BrightView manual Weed Abatement and Landscape Maintenance of Gateway Gardens. On June 5, 2023, BrightView submitted proposal #8124652 for landscape maintenance and disposal of green waste for Gateway Garden. The proposed price is \$1,437.23.

4. BrightView manual Weed Abatement and Landscape Maintenance of Firestorm Memorial Garden. On June 5, 2023, BrightView submitted proposal #8124632 for landscape maintenance and disposal of green waste for the Firestorm Memorial Garden. The proposed price is \$1,122.53.

The two proposals total \$2,559.76. Carolyn moved to accept BrightView's proposals. Nancy seconded. Motion carried 6-0.

B. Communications: Donna Karch and David Kessler

Donna Karch reported that she and David Kessler went through each link on the NHCA website and found some issues that need to be addressed. Donna has sent a list of items to the web master.

C. Membership: Katie Kochounian

Katie is on vacation, thus there was no committee report. The Board discussed welcoming gifts for new residents of NHCA.

D. Advocacy: Shivani Grover, Committee Chair, has resigned from the NHCA Board.

The Board discussed the second round of the postcards. They will be mailed too late to include details about National Night Out (NNO). David Kessler suggested posting an invitation on NHCA Announcements inviting people to sit out in their front yard and gather neighbors together.

David proposed the following letter:

Dear Neighbors:

I know people whose lives were saved because, on the morning of October 20, 1991, neighbors knocked on their door to warn them of the approaching fire. I know people who perished because no neighbor knocked. Neighbors are our first line of defense in emergencies. Literally, a matter of life and death.

But how many of us know the people in the homes down the street? How many small children, disabled adults, or vulnerable pets live in each home? Virtually every street in the North Hills has homes that have turned over recently. Do you know your new neighbors? Do you know who might need help? Do they know what help you might need?

National Night Out is an opportunity to meet the folks living nearby. The North Hills Community Association is looking for residents who will host a National Night Out gathering on Tuesday, August 1st. We hope to find neighbors who will put some chairs out on the driveway, invite people on their street to come by, share some snacks, chat, and get to know each other. We want every street in our hills to have an event on National Night out! Won't you be the one to step forward? A fun evening, and a vital step toward building community safety.

Please consider hosting a National Night Out event and attending one! Respond to this message and we'll help you and lay out the easy steps to make it happen.

The North Hills Community Association has been the voice of the North Hills since the 1991 Fire. Our website, <https://northhillscommunity.org/>, is loaded with information about our area, its history, its riches and risks, as well as news of current concerns and issues, such as fire safety and home security. We host a list-serve, Open Forum; sign up on the website. Stay informed about events, emergencies such as fires and slides, City government, and of course, lost cats. Visit our website to sign up. And let your new neighbors know about the NHCA and Open Forum.

Thanks!

David Kessler

Advocacy Committee

North Hills Community Association

E. Public Safety and Advocacy Activity: Carolyn Burgess' May/June 2023 Public Safety/Advocacy Report, covering May 23-June 13, 2023 is attached.

6. Old Business

A. Dropbox Transition: NHCA has cancelled the Drop Box subscription. Everything has been transferred to Google Drive. The Board decided not to migrate to BOARDnetWORK as it is associated with the insurance carrier; it is unknown if we will always use the same carrier. Google Drive seemed easier.

7. New Business

A. Open Forum/Announcements. Moderators are needed to replace, or work with Chris. Donna and David agreed to moderate Open Forum.

B. Treasurer: Donna Karch agreed to be the new Treasurer. Carolyn so moved; David seconded. Motion carried 6-0. Chris has the key to the mailbox.

C. Board Member Katie Kochounian. Carolyn Burgess made a motion to make Katie a Board member; David seconded. Motion carried 6-0.

D. Brightview Garden Abatement. The discussion took place earlier in the meeting as part of the Garden Committee report and was approved by the Board.

E. Public Safety 2nd Postcard, Review, Timing. Vicki made two mockups postcards, one with a map of 13Y. All Board members approved of the version with the map. The postcard will be mailed when Carolyn receives her Public Safety funds from the City of Oakland.

F. BOARDnetWORK. This was previously discussed under Old Business and Drop Box.

G. National Night Out August 1st. NHCA involvement is to encourage local neighborhood events.

8. Action Items. Dan reported that the Survey results of 2022 and 2017 were about the same.

9. Adjournment: As there was no further business, Dan Conolly adjourned the meeting at 8:41p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
S/Nancy Mueller & Donna Karch, NHCA co-secretaries

May/June 2023 Public Safety Report

May 23, Meeting with Neighborhood Services Angela Moore re purchasing supplies for in person Public Safety Meeting 5/25/23

May 25, Press interview and info release of two-year test of new Wildfire Sensors. Gateway Pavilion

May 25, NHCA Public Safety Meeting 7 pm, Montclair Presbyterian Church hybrid both in person and Zoom. Brian Cassidy (NS) supplied the "OWL" Communications OPD CRO Triana, local crime QnA, Veg Mgmt. Supv Adam Ball overview of responsibilities. QnA. Video posted to OF. Neighborhood Services Brian Cassidy - home and personal protection. QnA

May 30, 1PM City Council Meeting Budget Session, OPD, OFD & PW

June 3, 1 PM Police Commission Budget Mtg- Oakland Library West Branch went to zoom only-did not attend

June 6, 4pm City Council Mtg- City Hall-spoke on our behalf -Side Show fines, Using Auditors recommendations, suggested to focus on 3-5 main goals to achieve in Oakland since basically all the extras we can forgo right now to balance the budget and have a safe and clean Oakland. Need to reevaluate the 5-year paving plan, which is about to start. It was drawn up 5 years ago and does not address the new slide and street issues since last Winter's impact on Oakland streets.

June 8, 7pm attended Rockridge NCPC meeting on crime in their commercial area. Dan Kalb D-1 Council Member in attendance.

June 13, Life Enrichment Mtg City Hall-4pm. Suggested that Public Transport for seniors and disadvantaged be better advertised to raise awareness of this service especially in our area.

June 13, Public Safety Committee 6pm- Informational report on NSA oversight. Spoke in support of not defunding Dep. of Violence Prevention and adding staffing of police.

May/June 2023 Advocacy Activity

May 25, Port of Oakland Meeting on Howard Terminal, Zoom mtg regarding land usage possible reinstatement of HT to port and Port competitiveness, and A's still in question

May 30, City Council Meeting Budget Session, OPD, OFD & PW

June 9, wrote up posting for the Advocacy committee, regarding the important Budget meeting at City Council June 14, 2023, encouraging people to write and get involved with the process. Time crunch.

June 12, 1 pm- Advocacy Meeting at Highlands plus NHCA Board.