



**North Hills Comm Association  
Board Meeting Minutes  
Claremont Club and Spa, Berkeley Room  
July 15, 2024**

**Board Member Attendance:** Fred Booker, Carolyn Burgess, Donna Karch, David Kessler, Brian McCrodan

**Board Members Excused:** Miki Chan, Elizabeth Stage

**Guest Attendance:** Winter Williams, Montclair Business Association; GANC. Jared Savas, Janani Ramachandran's assistant, replacing Nathan Stalnaker.

**1. Call to order:** David called the meeting to order at 4:01 P.M.

**2. Introduction of Visitors:** Winter and Jared gave a brief introduction of themselves.

**3. Review and Adoption of Agenda:** The Agenda was approved by consensus.

**4. Review and Approval of Draft Minutes of June 17, 2024 minutes:** Fred made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Carolyn seconded. Motion carried 6-0-2 (Miki, Elizabeth).

**5. Announcements**

**a. Board member announcements:** See Public Safety below.

**b. Member Announcements:** Winter moved to Montclair around 2002 and was active in PTA when her kids were young, then involved with small business lending, building community events and as an artist. She helped develop Cares Club during the pandemic to support Montclair businesses. More recently she has focused on security and crime concerns. Businesses in Montclair are in need our financial support.

**6. Treasurer's Report:** Donna reported that as of July 15, the balance in the NHCA checking account is \$5,283.38. The NHCA savings account has \$14,071.24, for a total of \$19,354.62 available funds. Brian said that SOFI bank had decent interest and we may want to consider moving to another bank. They are an online only bank. The Pipers sent a long email outlining various ideas about the gardens with one idea being a matching \$1,000 donation from them if the board came up with \$1,000. Board members will contribute to reach this goal and Fred will write the Pipers that we agree to do this. Howard Matis emailed that the Fourth Bore Coalition (FBC) funds were available to be disbursed. David checked with Ann Smulka and learned that Howard's information was premature.

## 7. Committee Reports:

- a. **Communications.** David gave an update on the Newsletter.
- b. **Advocacy:** Elizabeth drafted a document in support of the Wildfire Prevention Zone (WPZ) measure which will be on the November ballot. The measure covers approx. 25,000 homes and residences in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ). This is a high priority item for NHCA.
- c. **Public Safety - Carolyn:** June 23: Attended Glen Arms Potluck. Miki also attended. Outreach and networking. June 25: City Council Meeting. Budget Proposed cuts to Public Safety and WildFire Ballot measure. July 15: Carolyn announced her resignation as this was her last Board meeting, after 13 years; she has moved to Walnut Creek. Carolyn has trained Miki and Rajni (from GANC) to take over her duties, including hosting the quarterly Public Safety meetings. Carolyn also announced her OPD funds from neighborhood services have been cut.

## 8. Old Business

- a. **Memorial and Gateway Gardens.** Fred has agreed to be Chair of the Garden Committee and presented his Landscape Committee report. Further clarification points: It is agreed that bi-weekly garden “weed-a-thons” will take place the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays of the month from 9-11am. Wyllie, and possibly Ruby, will participate on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays. More than 12 volunteers attended the first “Weed-a-Thon” on Saturday, July 13. 25+ bags of green debris were collected. Regarding the irrigation at Bentley School, it appears there are homeless persons using the water at night and leaving it on. Fred is in conversation with Bentley and Barry Pilger. Barry is helping to repair the irrigation system.
- b. **Constant Contact. Announcements and Quarterly Newsletter:** Lia Turk created a National Night Out (NNO) flyer which was sent via Constant Contact. David is continuing to work on the Newsletter.
- c. **Slide on Tunnel Road at Bay Forest Drive.** The road is scheduled to be repaired this summer.

## 9. New Business

- a. **Discussion: Montclair Commercial District.** See Guest Announcements above.
- b. **Oakland Airport Expansion:** The Board felt that it has enough projects it is undertaking and cannot get involved with this discussion at this time. In addition, there is no known consensus on this issue from our constituents.
- c. **Campaign: Wildfire District Measure.** See Advocacy above (7 b). It is very important for the North Hills Community to get behind this measure and help pass it by 2/3 in the November 2024 election.
- d. **Creation of Neighborhood Contact lists.** Brian would like to organize the lists so we can get the word out about NHCA.

**David Adjourned the Meeting at 6:05 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Donna Karch and Nancy Mueller, co-secretaries