

Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council Board Meeting

Tuesday, August 12, 2014

135th Street School Auditorium, 801 W. 135th Street

Present: Delores Allmond (Chairperson), Rosalie Preston (Recording Secretary), Joan Jacobs (Treasurer), Ramon Montoya (District 1), Adrian Valenzuela (District 2), Rey Paduani (District 3), Betty Hawkins (District 4), Marvin Bell (District 6), Rosario Rico (District 7), Shirley Johnson (District 8), Deborah Lee (Community Organization Representative), Richard Lee (Youth Representative), and Donald Cook Outreach Representative

The meeting was called to order at 7:17 p.m. by Chair Delores Allmond. Rey Paduani led the salute to the flag and Ramon Montoya gave the benediction.

1) Public Comment: Sonia Dibell, Acting Senior Lead Officer for patrol area 18A97 introduced herself. She has worked for the LAPD for 26 years, with the last seven being at the Southeast Division. She will be the Acting Senior Lead for the next two to three months. It is not expected that Senior Lead Officer Robert Martinez will return to work after his injury on duty until early in 2015. She said that current drug and traffic issues have been brought to her attention and gave out the official cell phone number for 18A97: (213) 793-0727.

District 4 Representative Betty Hawkins introduced Emily Saenz, Community Liaison for the 135th Street School. Emily said that she first worked for the school in 1979 and now has returned. She will share our meeting dates and other Neighborhood Council information with the Principal Dr. Pablo Osorio and the school's parents. She also noted that she is bi-lingual.

District 1 Representative Ramon Montoya reported that in the August 9 ethics workshop, the City Attorney said that public comment can be about any items of the agenda but that speakers should observe the time limit set by the Neighborhood Council. This would apply to Board members as well.

(Donald Cook left the meeting at 7:30 p.m.)

Otis Hall, District 4 stakeholder, lives on 129th Street and noted that he and his neighbors are impacted by the residents of the apartment buildings along Hoover Street and El Segundo who park their vehicles along 129th Street and on Sunday evenings, actually move garbage and recycling bins from the curb and put them on residents' lawns in order to park their cars along the street. Some of the vehicles are also being left on the street for more than 72 hours. District 4 Representative Betty Hawkins said the Neighborhood Council would work with the residents on a solution, possibly using the City Attorney's mediation service.

2) Joeann Valle, Harbor City-Harbor Gateway Chamber discusses creation of a possible Harbor Gateway North commercial center: This item was tabled as Joeann Valle was not able to attend the meeting tonight.

3) Approval of the July 8 Board minutes: Joan Jacobs moved, Rosario Rico seconded, and it was passed 10-0-0 to approve the July 8 Board minutes as corrected.

(Richard Lee entered the meeting at 7:40 p.m.)

(Rosalie Preston left the meeting at 7:40 p.m.; Joan Jacobs took over recording the minutes)

4) Approval of the July 8 Special Board minutes: It was moved by Rosario Rico, seconded by Marvin Bell, and passed 10-0-0 to approve the July 8 Special Board minutes as presented.

5) Treasurer's report on expenditures to date and July monthly report: Treasurer Joan Jacobs reviewed the seven expenditures made during the month of July from the allocated funds of \$37,000. The total expenditures for July total \$1,874.60. An additional \$2,881.65 has been spent or encumbered to date, leaving a balance of \$32, 243.75. It was moved by Rosario Rico, seconded by Rey Paduani, and passed 10-0-0 to approve the Financial Expenditure Report for July 2014.

5a. Funding request to DONE to add \$5,000 to our account: Treasurer Joan Jacobs explained that she has learned that a Board vote to do this is not required. She and the signer, Pamela Thornton, will be submitting the request form to DONE later this week. Neighborhood Councils have also learned that accounts falling below \$1,000 are assessed a \$5 fee by Union Bank.

(Rosalie Preston returned at 8 p.m. and resumed taking the minutes)

7) Approval of the Strategic plan, self assessment, and outreach survey: Joan Jacobs reviewed the draft reports. Richard Lee suggested adding a You-Tube account to the HGNNC outreach efforts and Chair Delores Allmond said that was something the Outreach Committee could take up. Marvin Bell questioned why all of the Board had not been invited to the January 16 Figueroa Corridor Business Breakfast. It was moved by Rey Paduani, seconded by Joan Jacobs, and passed 6 yes-2 no (Montoya and Bell)-3 abstention (Hawkins, Johnson, D. Lee) to approve the submission of the HGNNC Strategic plan, self-assessment form, and outreach survey to DONE, as part of the 2014-2015 budget submission.

(Joan Jacobs left the meeting at 8:35 p.m. due to not feeling well)

6) Approval of the 2014-2015 budget of \$37,000: Richard Lee and Rosario Rico read out the budget categories and amounts as recommended by the Finance Committee. Rosario wondered why such a high percentage of the budget is allocated for outreach (59.68%) and it was explained that the Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment strongly encourages a high percentage of spending for outreach to stakeholders. Her concern is that we attract a lot of stakeholders who have hopes that the Neighborhood Council can assist them with their issues but become discouraged when the solutions take a long time or are really not available due to limited budgets for alley clean ups, tree trimming, sidewalk repair, traffic signals, etc. Richard Lee suggested allocating funds to outreach via social media, such as You-Tube. It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Ramon Montoya, and passed 10-0-0 to approve the 2014-2015 budget for \$37,000 as drafted by the Finance Committee.

8) Approval of a Board Resolution for the necessity of using the Holiday Inn-Torrance for the fall 2014 Board Retreat: Because there are no locations within HGNNC boundaries which can provide all of the necessary elements for a Board Retreat, it was moved by Ramon Montoya, seconded by Rey Paduani, and passed 10-0-0 to approve the necessity of holding the Fall 2014 Board Retreat at the Holiday Inn-Torrance, 19800 S. Vermont Avenue.

9) Report of the NC Presidents' meeting on June 30: Chair Delores Allmond asked to postpone this report due to the late hour.

10) Report on the Budget Advocates meeting of July 31: Budget Advocate Joan Jacobs was not present to make this report.

11) Report on the Harbor Alliance meeting of August 6: Rosalie Preston and Lu Watson reported on the presentation by City of Los Angeles' Emergency Management Department. They now have downloadable information for Neighborhood Councils on their website. They

will be offering a training for stakeholders at the Crenshaw Christian Church, 7901 S. Vermont Avenue, on Thurs. September 25 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. There was also a presentation about the County of Los Angeles' Mediation Services, with mention that the City Attorney's Office also offers mediation services for L.A. City residents.

12) Announcements: Neighborhood Council Budget Day is Sat. August 16 from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., with a breakfast included. The program starts at 8:30 a.m. It will be held in the Public Works Board Room on the 3rd floor of City Hall.

The Harbor City-Harbor Gateway Chamber is sponsoring "Bark-n-Bite" at the Holiday-Inn Torrance, 19800 S. Vermont Avenue, on Sat. August 16 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be activities for dogs and also local restaurant tastings as a fundraiser for an animal rescue center.

Youth Representative Richard Lee announced that former Council District Deputy Myron Cotton is retiring from City service after 30 years and will be honored on Thurs. August 21 from 5-7 p.m. in the Tom Bradley Room at City Hall.

District 7 Representative Rosario Rico reminded the Board that the City's Planning Commission will be reviewing the Health Plan for Los Angeles on Thurs. August 14 at 1:30 p.m. and will also hold a discussion about equity for low-income residents and planning issues that same morning.

Community Organization Representative Deborah Lee thanked the Board for supporting LAPD SE Division's National Night Out, both with a Neighborhood Purposes Grant and also staffing of the HGNNC booth at the event. She has given the Council enough of the reusable bags that were created for the event so that each Board member can have one. They have the name of the Neighborhood Council on one side.

Recording Secretary Rosalie Preston announced that the Planning and Land Use Committee will meet on Sat. August 16 at 9:30 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Recording Secretary