

**Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council
Board Meeting of May 11, 2010**

Present: Adrian White (Chair), Delores Allmond (Vice Chair), Rosalie Preston (Recording Secretary), Joan Jacobs (Corresponding Secretary), Gloria Christmas (Treasurer), Adrian Valenzuela (District 2), Rey Paduani (District 3), Betty Hawkins (District 4), Llewyn Fowlkes (District 5), Leo Youngblood (District 8), Neodros Bridgeforth (Faith-Based Representative), and David Ortega (Community Organization Representative)

Chair Adrian White called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

1) Public Comment: Rey Paduani, District 3 Representative and Richard Higashi, District 1 stakeholder, (who are both members of LAPD Southeast Station's Community Police Advisory Board) discussed the plans for the August 3 National Night Out and a possible fund-raising carnival. They also mentioned the June 8 Law Enforcement Torch Run which encourages community members to assist law enforcement officers to carry the torch along Vermont Avenue. Sgt. Jenal of Southeast Vice is encouraging signatures on the Figueroa Street Corridor Community Coordination Petition Project letters as well as calls and e-mails to City Council members in support of it. This Project would encourage a "zero tolerance zone" for prostitution along Figueroa and a cohesive approach from LAPD, the City Attorney's Office, and the court system.

2) Approval of the April 13 Board minutes: The minutes were approved as presented on a motion by Gloria Christmas, second by Neodros Bridgeforth, and vote of 10-0.

3) Treasurer's Report: A treasurer's report was not available.

After discussion, Leo Youngblood moved, Eva Cooper seconded, and it was passed 10-0 to support the August 3 National Night Out activities at LAPD Southeast Station in an amount up to \$1500.

After comparing and discussing the draft 2010-2011 budget and previous year's budget, Leo Youngblood moved, Llewyn Fowlkes seconded, and it was passed 10-0 to approve the proposed 2010-2011 budget. The budget must be submitted to the Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment by June 15.

4) Report on the June 8 Board election, including summary of candidate filing, the May 25 candidates' forum, and outreach activities: For the June 8 HGNNC Board election, there are now eighteen candidates for the seventeen Board seats, with three of those being official write-in candidates. The contested seats are Chairperson, with two running, and At-Large Representative, with four people running for the two At-Large seats. The City Clerk has said that the two highest vote-getters will become the two At-Large representatives. There are no candidates for either the Corresponding Secretary or District 1 Representative.

There is a discrepancy between the wording of the HGNNC bylaws and what is posted on the City Clerk's Neighborhood Council elections website as to when the new Board will be seated. According to an e-mail from Lisette Covarrubias, if there are no challenges, then the new Board could be seated by the outgoing Board at the next regularly scheduled meeting of June 22 or within 30 days of the election results being certified.

Our goal is to have 200 to 300 stakeholders voting, so that the number of voters exceeds our last election in July 2007 (175 voters). There has been a range of from 5 to 1516 voters in

Neighborhood Council elections in Regions which have already voted. The wording for the election awareness flyer which will be direct-mailed to our 10,000 households was reviewed. Rosalie Preston represented the HGNNC and Watts NC at the 2nd Annual Labor and Social Justice Fair at California State University Dominguez Hills on April 28, with the goal of promoting participation in the June 8 Board election. She did talk to a small number of students who live either in Wilmington or Watts.

It was decided that those candidates unable to attend the Candidates' Forum on May 25 could submit a proxy statement for someone else to read out. Stakeholder questions will be directed towards candidates for the two contested seats, in the interest of having the meeting end by 9 p.m.

5) Report on the District 1 and District 4 clean up days: The clean-up morning around the Harbor Gateway Center had about sixty volunteers present. District 4's clean-up morning also had a good turn-out of residents cleaning out their homes and garages, with all three large dumpsters ending up overflowing. GAP (the Gang Alternative Project) sent volunteers to weed along the 110 Harbor Freeway. Many people also brought their old computers and TV's to Ray Washington's home on 139th Street for proper recycling.

6) Report on the Harbor Alliance meeting of May 5: The HANC meeting focused on the City budget proposals, the various proposed Department of Water and Power rate increases, a listing of the problems which various Region I Neighborhood Councils have experienced with the City Clerk's office, and the City's proposal to return cost and liability for sidewalk repair the homeowner.

7) Report on the May 4 appeal hearing of the cell phone tower denial at 14032 S. Vermont Avenue and Zoning Administrator ruling on the swap meet at 16304 S. Vermont Avenue: Neodros Bridgeforth, Rosalie Preston, and three stakeholders from District 4 attended the appeal hearing of the cell phone tower denial at 14032 S. Vermont Avenue. Ed Gala, the T-Mobile representative, brought in a new proposal for a lower tower of 45 feet designed to look like a eucalyptus tree, which the four members of the Harbor Planning Commission then approved. They did, however, grant the HGNNC the ability to negotiate an upgraded landscaping plan for the site.

The Zoning Administrator ruled against granting a conditional use permit to Mark Phillips for operation of the outdoor swap meet at 16304 S. Vermont Avenue. Phillips has until May 17 to appeal the ruling and meanwhile continues to operate.

8) Finalize agenda for May 25 General Membership meeting: Suggestions were made for revising the wording of the agenda, which focuses on the Candidates' Forum and June 8 Board election.

9) Announcements: The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment is hosting a Candidate Preparation workshop on Thursday May 20 at the Expo Center (incorrect information on the flyer-- actually at 135th Street School)

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston