

Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council Board Meeting

135th Street Auditorium, 801 W. 135th Street

Tuesday, June 11, 2013

Present: Delores Allmond (Chairperson), Pamela Thornton (Vice Chairperson), Rosalie Preston (Recording Secretary), Neodros Bridgeforth (Corresponding Secretary), Joan Jacobs (Treasurer), Ramon Montoya (District 1), Adrian Valenzuela (District 2), Rey Paduani (District 3), Betty Hawkins (District 4), Llewyn Fowlkes (District 5), Marvin Bell (District 6), Mary Hinton (District 8), Deborah Lee (Community Organization Representative), Richard Lee (Youth Representative), and Donald Cook (Outreach Representative)

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m. by Chair Delores Allmond

1) Public Comment: There were no public comments on items not on the agenda.

2) Approval of the May 14, 2013, Board minutes: It was moved by Llewyn Fowlkes, seconded by Rey Paduani, and passed 12-0 to approved the May 14 Board minutes as submitted.

3) Treasurer's report: Treasurer Joan Jacobs reviewed the treasurer's report, with page 1 being the U.S. Bank statement for May 21 showing ten p-card expenditures. Pages 2a and 2b showing the 2012-2013 expenditures as of June 10, totaling \$36,202.66, with about \$797 remaining

(Marvin Bell entered the meeting at 7:17 p.m.)

Betty Hawkins expressed her concern that the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment is not listing all of our expenditures on-line so that the HGNNC is never quite certain as to exactly where we stand financially. It was moved by Neodros Bridgeforth, seconded by Marvin Bell, and passed 13-0-0 to approve the Treasurer's report.

(Richard Lee entered the meeting at 7:45 p.m.)

3a. Approval of the 2013-2014 budget of \$37,000, as recommended by the Finance Committee:

The Finance Committee met on June 8 to draft the proposed budget with its various line items. The budget is very tight, with a considerable amount being allocated to a median beautification project in District 5. Concern was expressed that a few more potential projects will not have funding, such as a possible Clergy Walk by Southeast LAPD and support for emergency preparedness workshops. Therefore another line item will be added under "Event Expenses" for "possible future events" and \$995 moved from "Flyer Distribution" to that category. It was agreed that the HGNNC Finance Committee needs to develop a policy on the amounts which individual Districts can request for beautification project support and that there needs to be a more formal funding request mechanism in place. It was moved by Ramon Montoya, seconded by Llewyn Fowlkes, and passed 12-1-1 to approve the recommended 2013-2014 budget with the one change.

3b. Possible purchase of 100 T-shirts or polo shirts for Board members and active stakeholders to wear at outreach events: A sample T-shirt with the HGNNC map logo, black printing on a white T-shirt, was passed around. The Board and two stakeholders who were present completed a survey showing that most would prefer to have a white polo shirt with the HGNNC name on the upper left side. The Outreach Committee will finalize the details of this project and get several estimates. It was moved by Ramon Montoya, seconded by Marvin Bell, and passed 14-0 to approve up to \$700 for about 50-70 T-shirts and polo shirts to wear at outreach events.

LAUSD Report: Fred Quintana, Policy Director for District 7 Board of Education Member Richard Vladovic, answered questions about funding projects to support the schools within the HGNNC boundaries, including murals at two of the elementary schools, as proposed in the 2013-2014 budget. He verified that individual schools rarely have the funds to paint murals to beautify their campuses, unless the school is having a new facility built where the mural funds could be included. Each school does have some discretionary funds and the principal determines how those funds are spent. But with today's lean budgets, it is unlikely that those funds would be available for a mural. Quintana said he would look into finding some additional funds to assist the 118th Street School with its mural project; the Washington Primary School is within District 1 Member Marguerite LaMotte's area.

4) Recommendation to the Board from the Planning and Land Use Committee on a modification to the site plan approval in regard to the age eligibility from 62+ to 55+ for the proposed 81 senior apartments at 16304 S. Vermont Avenue in District 1 (DIR-2011-3197-SPR-DB; ENV 2011-2967-MND), with the potential for 40 apartments to be rented to homeless veterans: Pamela Thornton, PLU Chair, explained that the Planning and Land Use Committee met on June 1 and heard from Lindsay Quackenbush of Affirmed Housing that they would like to change the age eligibility of the tenants in the future affordable housing project at 16304 S. Vermont Avenue to 55 and older instead of the previously approved 62 and older. Mr. Quackenbush was asked to return on June 8 for another Planning and Land Use Committee meeting to hear more details of this proposal. He was unavailable for that meeting but PATH Partners, who are co-funding the project and will be providing the supportive services for the residents, did attend and explained their current funding sources and the reason why they were asking for the age change. The Committee then voted 6-1 to not support any age change.

Pamela said that there had been concern expressed with the type of residents who would live in the new apartments and also that this was not fully explained to the HGNNC during the approval process of the project early last year. Meanwhile, PATH Partners is offering to arrange a field trip to their other existing projects in Los Angeles and also to view the area around Gardena Blvd. to be aware of some issues of possible concern to their future tenants. Since the recommendation was to maintain the same minimum age, it was decided not to have the full Board vote again.

(Neodros Bridgeforth left at 9:12 p.m.)

5) Report by the Chair on meetings with Councilman Buscaino and Councilman Parks: Chair Delores Allmond represented the HGNNC North at the April 29 meeting with Councilman Buscaino at Harbor College. Delores mentioned that the HGNNC has a number of low-income seniors whose homes need repairs and the Councilman said that Habitat for Humanity could become involved with assisting them. The HGNNC will be reaching out to Councilman Bernard Parks because now the section of District 6 north of the 105 Freeway is represented by him.

6) Report from the Youth Representative on youth-related activities of the HGNNC: In the interest of time, Youth Representative Richard Lee said that he would e-mail his report to the Board.

7) Planning details for Sat. June 15 Board training, including refreshments: Treasurer Joan Jacobs will purchase and order the coffee and other refreshments on Fri. June 14 before noon, which is the cut-off time for using the U.S. Bank p-card.

8) Further discussion of a “Movie in the Park” event for Fri. August 30: The Outreach Committee discussed possible vendors for the Friday August 30 event at Rosecrans Park and favors R and R Productions because the family-owned business can provide the pop-up screen, projector, sound equipment, set up and take down, and two hours of music from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. while attendees are eating popcorn and having their dinners on the grass. The Committee is considering having several food trucks present so attendees can purchase their own meals. The HGNNC would provide the popcorn.

9) Report on Harbor Alliance meeting of June 5: Rosalie reported that the major topic was the proposed bond issue for repaving all of the L.A. city streets.

10) Announcements: Mayor-elect Eric Garcetti is having a series of meetings to get stakeholder input on how to improve the economy, make City Hall work better, and strengthen neighborhoods. He will be at the Warner Grand Theatre on Thurs. June 20 at 7 p.m.

The Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment is hosting Board training on lobbying, the file management system, and the new funding program on Sat. June 29 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Kaiser Permanente Conference Center, 25965 S. Normandie Avenue, Harbor City, CA 90710.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Recording Secretary