

Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, April 22, 2014

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

Present: Delores Allmond (Chairperson), Pamela Thornton (Vice Chairperson), Rosalie Preston (Recording Secretary), Neodros Bridgeforth (Corresponding Secretary), Joan Jacobs (Treasurer), Adrian Valenzuela (District 2), Rey Paduani (District 3), Betty Hawkins (District 4), Llewyn Fowlkes (District 5), Marvin Bell (District 6), Rosario Rico (District 7), 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 7:12 p.m. by Chair Delores Allmond. Delores led the group in the pledge to the flag and a moment of silence and then read out the code of civility.

1) Public Comment: Davion Lewis of the Environmental Charter Middle School announced that the school is in the process of remodeling the old Methodist Church building and that later this year there will be a room there suitable for public meetings, including those of the Neighborhood Council. The School is located at 812 W. 169th Place in District 1.

Marci James, District 8 stakeholder, discussed the recent Easter activities held at the Magic Johnson Park near her home which results in overflow parking occurring in her neighborhood north of 120th Street.

2) LA Police Dept. Report: Officer Robert Martinez is out on leave due to shoulder surgery. Officer Scott Alpert who patrols the Southeast LAPD 18A97 area made the report. He said that between March 23 and April 19, there were six burglaries in the area, one robbery, and one grand theft. He suggested utilizing cameras, bars on windows, burglar alarms, dogs, lights on timers, and locks on windows as deterrents. He also recommended getting to know your neighbors through organizing neighborhood events.

(Marvin Bell entered the meeting at 7:28 p.m.)

Officer Alpert also suggested calling 311, the Southeast station desk, or your Senior Lead Officer for one-on-one advice about your particular security situation.

One stakeholder pointed out that there is cruising going on again every Sunday along Broadway from north of Imperial Highway to 120th Street. A District 3 stakeholder pointed out that there is a lot of marijuana smoking taking place in Rosecrans Park on the weekends near the south fencing. Also, cars are stopping to let people out of cars right in the middle of 149th Street in front of the park. A District 7 stakeholder said that her neighbor smokes marijuana outside and that smoke drifts over to her patio area. Another District 7 stakeholder suggested installing cameras near the 105 Freeway and the railroad tracks to prevent all of the illegal dumping.

3) Council District 15 report: No one was present from Council District 15.

4) Speaker: Kaiser Permanente update on their new Harbor City hospital: Serena Josel, Assistant Area Director-Public Affairs and Brand Communications, Kaiser Permanente South Bay Medical Center, gave a community update on the new hospital which is being constructed in Harbor City. It will meet current seismic standards and all rooms will be one-person rooms with wi-fi, meals on demand. There will be rubber flooring to make walking the corridors easier on the legs and feet for patients and staff and digital mammography equipment. The new facility is expected to open in February 2015. On Sat. April 26 area residents can bring in their expired medications for safe disposal. A Farmers Market is held at the Harbor City facility every Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Kaiser Permanente recently opened new medical offices in Carson. Kaiser Permanente South Bay has 202,831 members and 460 physicians.

(Marvin Bell left at 8 p.m.)

(A break was taken so that stakeholders could get their refreshments)

5) Candidate Forum: candidates for the Tues. May 6 Board election will introduce themselves: Rashad Rucker, Independent Election Administrator for Region 12, introduced himself and DeWayne Lacy, Chair of the Ad Hoc Election Committee. The other Committee members are Donald Cook, Vanessa Johnson, and Rosalie Preston. Harbor Gateway North is using vote-by-mail this time. Applications can still be filled out until April 28. There will be a need for volunteers on election day. Rashad then asked each of the candidates who were present to speak for no more than two minutes (Chair-Delores Allmond, Vice Chair-Pamela Thornton, Recording Secretary-Rosalie Preston, Corresponding Secretary-Neodros Bridgeforth, Treasurer-Joan Jacobs, District 2-Adrian Valenzuela, District 3-Rey Paduani, District 4-Betty Hawkins, District 5-Llewyn Fowlkes, District 7-Rosario Rico, Community Organization Representative-Deborah Lee, Youth Representative-Richard Lee, and Outreach Representative-Donald Cook.) Candidate for Corresponding Secretary Erica Payne chose not to speak and also District 1 Candidate Art Cramer. District 1 Representative candidate Ramon Montoya was unable to attend due to a work injury. District 6 Representative candidate Marvin Bell had to leave to go to work. The following candidates were not present: Recording Secretary-Maria Rodriguez, Treasurer Alan Rascon, and District 8 Representative Michael Chiles. There is no candidate for the At-Large Representative seat.

6) Approval of the January 28 Membership meeting minutes: It was moved by Richard Lee, seconded by Llewyn Fowlkes, and passed 13-0-0 to approve the minutes as presented.

7) Treasurer's report: Treasurer Joan Jacobs reviewed the expenditures summary from July 1 to April 22 which now totals \$21,545.29 of the \$37,000 allocated by the City. The Finance Committee will be meeting sometime in June to consider requests for the next fiscal year and to draft the new budget. She briefly explained how to apply for funding. It was moved by Rosario Rico, seconded by Adrian Valenzuela, and passed 13-0-0 to accept the Treasurer's report.

8) Report on HGNNC activities and planning issues: Planning and Land Use Chair Pamela Thornton reported on the two recent community meetings held on March 1 and April 12 in District 7 to go over details of the Department of City Planning proposals in the South L.A. and Southeast L.A. Community Plan updates. The next Planning and Land Use Committee meeting will be Thurs. May 1 at 6 p.m. to finalize HGNNC recommendations to the full Board and then these recommendations will be submitted to the Department of City Planning. The Planning and Land Use Committee is also planning a Sat. June 7 Town Hall from 10-12 noon at the 135th Street School on the issues related to oil production in the HGNNC area. She briefly reviewed the history of the L.A. Seismic sound wave testing of last summer and current impact of the active wells in the area with many stakeholder reports of additional cracking of walls, ceilings, and driveways, porches, home additions, and other signs of earth subsidence.

9) Announcements: CERT Training is being offered at the Council District 15 office on Thursday evenings from 6 p.m. beginning April

Richard Lee, Youth Representative, announced that the Youth Leadership Program of the Toastmasters International is being sponsored by the HGNNC and held at Rosecrans Recreation Center beginning Thurs. April 24 for eight weeks. It is open to those ages 12-18 and students can receive community credit for the classes, which will cover public speaking, leadership training, critical thinking, and self-confidence training.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Recording Secretary