

Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council General Membership Meeting - July 22, 2014

Present: Delores Allmond (Chair), Pamela Thornton (Vice Chair), Rosalie Preston (Recording 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), Shirley Johnson (District 8), Deborah Lee (Community Organization Representative), Richard Lee (Youth Representative), Donald Cook (Outreach Representative), and Charlene Marshall (At-Large-Representative).

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Delores Allmond at 7:10 p.m. District 3 Representative Rey Paduani led the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. Delores then read out the code of civility.

1) **Public Comment:** Evelyn Lario, Resident Outreach Coordinator, Best Start Broadway-Manchester Community, discussed the services they can provide to residents of Districts 5, 6, 7, and 8, which are included in their service area. Best Start has \$100,000 for parenting classes and support for grandparents who care for grandchildren. She gave as examples one parent with an autistic child and another parent with four disabled children who were assisted by Best Start to navigate the school system to obtain resources for their children. Best Start also offers free classes on how to prepare healthy meals.

2) **Recognition of Youth Leadership Program participants:** Youth Representative Richard Lee discussed the recently concluded eight-week Youth Leadership program which took place at the Rosecrans Recreation Center. The program focused on leadership, critical thinking, and public speaking skills for those ages 12-18. Two of the participants, Yvonne Valenzuela and Donald Cook III, gave samples of their speaking skills on the topic of gangs and how to keep young people from joining gangs. A third participant Sarah Barajas thanked the Board for sponsoring the program and encouraged other youth to get involved with the program when it is offered again.

(Rosario Rico entered the meeting at 7:30 p.m.)

Richard then introduced Karen Persip of Toastmasters District 1 who gave out Toastmasters certificates to Emily Alvarez, Ynette Alvarez, Sarah Barajas, Donald Cook III, Ali Kiehl, and Yvonne Valenzuela. Richard Lee presented certificates of appreciation to the participants from 15th District Councilmember Joe Buscaino and Mayor Eric Garcetti. He also recognized District 5 Representative Llewyn Fowlkes who had attended all sessions and assisted Richard with the workshops. There were also certificates for Richard Lee and Dana Kiehl, Toastmasters, and one for the HGNNC for sponsoring the program from Mayor Eric Garcetti.

3) **L.A. Police Dept. Report:** Senior Lead Officer Robert Martinez is still out after shoulder surgery and no other officer was available to attend the meeting.

(Charlene Marshall arrived at 7:40 p.m.)

4) **Speaker: Bureau of Street Services–Urban Forestry-Street Tree Care Coordinator Marcus Trinidad:** Mr. Trinidad was unable to attend the meeting due to a family health emergency.

Instead, Chair Delores Allmond asked District 4 Representative Betty Hawkins to discuss her successes in obtaining care for newly planted trees along Hoover Street in District 4 and also how she has gotten trees trimmed. A number of stakeholders, including those in Districts 2 and 8 asked how they could get dead trees or leaning trees, or dying trees removed and were given suggestions.

A District 2 stakeholder asked how to have the City finish slurry sealing her street after most of it was done except for one small area. Several District 3 stakeholders asked for assistance because the dust and air pollution issues related to California Waste Services have gotten worse.

District 1 stakeholder Art Cramer said that Council District 15 Assistant Chief of Staff Jacob Haik and Ana Dragin say they can't properly address Art's issues because the HGNNC is not adequately documenting them.

(a break was taken for refreshments)

(Marvin Bell left the meeting at 8:30 p.m.)

At 8:40 p.m. the meeting resumed with a District 7 stakeholder discussing the need for an alley closure or clean up near 118th Street and Main Street. District 7 Representative Rosario Rico said that the HGNNC is already aware of this problem alley, but she will follow up on it. District 7 stakeholder Dr. Princess Sykes recommended creating a log or other type of paper trail to document issues and then present them to the Council District 15 office, which has been done by the HGNNC earlier this year, though as yet the Council office has not scheduled a meeting with the HGNNC about the issues.

5) Approval of the April 22 Membership meeting minutes: 6) Approval of the July 23

Membership meeting minutes: It was moved by Rosario Rico, seconded by Donald Cook, and passed 12-0-0 to approve the minutes as presented.

6) Treasurer's report: revised June 2014 monthly expenditure report: Treasurer Joan Jacobs reviewed the revised June monthly financial report and explained how she had inadvertently included two expenses on the report presented to the Board on July 8 that had previously appeared on the May 2014 financial report. Those are removed now and also there are revised figures for the amount spent for Axiom translations in June. It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Rey Paduani, and passed 11-0-0. Llewyn Fowlkes asked if there is a way to make the print bigger on the monthly report form. Joan Jacobs will ask DONE about that as they are the ones who created the form. Joan Jacobs noted that there are outstanding commitments of over \$2,228.77 that have not yet been paid by the Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment.

6a. Approval of \$458.95 for 3000 One Call Now call credits. It was moved by Rosario Rico, seconded by Shirley Johnson, and passed 11-0-0 to approve the expenditure for the 3000 One Call Now call credits.

6b. Approval of \$100 for one year of a post office box rental. It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Richard Lee, and passed 11-0-0 to approve the expenditure for the continued rental of P.O. Box 3723.

7) Approval of letter requesting Councilmember Buscaino to make a motion to encumber funds

(\$2,146.71) from the 2013-2014 fiscal year funds: Treasurer Joan Jacobs explained that after going in person to talk with staff of DONE Funding a number of times, she was finally told that five items that the HGNNC Board approved and submitted paperwork for reimbursement by the deadline of May 15 have not been paid with 2013-2014 funds because each required some additional paperwork before they could be processed by DONE but the HGNNC was not notified of this until recently due to limited staffing in DONE. Meanwhile, all unspent 2013-2014 funds have been swept by the Controller's office and put back into the General Fund. Some other Neighborhood Councils have asked their Councilmembers to assist with encumbering those funds now, so that 2014-2015 funds do not have to be used to pay for these commitments. It was moved by Richard Lee, seconded by Llewyn Fowlkes, and passed 12-0-0 to write a letter to Councilmember Joe Buscaino requesting that he assist with encumbering \$2,146.71 of HGNNC funds from the 2013-2014 monies.

8) Update on June 7 Town Hall and plans for Emergency Preparedness Activities: Vice Chair Pamela Thornton said that follow up on the June 7 Town Hall on Oil Production and also emergency preparedness activities would be a priority for the HGNNC during the coming year.

9) Announcements: Dr. Princess Sykes said she appreciates that the HGNNC is going to emphasize emergency preparedness and she said that she had attended CERT training offered at the Council District 15 Field Office in Watts and hoped that the HGNNC could arrange for additional classes within the HGNNC boundaries.

District 3 will hold a Community Meeting on the dust and noise issues relating to the operation of California Waste Services on Sat. July 26 at 10 a.m. at the Rosecrans Recreation Center.

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

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston