

## Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council Board Meeting

Tuesday, November 11, 2014

Harbor Gateway Community Center, 802 W. Gardena Blvd.

Present: Delores Allmond (Chairperson), Rosalie Preston (Recording Secretary), Joan Jacobs (Treasurer), Adrian Valenzuela (District 2), Rey Paduani (District 3), Llewyn Fowlkes (District 5), 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 at 7:40 p.m. by Chair Delores Allmond. The venue was changed because the 135<sup>th</sup> Street School Auditorium was locked and no school personnel were on campus to unlock it as had been guaranteed by the school's principal. The meeting opened with a moment of silence and the salute to the flag.

**1) Public Comment:** Richard Lee noted that it was Veterans' Day and said that he wished to honor all of the veterans on the HGNNC Board or any who were present. He then announced that he would be conducting a "Youth Leadership" segment of 45 minutes which will take place from 2:15 to 3:00 p.m. at the Stop the Pain Teen Summit on the California State University Dominguez Hills campus on Sat. November 15.

District 1 stakeholder Art Cramer discussed the parking citations which have been issued to residents on the west side of Figueroa Street since the "No Stopping Anytime" signs were posted in September. He asked the Board to write a letter to the Department of Transportation and Council District 15 objecting to these signs because they are not what was requested by the HGNNC at his request, i.e. "no large truck parking" signs such as Carson has posted on their side of Figueroa. Also he pointed out that the HGNNC Board was not consulted before the signs were posted. When Janice Hahn was the Council 15 representative, she introduced a motion in the Transportation Committee of City Council (11-1204-0015) asking for the Department of Transportation to work with CD 15 and the affected residents to discuss appropriate parking restrictions for large commercial vehicles that park in the area.

District 1 stakeholder Gustavo Infante, who lives to the north of Art Cramer and just west of Figueroa Street, said that he also is upset by the "No Stopping Anytime" signs which prevent his guests from parking along Figueroa. He also recognized the issue as being the parking of the large trucks in that location, not regular cars and trucks. He also asked the HGNNC to help in removing the "No Stopping Anytime" signs.

**2) Approval of the October 11 Special Board minutes and October 14 Board minutes:** It was moved by Joan Jacobs, seconded by Charlene Marshall, and passed 10-0-0 to approve the October 11 Special Board minutes as submitted. It was moved by Deborah Lee, seconded by Joan Jacobs, and passed 10-0-0 to approve the October 14 Board minutes as submitted.

**3) Treasurer's report on expenditures to date and revised September monthly expenditure report and October monthly expenditure report:** Treasurer Joan Jacobs explained that the revised September 2014 monthly expenditure report was being presented because she had only been able to access the HGNNC checking account recently and now was able to view all expenditures. Three additional expenditures for September 2014 are now reflected on the report.

(Rosario Rico entered the meeting at 8:05 p.m.)

It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Shirley Johnson, and passed 11-0-0 to approve the revised September 2014 monthly expenditure report. The October 2014 report was then

reviewed. As of the end of October, \$23,174.80 remains in the budget of \$37,000. It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Llewyn Fowlkes, and passed 11-0-0 to approve the October 2014 monthly expenditure report.

(Charlene Marshall entered the meeting at 8:20 p.m.)

**3a. Support for up to \$260 for holiday tree decorations along Hoover Street in District**

**4:** As in past years, District 4 has asked for support to decorate the street trees along Hoover Street. There was a question about why other neighborhoods were not also asking for similar tree decorations, but Treasurer Joan Jacobs explained that this was the only District which had made the request this year. It was moved by Llewyn Fowlkes, seconded by Adrian Valenzuela, and passed 11-0-1 (Donald Cook abstaining) to support up to \$260 for red bows and aluminum foil for the District 4 holiday tree decoration.

**4) Letter regarding the “No Stopping Anytime” signs along Figueroa Street in District 1 and request that the Department of Transportation address the Board regarding this issue and what steps will be taken next:**

It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Rosario Rico, and passed 12-0-0 to approve sending a letter to the Department of Transportation and Council District 15 asking that the “No Stopping Anytime” signs be removed and instead signs prohibiting large truck parking be posted along Figueroa Street from 168<sup>th</sup> to 170<sup>th</sup> Streets, as originally requested. Additionally, the Department of Transportation will be requested to attend an upcoming Board meeting to explain why the “No Stopping Anytime” signs were posted and what next steps will be taken to address this issue.

**5) Letter to support the opposition of the United Firefighters regarding the placement of a cell tower on Fire Station #79 at 18030 S. Vermont Avenue:**

The HGNNC learned of the proposal to place a very high-powered cell tower and equipment on top of Fire Station No. 79 when letting the station know about the November 8 Emergency Preparedness Neighborhood Survey. This tower and those proposed for Fire Station in Harbor City and Fire Station in San Pedro are part of the LA-RICS (Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communications System) plan to install Long Term Evolution (LTE) broadband communication equipment at more than 25 L.A. Fire Stations and facilities, with a total of 231 such installations throughout the greater Los Angeles area. United Firefighters Local 112 has written letters opposing this installation until studies of their safety can be done. Meanwhile, LA-RICS has been granted exemption from CEQA review. It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Rosario Rico, and passed 12-0-0 to send a letter expressing concern about the approval process which did not include any notification to the relevant Neighborhood Councils and waived the environmental study.

**6) HGNNC priorities for the 2015-2016 City budget:** Last year the HGNNC sent a letter to the Mayor and Council District 15 stating the priorities for City funding based on stakeholder requests for service over the previous year. This resulted in many of the areas mentioned in the letter being given more funding, including the Neighborhood Prosecutor program in the City Attorney’s office. It was moved by Llewyn Fowlkes, seconded by Joan Jacobs, and passed 12-0-0 to send a revised listing, with this time a copy to the Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates.

**7) Report on the November 8 Emergency Preparedness Neighborhood Survey outreach**

**event:** Emergency Preparedness Chair Deborah Lee summarized the event which turned out to be very successful and to have great support among stakeholders who received the small bags of information on how to prepare for emergencies. The goal was the recruitment of 50 block leaders but 60 actually participated, with at least 1700 residences being contacted.

(Donald Cook and Charlene Marshall left the meeting at 9:05 p.m.)

**8) Follow-up from October 11 Board Retreat: discussion of next steps on meeting the 2014-2015 goals:** There will be a joint Board/Outreach Committee meeting in January to plan out future outreach activities and improved communication to stakeholders.

**9) Report on the Harbor Alliance meeting of November 5:** The Department of City Planning gave an update on ReCodeLA, the updating of the City's Zoning Code. Neighborhood Councils are encouraged to file Community Impact Statements on proposed City ordinances; the HGNNC has a goal of filing three of these during the fiscal year and so far has only filed one. Board of Neighborhood Commissioners Victor Medina asked for input on which initiatives the BONC should focus on first.

**10) Report on the Budget Advocates:** Joan Jacobs reported that the Budget Advocates continue to hold meetings with the various City Departments to understand their operations and what their budget priorities are. Co-Chair Jay Handal is asking Neighborhood Councils to write letters to their City Councilmembers asking them to support allowing the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment to hire seven new staff members because of all of the Department's vacancies. He also urges Neighborhood Councils to write letters of support for the recommendations of the Budget Advocates and their White Paper.

**11) Announcements:** The Stop the Pain Teen Summit on Dating Violence, Sex Trafficking & Bully Prevention will be held at the California State University Dominguez Hills campus on Sat. November 15 from 8:30 am to 4 p.m. The Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council is a sponsor and will be having a booth there.

Youth Representative Richard Lee announced that he has been given an award from Toastmasters District 1 for his work during 2013-2014 coordinating youth leadership workshops. He also noted that Community Organization Representative Deborah Lee was given the LAPD's first ever Volunteer Impact Award. The statue will be on display at the Southeast Division until the next time the award is given out.

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

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Recording Secretary