

Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council Board Meeting

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

135th Street School, 801 W. 135th Street

Present: Delores Allmond (Chairperson), Pamela Thornton (Vice Chair), Rosalie Preston (Recording Secretary), Neodros Bridgeforth (Corresponding Secretary), Joan Jacobs (Treasurer), Adrian Valenzuela (District 2), Betty Hawkins (District 4), Llewyn Fowlkes (District 5), Shirley Johnson (District 8), Deborah Lee (Community Organization Representative), and Richard Lee (Youth Representative)

After quorum was achieved, the meeting was called to order at 7:31 p.m. by Chair Delores Allmond.

1) Public Comment: There was no public comment.

2) Approval of the December 9 Board minutes: It was moved by Shirley Johnson, seconded by Adrian Valenzuela, and passed 9-0-0 to approve the December 9 Board minutes as corrected.

3) Treasurer's report on expenditures to date and December monthly expenditure report: Treasurer Joan Jacobs reviewed the ten items on the December 2014 monthly expenditure report. The total expended and committed through December 2014 is \$18,190.91. with \$18,809.09 of the \$37,000 still available. It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Deborah Lee, and passed 7-0-1 (with Pamela Thornton abstaining and Rosalie Preston currently ineligible) to approve the December 2014 monthly expenditure report.

(Neodros Bridgeforth entered the meeting at 7:47 pm)

Joan reported on the December 16 Finance Committee meeting which reviewed all outstanding commitments and estimated how much is available for community groups and non-profits to apply for in February. She distributed copies of the new rating form for projects which the Finance Committee reviewed and approved.

(Deborah Lee left the meeting at 7:50 p.m.)

3a. Expenditures of up to \$1,000 to support a clean up day in District 8, including delivery of flyers and lunch for volunteers: After review of a proposed budget that would include funding for lunches and water for the volunteers, delivery of flyers to residents of District 8 by CIPS Marketing a week before the clean up date, and double-sided flyers printed for CIPS Marketing to deliver, it was moved by Llewyn Fowlkes, seconded by Adrian Valenzuela, and passed 8-0-0 to approve up to \$1,000 for the District 8 clean up day. District 8 Representative Shirley Johnson is looking into a Saturday date for this event.

3b. Approval of up to \$350 for a new laserjet printer for the HGNNC office: The current HP 2300 laserjet printer is about eleven years old and has been occasionally showing error messages. In the event that a new printer is needed, it was moved by Joan Jacobs, seconded by Richard Lee, and passed 8-0-0 to approve spending up to \$350 for a new laserjet printer. The new printer may possibly be the M451NW which would also allow for color printing, allowing the HGNNC to take the old color inkjet printer to salvage.

4) Update on planning and land use issues: The next Planning and Land Use Committee meeting will be held on Sat. February 7 at 10 a.m. The two major issues on the agenda will be the proposed child care facility at 762 W. 130th Street for up to 57 pre-school children (ZA 2014-3889-CU) in District 4 and the proposed new 7-Eleven at 600 E. Imperial Highway, just east of Avalon (ZA 2014-4308-CU) in District 8. The Zoning Administrator will hold a hearing to

review two conditions placed on the Edge O' Town Motel at 503 W. Athens Blvd. in District 5. A number of District 5 stakeholders will be attending as well as Planning and Land Use Chair Pamela Thornton.

5) Update on HGNNC activities, including Ham radio training, CERT training, and a possible workshop on how to start a small business: There are two possibilities for Ham radio training. One would be to have a group from the Valley put on a 9 am to 4 p.m. class on a Saturday which would cost \$55 per person if there are 20 people, or \$1,000 minimum. This would include the materials and license fee. The HGNNC would have to pay for lunch and the rental of the 135th Street School. The other possibility is for a stakeholder from the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council do basic training along with someone else who could cover the more advanced aspects. This would take place on two to three weekday evenings. There would be no cost unless the HGNNC wanted to provide refreshments. There is still a question as to whether the HGNNC can purchase more Ham radios for long-term loan or not. DONE has not yet responded.

CERT training at the 135th Street School has been requested via the Fire Department for Monday evenings in March or April.

Richard Lee discussed holding a small business workshop for HGNNC stakeholders. He, Llewyn Fowlkes, and Donald Cook attended the two-hour small business start up workshop on December 17 at the Mark Twain Branch Library which the Mayor's Office of Economic Development sponsored along with Council District 8. Presenters were Frank Aguirre, Business Development Specialist for the Mayor's Office, Pamela Bizzell, City of Los Angeles Business Source-South Los Angeles Region, and Bonnie Chen, Program Assistant for the Worksource Center in Chinatown. Richard would like to also have a segment on writing a business plan. The ideal time is Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. but the City staff may need to hold it on a weeknight. Richard would also like to invite the Harbor City-Harbor Gateway Chamber of Commerce.

6) Appointment of an Ad Hoc Committee to organize a how to start a small business workshop: It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Joan Jacobs, and passed 9-0-0 to appoint Richard Lee, Llewyn Fowlkes, Donald Cook, Pamela Thornton, and Kandee Lewis to the Ad Hoc Small Business Workshop Committee.

7) Review of the agenda for the Tues. January 27 General Membership meeting: A draft of the flyer which will be delivered to HGNNC stakeholders on Sun. January 25 was reviewed and a suggestion made to clarify the time of the meeting. Pamela Thornton and Richard Lee will arrive early to set up the auditorium for the meeting. Betty Hawkins will assist the Treasurer in ordering the refreshments. Pamela will serve as moderator for the segment featuring Sonja Dawson, the new Neighborhood Prosecutor for our area.

8) Report on the January 7 Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils meeting: The new General Manager of the Department of Transportation, Seleta Reynolds, was the featured speaker and brought Crystal Killian, the Harbor Area Transportation Engineer. Ms. Reynolds encouraged Neighborhood Council members to look at the four elements of their strategic plan on their website. The four elements are Vision Zero (a goal of zero traffic deaths), Liveable and Sustainable (more DASH routes, bike share rentals, and the Great Streets initiative), 21st Century Department (staff development, creation of a project management system), and Customer Service (simplification of posted street signs). She also noted that the Department lost 30% of its staff during the recession and that she is the eighth General Manager in the last twelve years.

There was also a reminder that the homeless count takes place in late January and more volunteers are needed.

9) Report on the Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates: Harbor Area Budget Representative Joan Jacobs reported that the Budget Advocates are working on the “White Paper” which will be presented to the Mayor. The Budget Advocates have been meeting with Council District staff to find out their ideas on the budget. Joan was present when the Budget Advocates met with Council District 15. Councilman Buscaino was not present, so staff member Joe Coleman answered questions. Joan presented a copy of the HGNNC budget priorities which had previously been sent to CD 15.

10) Announcements: Richard Lee plans to send a letter to the HGNNC agencies which serve youth, including the schools and other youth groups. The letter will let them know what the Neighborhood Council can offer to them. Due to work commitments, Richard will not be able to organize a multi-week Youth Leadership program, but could manage a one-session presentation, such as he did at the California State University Dominguez Hills for the Stop the Pain event on November 15.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Recording Secretary