

Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council Board Meeting

Tuesday, November 10, 2015
135th Street School, 801 W. 135th Street

Present: Delores Allmond (Chair), Pamela Thornton (Vice Chair), Rosalie Preston (Recording 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), Janet Mitchell (District 7), Shirley Johnson (District 8), Deborah Lee (Community Organization Representative), and Richard Lee (Youth Representative)

The meeting was called to order at 7:12 p.m. by Chair Delores Allmond

1) Public Comment: Chair Delores Allmond read out her statement of resignation from the Board after serving for twelve years as the Recording Secretary, Vice Chair, and Chair. Vice Chair Pamela Thornton then took over chairing of the meeting. She led the salute to the flag and a moment of silence.

District 4 Representative Betty Hawkins read out the thank you note from Valgene Pavageau, teacher at the 135th Street School who organized the October 24 Harvest Health Festival which the HGNNC supported. Ms. Pavageau also provided sign in sheets for the over 1,000 who attended for the HGNNC monthly expenditure report.

Nancy Trojan, District 6 stakeholder, said she apologized for any offense she may have caused at the October 27 General Membership meeting when she suggested having the District Representatives sit in the order of their Districts. She suggests this for future meetings and also an introduction of the Board at the beginning of the meetings so that stakeholders learn who their representatives are and will feel more comfortable going up to talk with them about issues after the meeting. She also recommended following the agenda more closely so that the meetings run to the time allotted.

2) Appointment of Hannah Woods, Ruby Joya, and Joan Jacobs to the Ad Hoc Election Committee: Hannah Woods, District 5 stakeholder, said that she is a retired Los Angeles County Sheriff Deputy, has lived in the Athens on the Hill area for 47 years, and wishes to encourage District 5 stakeholders to vote and be more involved in HGNNC activities.

Ruby or Ruth Joya was not present.

Joan Jacobs, District 2 stakeholder, said that she is very excited to see how big a vote the 2016 election can achieve and wants to get a lot of stakeholders involved in the Board election to demonstrate to the Mayor and City Council that the HGNNC is a Neighborhood Council with a lot of support from the stakeholders.

It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Marvin Bell, and passed 13-0-0 to approve appointing Hannah Woods and Joan Jacobs to the Ad Hoc Election Committee.

3) Appointment of Joan Jacobs as the Public Works liaison: The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment has asked each Neighborhood Council to appoint a Public Works Liaison. Joan said that she wants to focus on clean ups in the HGNNC and to help come up with solutions for large amount of illegal dumping within HGNNC boundaries. The current focus of the Public Works Liaisons will be the Clean Streets Initiative. Joan noted that she has resigned as one of the three Harbor Area Budget Advocates. It was moved by Rey Paduani, seconded by Janet Mitchell, and passed 13-0-0 to approve Joan Jacobs as the Harbor Gateway North Public Works Liaison.

4) Approval of the October 13 Board minutes and October 10 Special Board minutes: It was moved by Marvin Bell, seconded by Shirley Johnson, and passed 13-0-0 to approve the October 13 Board minutes as submitted. It was moved by Marvin Bell, seconded by Llewyn Fowlkes, and passed 13-0-0 to approve the October 10 Special Board minutes as submitted.

5) Treasurer's report on expenditures to date and October monthly expenditure report: Treasurer Joan Jacobs reviewed the October monthly expenditure report. \$2,556.58 was spent in October on twelve items. Total expenditures from July 1, 2015 total \$8,907.30, leaving a balance of \$33,092.70 of the \$42,000 allocated for the 2015-2016 fiscal year. District 5 Representative Llewyn Fowlkes asked if the MER could be sent to the Board in advance for closer review before the Board meeting. Treasurer Joan Jacobs said it could possibly be sent via e-mail so as not to increase the weight of the current Board mailing and require more postage for each envelope. It was moved by Marvin Bell, seconded by Ramon Montoya, and passed 13-0-0 to approve the October 2015 monthly expenditure report.

5a. Approval of up to \$1,000 to fund refreshments for our mini clean up days in District 7 for fiscal year 2015-2016: District 7 Representative Janet Mitchell said that she would like to try smaller clean up efforts along long blocks in District 7 and call them "Tool Parties." She currently plans to do four on different Saturdays throughout the fiscal year and plans to involve the children of the District as well. The funds will support lunches and bottled water for the volunteers. Board members suggested various resources for her to use, such as Operation Clean Sweep via the Board of Public Works. It was moved by Marvin Bell, seconded by Richard Lee, and passed 13-0-0 to approve up to \$1,000 for the mini clean up days in District 7.

(Marvin Bell and Ramon Montoya left the meeting at 8:00 p.m.)

5b. Approval of payments for website updates and enhancement for Moore Business Results for a total of \$1,200 during 2015-2016 fiscal year: Rosalie explained that the HGNNC website requires periodic Drupal software updates as well as some new features, such as the 2016 Election "buttons," and that Moore Business Results is also updating the agendas and minutes on the website on a quarterly basis. It was moved by Rey Padunai, seconded by Joan Jacobs, and passed 11-0-0 to approve spending up to \$1,300 for the website updates via Moore Business Results.

6) Adoption of supporting File No. 15-1026, the Clean Up Green Up campaign: Rosalie presented the May 3, 2012, letter on File No. 11-0112 which the HGNNC previously supported when the Clean Up Green Up campaign was first begun. The proposal has been slowly working its way through the City Council Committees and is very close to being adopted with a new Council File number. It would establish three pilot "Green Zones" in Wilmington, Pacoima/Sun Valley, and Boyle Heights via overlay zones to prevent sources of pollution, reduce pollution, and revitalize these three areas which suffer from cumulative environmental health impacts. The proposal also provides support to local businesses to help them meet their environmental goals. The draft ordinances in this proposal could one day be extended to other parts of the City, including the HGNNC. It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Richard Lee, and passed 11-0-0 to support Council File 15-1026 to establish the draft ordinances for the Clean Up Green Up campaign.

7) Report on the HANC meeting of November 4: Rosalie reported that the new Board of Neighborhood Commissioner for the Harbor Area, Josh LaFarga, attended the November 4 HANC meeting and said that he would be focusing on ways to make Neighborhood Councils

more accessible to their stakeholders, how to involve more youth with Neighborhood Councils, and how to secure more support for the Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment so that it can better support the 96 Neighborhood Councils in their work. Nationbuilder training will be given on Wed. November 11 via webcast. It can serve as a way to get more publicity for Neighborhood Council elections. Kevin Mottus of the Westwood Neighborhood Council brought information about File No. _____ which would create a Citywide wireless system by placing transmitters on light poles and in public parks. He and others are concerned about the health impacts, particularly on children. He also gave out packets of recent research on microwave health impacts. Councilmember Buscaino's Homelessness Task Force, Co-Chaired by Ray Regalado, held its first meeting on October 15 and will be meeting monthly. No one from the Harbor Gateway or Watts sits on the Task Force, which seems to be focusing on the San Pedro area. Special Section 8 housing vouchers are available for the homeless, if there are apartments which will rent to them. The Homeless Count takes place in January and volunteers are needed for an accurate count of the homeless. Some of the Harbor Area Neighborhood Councils have Homeless Committees.

8) Announcements: The Veterans dinner organized by People for Community Improvement takes place on Fri. November 13 at the Doubletree Hotel in Torrance. Congresswoman Maxine Waters is the keynote speaker.

Derrick Cooper, Founder and President of the L.A. City Wildcats Youth Academy, gave out cards explaining the programs which serve youth ages 5 to 17, a number of whom live within the HGNNC area. He is starting up a new Chapter at Gardena High School and seeks financial support from the HGNNC. There are 70-80 kids on the waiting list for the program. Free transportation for the children is provided so that they can participate in basketball, cheerleading, dance, drumline, track, and academics. He was invited to the next Finance Committee meeting on Sat. January 9.

Community Organization Representative Deborah Lee reminded the Board that the City Council will honor the 2015 EmpowerLA award winners, including the HGNNC, at the Fri. November 20 City Council meeting. Four to five Board members plan to attend.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Recording Secretary