

Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council Board Meeting of March 10, 2009

Present: Adrian White (Chair), Delores Allmond (Vice Chair), Rosalie Preston (Recording Secretary), Joan Jacobs (Corresponding Secretary), Gloria Christmas (Treasurer), Adrian Valenzuela (District 2), Rey Paduani (District 3), Betty Hawkins (District 4), Llewyn Fowlkes (District 5), Mattie Menser (District 7), and Neodros Bridgeforth (Faith Based Representative)

Chair Adrian White called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

1) Public Comment: Pacific Charter School presented their detailed traffic plan for Aspire Elementary School, planned for 812 W. 165th Place. Morning and afternoon parent traffic will enter the school from the north and south on Menlo Avenue, cross the parking lot on the south side of the school, and exit out through the alley onto Ainsworth. The existing former church sanctuary will be demolished and six new one-story classrooms built on that part of the property. Visitors to the school will park in the southside parking lot. The four other Aspire charter schools in the Los Angeles area are located in Huntington Park. Pacific Charter School holds a statewide charter known as a "state benefit charter" and therefore LAUSD will not have jurisdiction over the school.

Llewyn Fowlkes, District 5 Representative, discussed the proposed installation of a 55 foot T-Mobil wireless tower designed to look like a pine tree, which they propose to build on the property of God's Covenant Church, 425 W. Laconia Blvd. A notice of the Board meeting was mailed to Pastor Perry Boyd, but he has not contacted the HGNNC. Board members expressed concern about potential health impacts and also interference with other electronic devices in the area. The church will be invited to the April 14 Board meeting and further investigation about the impact of such towers will be made.

The hearing on the application for Black Dot Wireless to install an additional electrical cabinet for wireless telecommunications at 517 W. 112th Street will be held on Thurs. March 12. This location is Ascension Church, which already has a number of wireless cabinets and towers located on its roof.

Rey Paduani, District 3 Representative, mentioned Metro's new TAP (Transit Access Pass) card which allows money to be added to one card which can then be used on any form of Metro transportation. Eventually, it will be usable on all public transportation within L.A. County.

Rey Paduani, District 3 Representative, gave out information on the California Telephone Access Program which provides free telephones for people who have difficulty hearing, moving, seeing, remembering, or speaking. Call 1-800-806-1191 or visit their website at www.ddtp.org for information.

Chair Adrian White thanked the Board for their attendance at the March 4 Board of Neighborhood Commissioners meeting, which included a PowerPoint presentation showing photos of the HGNNC and some of its recent projects over the last two years. The HGNNC also submitted a two-page evaluation summary, which included some of the best practices of the HGNNC, such as the three Health Fairs (2005, 2007, 2009), and the Emergency Preparedness training and encouragement of Ham Radio training for stakeholders.

2) Approval of the minutes: The minutes of the February 10 Board meeting were approved as corrected. Motion: Christmas Second: Allmond Vote: 10-0

3) Treasurer's Report: Gloria Christmas reported that the Neighborhood Council Funding Report for March 1, 2009 shows a balance of \$98,426.83, with 14 Visa expenditures and no demand warrants during February. The summary of expenditures by quarter shows a total of \$47,836.09 spent from July 1, 2008 to March 9, 2009. It was moved by Joan Jacobs, seconded by Llewyn Fowlkes, and passed 10-0 to approve the treasurer's report.

Joeann Valle, director of the Harbor City/Harbor Gateway Chamber of Commerce, introduced Chad Mayer, Managing Director of the non-profit ShareFest Community Development. ShareFest is partnering with Mayor Villaraigosa for the Sat. May 2 Mayor's Day of Service in the Harbor area. Within the Harbor Gateway North, the focus will be on replanting the east parkway and north flower beds

of the Harbor Gateway Community Center, 802 W. Gardena Blvd., with drought-tolerant plants and decomposed granite to create some walkways from the street to the sidewalk within the parkway. Boy Scout Daniel Ohlaug of Troop 210 is drawing up the plans for this Eagle Scout project. He will need volunteers to help with this project and also funding. Joeann Valle said that she is on the Board of the Harbor Gateway Boys and Girls Club which leases 802 W. Gardena Blvd. She is working with the Club to make sure that the new plantings are kept up by the young people of the Club. It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Rey Paduani, and passed 9-1 to spend up to \$3000 on decomposed granite, drought-tolerant plants, mulch, and tool rental for this beautification project

4) Board review of proposed HGNNC bylaws changes before vote on March 24: Because there was confusion over the most current proposed revised version of the bylaws and two key members of the Bylaws Committee were not present, DONE Project Coordinator Rose Ibanez, recommended posting the October 14, 2008 proposal on the HGNNC web page, mailing this version to the Board along with the current approved bylaws of August 2006, and having both sets of bylaws available for the Board and stakeholders at the March 24 meeting so that proposed changes can be reviewed article by article.

5) Participation in ShareFest/Mayor's Day of Service on Sat. May 2: It was moved by Neodros Bridgeforth, seconded by Rey Paduani, and passed 10-0 to participate in the ShareFest/Mayor's Day of Service in the Harbor area on Sat. May 2 by hosting clean up projects along Gardena Blvd. in District 1, possibly District 4 (if their original date of May 9 can be changed), and District 7. The HGNNC would fund lunch for all volunteers on May 2 as well as the beautification of the grounds around 802 W. Gardena Blvd. as voted on in item 3.

6) Letter to Councilwoman Hahn requesting additional evening security at Rosecrans Recreation Center: There was discussion of how the lights around Rosecrans Recreation Center are turned off after 10 p.m. to discourage loitering and drinking in the park after that time when park staff are not on-site. Residents who then wish to walk around the park feel it is unsafe. There is a need for more security, but a motion on writing a letter on this issue was tabled until further investigation can be made.

7) Update on the April 4 Health Fair: Health Fair Committee Chair Neodros Bridgeforth gave out summaries of the Health Fair vendors and booth commitments which have been made to date, as well as a sample of the flyer. It was moved by Neodros Bridgeforth, seconded by Gloria Christmas and passed 10-0 to spend up to \$775 for six hours of two workers plus a supervisor and equipment from Chrysalis to help with set up and clean up for the Health Fair.

8) Finalize agenda for March 24 Membership meeting: It was decided to cancel the two speakers on foreclosure prevention and focus on the approval of the revised bylaws.

9) Announcements: DONE Project Coordinator Rose Ibanez announced that DONE will provide a workshop on the required ethics training for Board members on Sat. April 25. Rose also thanked the HGNNC Board for their attendance and presentation at the March 4 Board of Neighborhood Commissioners meeting at 135th Street School.

Lu Watson read out a letter of resignation as the Co-Chair of the Planning and Land Use Committee which is effective as of March 18. She thanked the other PLU Committee members for their hard work on the committee which resolved a number of major issues during 2008.

Rosalie Preston reminded the Board of the continuation hearing on the WesPac jet fuel pipeline, now scheduled for Thurs. March 12, which will be held in Room 350 of Los Angeles City Hall.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston