

Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council

Board Meeting Minutes – August 10, 2010

Board members present were Rosalie Preston (Chairperson), Delores Allmond (Vice Chairperson), Cornita Pitchford (Recording Secretary), Neodros Bridgeforth (Corresponding Secretary), Joan Jacobs (Treasurer), Adrian Valenzuela (District 2 Representative), Rey Paduani (District 3 Representative), Betty Hawkins (District 4 Representative), Marvin Bell (District 6 Representative), Paris Miller (District 7 Representative), David Ortega (Community Organization Representative), and Leo Youngblood (At-Large Representative)

Call to order at 7:10 pm by: Chairperson Rosalie Preston.

1) Public Comment Betty Hawkins, District 4 Representative, invited everyone to attend the August 16 Appreciation Luncheon for LAPD Officers at the home of Catherine Walker, beginning at 12 noon. The luncheon is hosted by the 135th Street Neighborhood Watch, with chicken, pork, and beef paid for by the Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council.

2) Minutes for the Board meeting of July 13, 2010. It was moved by Neodros Bridgeforth, seconded by Rey Paduani and passed 8-0 to approve the minutes.

(Joan Jacobs entered the meeting at 7:20 p.m.)

3) Treasurer's report: The amount of funding for the HGNNC for 2010-2011 totals \$49,121. The expenditures from July 1 to August 9 total \$1,895.09. Copies of the July 27, 2010 approved budget and the U.S. Bank statement ending July 21, 2010 with explanations of the expenditures were also provided.

(Leo Youngblood entered the meeting at 7:31 p.m.)

It was moved by Neodros Bridgeforth, seconded by Delores Allmond, and passed 10-0 to approve the treasurer's report.

Rosalie Preston suggested spending up to \$600 for 1000 new pens imprinted with HGNNC contact information to have on hand for outreach events. However, Board members decided to table this discussion until the September 14 Board meeting in order to consider whether other items, such as re-usable bags or T-shirts might be more effective.

It was moved by Leo Youngblood, seconded by Rey Paduani, and passed 10-0 to approved spending up to \$750 for a facilitator, food, and possible room rental for a fall Board retreat.

4) Review of Board orientation and reminder to officially report absences from Board meetings

Kandee Lewis, Marvin Bell, Betty Hawkins, Joan Jacobs, Adrian Valenzuela, Delores Allmond, and Rosalie Preston attended the Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment Board orientation on July 17. Paris Miller attended the session on July 31 which covered a review of basic Neighborhood Council procedures and financial guidelines. In both sessions there was also a lot of heated discussion of the role of DONE in relation to the Neighborhood Councils.

5) Report on planning issues, including the landscape design for the cell phone tower at 14032 S. Vermont Avenue and report on the August 4 hearing on the Clearwire antennas at 17200 S. Vermont Avenue

The Zoning Administrator's final conditions on the T-Mobile cell phone tower installation and landscape plan for the Searock Inn at 14032 S. Vermont Avenue have been issued and

include the requirement for T-Mobile to maintain the landscaping and irrigation systems, including the new street trees, for the duration of the wireless facility. The cell phone tower pole will be disguised as a eucalyptus tree with simulated bark and must be maintained so that it retains its original color and appearance.

The three representatives of the HGNNC who attended the August 4 hearing on the Clearwire antennas at 17200 S. Vermont Avenue arrived seven minutes after 1 p.m. and found that the hearing had ended. The Clearwire representatives offered to return, but the Zoning Administrator determined that the hearing had ended and suggested that the HGNNC e-mail any further comments which was later done. The HGNNC asked that if the panels cannot be mounted higher up on the existing microwave platform then a band of concealing materials be placed all around the top edge of the roof. The HGNNC also asked for the exact physical locations of the towers or receiving units at which the proposed new wireless panels would be aimed and not just the coordinates which have been provided previously.

(David Ortega entered the meeting at 7:50 p.m.)

6) Letter to the Bureau of Sanitation requesting street sweeping signs in District 3. Rey Paduani stated that District 3 has no posted signs for regular weekly street sweeping and this leads to some vehicles remaining parked on the streets for weeks at a time. It was moved by Rey Paduani, seconded by Leo Youngblood and passed 11-0 to write the City requesting that signs be posted so that vehicles are moved and the streets can be swept weekly. It was also noted that there are no signs posted in either Districts 1 or 2.

7) Decision on and setting dates for Board meet and greet and Board retreat It was decided to set Saturday October 9 as the date of the Board retreat, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Possible topics were discussed. The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) said that the Board could hold a “meet and greet” either at a Board member’s home or at a local restaurant as long as long as no Board business was discussed. It was decided to make the Board meet and greet the beginning part of the Board retreat.

8) Report on outreach activities, including National Night Out on August 3 There was a very good turnout of possibly 2,000 or more residents at Southeast Station to participate in health screenings and enjoy free entertainment. The HGNNC was the only one of the three Neighborhood Councils having its own booth, with seven Board members and several stakeholders helping to staff it from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. The three Neighborhood Councils of the area paid for 1500 T-shirts.

9) Report on the Harbor Alliance meeting of August 4 The 110 Harbor Freeway toll lane project has been delayed for two more years, but the plan is that even a car with more than one passenger will have to have a transponder to access the toll lane without a fine.

10) Announcements The City Council will be voting on August 11 to maintain the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment as a stand-alone Department and approve some additional funding so positions can be added. Please call Councilwoman Hahn in the morning to support this decision.

The Southeast Station Senior Lead Officers will be holding a SLO summit on August 11 at 6:30 p.m. at the Watts City Hall offices, 10221 Compton Avenue.

Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Minutes submitted by Cornita Pitchford