

## Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 8, 2011  
135<sup>th</sup> Elementary School Library  
801 135<sup>th</sup> Street, Gardena, CA 90247

Present: Rosalie Preston (Chairperson); Neodros Bridgeforth (Corresponding 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 Representative); Gloria Christmas (District 8); Kande Lewis (Youth Representative); Eva Cooper (At-Large Representative).

The Meeting was called to order by Rosalie Preston (Chairperson) at 7:05 p.m.

- 1) **Public Comment:** Alex Campbell of the City Planning Department spoke on Project RENEW and announced a meeting on March 22 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Watts Senior Center, 1657 East Century Blvd. to discuss and get input on transit-oriented districts (TOD) around Metro Blue and Green Line Stations (1/2 mile radius around stations) in South L.A., including 103<sup>rd</sup>/Hahn/Avalon/Harbor and Vermont. The focus is ways to make the transit areas friendlier to those walking or riding bicycles. Contact phone number for Alex Campbell is (213) 978-1204.
- 2) **Approval of the February 8 Board Meeting Minutes:** It was moved by Gloria Christmas, seconded by Llewyn Fowlkes, and passed 10-0 that the minutes be approved as corrected.  
(Joan Jacobs arrived at 7:30 p.m.)
- 3) **Treasurer's Report:** The report consisted of the P-Card Statement of Feb. 21, expenditure totals from July 1, 2010 to March 7, 2011, and the Fiscal Year Budget for 2010-2011 (approved 1/11/11). Total expenditures of \$18,759.61 from total funds of \$49,121.00 leave a balance of \$30,361.39. The \$1,000 voted for District 4's planter project as a Neighborhood Purposes Grant has been removed because in finalizing the NPG paperwork, the HGNNC learned that the 135<sup>th</sup> Street Neighborhood Watch has a 501c6 account instead of a 501c3 account and therefore DONE has clarified that the \$1,000 approved on September 14, 2010, cannot be funded using the Neighborhood Purposes Grant. Therefore, this money will not be spent in this fiscal year but will be spent via the P-card sometime during the summer, after the additional funds for the project have been raised. Neodros Bridgeforth moved, Rey Paduani seconded, and it was passed 11-0 to approve the Treasurer's Report.  
*Estimated April 2, 2011 Health Fair Budget, May 2011 Street Fair Budget, and summary of Estimated Upcoming Expenditures (January – June 2011)* outlines were distributed. Discussion ensued on Health Fair budget and ways to decrease costs, i.e., Kande's suggestion of having Ralph's donate 50 children's box lunches instead of paying for them. Ramon offered ideas on how to determine the amount to pay the non-profit Beacon House for setup and cleanup. Gloria Christmas moved, Rey Paduani seconded, and it was passed 11-0 to allocate up to \$6,500 for the April 2 Health Fair.  
Neodros Bridgeforth moved, Kande Lewis seconded, and it was approved 11-0 to spend up to \$4,500 for the May 21 Street Fair/Block Party to be held in District 8.  
Neodros Bridgeforth moved, Joan Jacobs seconded, and it was passed 11-0 to purchase 1,000 pens at 55 cents each from National Pen Company for community outreach purposes. There was discussion of whether to purchase 500 reusable bags for the upcoming outreach events, but a better quality bag needs to be identified.  
There was further discussion about increasing the original amount of \$3,500 for the 20-book set for each of the twelve classrooms of grades 3, 4, and 5 for the 135<sup>th</sup> Street Elementary School voted at the March 8 Board meeting. However, after looking over the proposed remaining expenditures through fiscal year 2010-2011, it was decided not to change that amount and that the additional 20 books per classroom be considered in the next fiscal year.

4) **Report of the Bylaws Committee:** Minutes of the March 1 Bylaws Committee meeting were passed out. Lu Watson reported that Chairperson Rosalie Preston secured an extended deadline of April 20 for submission of the HGNNC Bylaws to DONE. The Committee identified articles in the current bylaws which are already in the same order as the bylaws article template provided by DONE and also noted parts of current articles which can become the basis for the new articles which are now required. Some issues that may require a lot of discussion are the definition of who is eligible to run for which Board seats and which types of stakeholders may vote for which Board members (in order to address controversies over “factual basis stakeholder” issues and their possible undue influence on a Board), changing one of the two At-Large positions to Outreach Representative, whether to have Board term limits, how vacancies are filled, how to determine excessive absences from Board meetings, the method of setting the agenda, and methods of verifying stakeholder status for Board elections. A list of such issues was given out and Board members asked to review and make their opinions known for the next Bylaws Committee meeting.

5) **Appointment of new member to Planning and Land Use Committee and appointment of new member to the Ad Hoc Health Fair Committee:** Joan Jacobs moved, Kandee Lewis seconded, and it was passed 11-0 to appoint Natalia Aguilar as a new member to the Planning and Land Use Committee.

Kandee Lewis moved, Llewyn Fowlkes seconded, and it was passed 11-0 to appoint Natalia Aguilar as a new member to the Ad Hoc Health Fair Committee.

6) **Board position on Clean Up Green Up campaign (reducing environmental pollution):** At the February 8, Board meeting, Alicia Rivera of the Communities for a Better Environment, requested support from the HGNNC for the “Clean Up Green Up” Los Angeles campaign targeting three pilot areas of the city: Boyle Heights, Pacoima, and Wilmington. The campaign’s mission is to use planning tools to prevent and reduce the overconcentration of environmental hazards and to use economic revitalization resources to clean up and green up existing businesses and to retain and stimulate new, green jobs in these areas. Neodros Bridgeforth moved, Gloria Christmas seconded, and the motion passed 11-0 to endorse the campaign.

7) **Report on Planning and Land Use Committee meeting of February 22, March 3 hearing decision on beer and wine sales at 449 W. Imperial Highway, change of use request for 661 W. Redondo Beach Blvd., and Saturday, March 19 case tracking workshop at Harbor College:**

Lu Watson distributed minutes of the February 22 Planning and Land Use Committee. Richard H. Platkin, Senior Planner and Policy Analyst of Tierra Concepts (Urban Planning Community Development) was present and suggested looking at other community design guidelines, such as Pacoima, Panorama City, and Venice, and to look over the 2010 Census data for guidance as to what is needed in the Harbor Gateway North community. The HGNNC can then develop its own guidelines to use in reviewing developments and projects before the new Planning Department Community Plans are finalized. Gordon Teuber, Council District 15 Deputy for Development and Planning, attended the latter part of the meeting.

Lu Watson reported that five members of the HGNNC attended the March 3 Zoning Administrator hearing on the sale of beer and wine at 449 W. Imperial Highway. LAPD Vice and Senior Lead Officer Stewart also attended. Gordon Teuber of Councilwoman Hahn’s office was also present and said that the Councilwoman supported the HGNNC’s opposition to the Conditional Use permit. The Zoning Administrator ruled against granting the Conditional Use permit due to there already being four liquor stores in that Census tract and the fact that the crime rate in that area is one of the highest in the City.

The HGNNC has received notice of a proposed retail development at 661 W. Redondo Beach Blvd. where the Lowe’s was previously approved to go in. Justin Brimmer, Legislative Deputy for Councilwoman Janice Hahn, organized a tour of the retail area at the northwest corner of Crenshaw and Pacific Coast Highway which the same developer also constructed. Some of the Planning and Land Use Committee members and other stakeholders were able to participate in this tour. A meeting with the developer will be set up.

The Harbor Alliance is sponsoring a Case Tracking Workshop with Challis McPherson of the Venice Neighborhood Council at Harbor College on Sat. March 19 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**8) Report on the Harbor Alliance Meeting of March 2 (including 2012 HGNNC election information):**

Cost for the City Clerk election being \$1 million, other options are being considered such as online voting or cell phone voting. BongHwan Kim, General Manager of the Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment, was also present and said that there is a suggestion to postpone the 2012 Board elections for two more years as a way to save money which would mean that current Board members would need to serve until 2014. The DONE webpage can be accessed at [www.done.lacity.org/dnn](http://www.done.lacity.org/dnn)

**9) Update on HGNNC outreach events (April 2 Health Fair, cancellation of Harbor Gateway Music Festival, Harbor Gateway Street Fair/Block Party in District 8, May clean up days and possible Emergency Preparation training):**

Groups recruited for the April 2 Health Fair are Bienestar Human Services; CVS Pharmacy, Gardena Valley Lions Club Mobile Screening Unit; LA. Community Garden Council; L.A. County Health Services; L.A. County Senior and Community Services Department ; L.A. Water and Power; L.A. Fire Department; South Bay Environmental Services Center; Southwest College Nursing Department; V.A. Services of Long Beach; and V.A. Services of West Los Angeles. Six banners will be distributed around the HGNNC area and flyers will be delivered to the 10,000 households.

The Harbor Gateway Music Festival, originally scheduled for April 30<sup>th</sup> has been cancelled due to cuts to the Department of Cultural Affairs. A date for next year has already been set for Sat. April 28, 2012.

The Street Fair / Block Party in District 8 is scheduled for Sat., May 21 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Thursday March 17 is the next committee meeting for this event. Officer Martinez has invited the LAPD Youth Explorers to work as volunteers at the event.

Annual Cleanup Day in District 4 is Saturday, May 7.

There is still not a suitable location between Watts NC and HGNNC for the seven-week series of CERT training. Therefore, the HGNNC will probably schedule late spring training at the 135<sup>th</sup> Street Elementary School.

11) **Announcements:** PlanCheckNC meets Sat. March 12 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and will address the status of current issues in City planning; the proposed Modified Parking Requirements District Ordinance, and the proposed Administrative Citation Enforcement Program Ordinance, which would consider fees for “after the fact” permits, penalties for planning and zoning code violations, and a penalty structure severe enough to deter future violations of City code enforcement regulations.

Ethics Training reminder – ethics training is required within one year of becoming a Board member. DONE will be hosting another session of ethics training and how to run a Board meeting in mid-April at the Mark Ridley Thomas Constituent Center, 8475 S. Vermont Avenue.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl J. Wendell  
(Kelly Services)