

**Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council
General Membership Meeting of May 26, 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), Leo Youngblood (District 8), Neodros Bridgeforth, (Faith-Based Representative), and Eva Cooper (Youth Representative)

Chair Adrian White called the meeting to order at 7:16 p.m.

1) Public Comment: Jeff Childers, Government & Neighborhood Relations Liaison with L.A. Department of Water and Power, reminded everyone that as of June 1, phase 3 of the Water Conservation Ordinance takes effect. Automatic sprinkler use is restricted to Mondays and Thursdays only. Outdoor landscaping must only be watered before 9 a.m. and after 4 p.m... Water should not be used to wash down sidewalks, driveways or parking areas and water should not be allowed to runoff onto streets and storm drains.

Delfina Mota, District 4, noted that illegal sales of cars are still happening along Vermont near 135th Street. She also reported that there is a lot of excessive water runoff on the median strip along Vermont Avenue, south of 135th Street (which may be under the jurisdiction of the City of Gardena).

Senior Lead Officer Armando Ramirez reported that there have been a lot of car break ins in the HGNNC area from Rosecrans to El Segundo Blvd. He advised car owners not to leave valuable items in view on car seats.

2) Report from DONE Project Coordinator: Rose Ibanez reported that the City's Neighborhood Councils had been very busy over the past two weeks letting the City Council know how critical it is for N.C.'s to have an adequate amount in their budgets for 2009-2010. This resulted in the Mayor's proposed amount of \$45,000 (a 10% cut from previous years) being approved.

Neighborhood Councils are also preparing for the 2010 elections, which will be handled by the City Clerk.

The Valley Regional Congress of Neighborhoods will be held Sat. May 30 from 8:00 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Panorama High School. All Neighborhood Councils are invited to attend.

Planning for the Citywide Congress of Neighborhoods in October at City Hall is already beginning with a planning meeting scheduled for June 10. Rose encouraged HGNNC to participate in the planning process.

(Joan Jacobs, Rey Paduani, and Eva Cooper entered the meeting at 7:35 p.m.)

3) Approval of the April 22 Membership meeting minutes: The minutes were approved as corrected. Motion: Christmas Second: Bridgeforth Vote: 11-0

4) Treasurer's Report: The May 1, 2009, monthly funding status report from DONE shows a balance of \$63,990.51, with ten demand warrants (checks) and twenty-four VISA card expenditures during the month of April. The summary of HGNNC expenditures from July 1, 2008 to present shows a total of \$84,012.66. The treasurer's report was approved on a motion by Neodros Bridgeforth, second by Leo Youngblood, and vote of 11-0.

Upon investigation, the canopies previously voted for the 116th Street School have been found to be more expensive than previously estimated in January. Meanwhile, the cost of the two new public address systems for the same school was much less than the amount voted for them. Therefore, it was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Gloria Christmas and passed 11-0 to spend up to \$1700 for the outdoor canopies needed by the 116th Street School to cover the outdoor eating area which does not have fixed canopies in place.

5 Approval of the 2009/2010 HGNNC budget: It was moved by Gloria Christmas, seconded by Neodros Bridgeforth, and passed 11-0 to approve the proposed budget for 2009/2010 with a new allocation of \$45,000 and assumption of \$40,000 in remaining funds which would be rolled over for next year, creating a total budget of \$85,000, much less than the \$143,780 which was the total budget for 2008/2009.

6) Recognition of our former Community Advocate for District 15, Reginald Zachery: Lu Watson, District 5, was the mistress of ceremonies for the recognition of Reginald Zachery, former community advocate for Council District 15, and before that the HGNNC DONE Project Coordinator during the years right after HGNNC was certified. Zachery was one of three Council District 15 staff laid off due to the City's financial crisis. Certificates or plaques of appreciation were presented to him by the Los Angeles Police Department, 135th Street Neighborhood Watch, Neighborhood Prosecutors Sonja Dawson and Justin Houterman, the 108th/Hoover Neighborhood Association, Harbor Gateway South Neighborhood Council, the Harbor Gateway Recognition Committee, Ascension Catholic Church, Athens on the Hill Association, Councilwoman Janice Hahn, Friends of Reginald Zachery, the Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council, and the Watts Neighborhood Council. Ms. Watson then recognized the committee for the event: Betty Booker, Catherine Walker, Betty Hawkins, and Lu Watson. Rosalie Preston and Gloria Christmas worked on coordinating with the caterer.

Reginald Zachery acknowledged the honors and support of many of the community over the last few months since his layoff. His PhD is nearly completed and he hopes to then work in the field of education.

A meal provided by Dulan's Catering Co. was served.

(Leo Youngblood left the meeting at 8:50 p.m.)

7) Report on the WesPac jet fuel pipeline vote at City Council on May 13: Rosalie Preston reported that the Council members present voted unanimously to approve the full environmental impact report, which covers both phase one and phase two and to approve the franchise for phase one, which covers the pipeline from Wilmington to Carson. Phase two, which impacts the HGNNC, would be considered in approximately 2012, with further hearings required at that time. Preston asked that Janice Hahn, Wendy Greuel, and Jack Weiss recuse themselves from the vote because all had taken contributions from WesPac. However, according to staff at the City Ethics Commission, their contributions did not require them to abstain from voting because all contributions were within the legal limits and therefore not considered an "undue" influence. It is expected that the City of Gardena and perhaps others will appeal the approval of the EIR.

8) Adoption of a resolution on the draft ordinance re: CEQA appeal: The Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council adopted a resolution to support a longer period for appeal of any California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) determination and encourages other Neighborhood Councils to do the same. The City Attorney has prepared a draft ordinance which would add section 11.12 to the L.A. Municipal Code to establish procedures for CEQA appeals. Under this draft, only ten calendar days are allowed in which to file an appeal, whereas the resolution recommends thirty calendar days. It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Joan Jacobs, and passed 10-0 to adopt this resolution and to send it to the appropriate City officials.

9) Announcements: The Citywide Zero Waste conference will be held Sat. May 30 at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels, 555 W. Temple Street.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston