

Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, October 26, 2010
135th Elementary School Auditorium
801 W. 135th Street, Gardena, CA

Present: Rosalie Preston (Chairperson); Delores Allmond (Vice Chairperson); Neodros Bridgeforth (Corresponding Secretary); Joan Jacobs (Treasurer); Adrian Valenzuela (District 2); Rey Paduani (District 3); Betty Hawkins (District 4); Marvin Bell (District 6); Gloria Christmas (District 8); Kande Lewis (Youth Representative); Leo Youngblood (At-large-Representative); Eva Cooper (At-Large Representative).

The meeting was called to order by Rosalie Preston (Chairperson) at 7:12 p. m.

1) Public Comment:

Officer Armando Ramirez, Senior Lead Officer in the Southeast Division asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of an LAPD officer and a HGNNC stakeholder who have passed on recently. He then reported on the latest crime trends in basic car area 18A97.

At-Large Representative Leo Youngblood reminded the Board of the Tony Hawk skateboard park proposal within District 8.

District 1 stakeholder Art Cramer commented on the increase in 18-wheel trucks parked along Figueroa overnight next to his residence. When they are started up in the morning, the diesel fumes penetrate into his home. He was asked to write down the background on the agencies he has contacted and recommendations and then submit them to the HGNNC for further action.

District 6 stakeholder Tim Watson, who lives in the 600 block of 115th Street addressed the problems of living near the 105 Freeway and questioned if funds exist for putting in double-glazed windows to reduce the noise and also the dust which seeps inside the homes. There was a remediation fund some years ago for those impacted by the 105 Freeway but they probably have been used up by now. The HGNNC will refer the matter to Councilwoman Hahn's office.

District 8 stakeholders Armenia Nunez and Jose Alcala thanked the HGNNC for referring their problem with discolored water to the DWP. The DWP did come out, tested the water, and found that it does not contain any contaminants now.

District 8 stakeholder Richard Lee asked about the scope of the Neighborhood Councils and specifically how much they are empowered to help. The HGNNC will send him a brochure which explains the functions of Neighborhood Councils and also referred him to the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment website: www.done.lacity.org/dnn

2) Project RENEW

Anthony Crump, Community Liaison from Community Health Councils, announced Project RENEW, supported by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health and the L.A. City Department of Planning. The Project's goal is to fight obesity and other health problems through reducing barriers to exercise and encouraging physical activity, including walking, biking, and increasing the amount of green space. The two-year grant program is backed by stimulus dollars and supported by the Center for Disease Control. There will be a total of nine Transit Oriented Plans, including the one for South Los Angeles which focuses on the Green Line and Blue Line areas.

3) Speaker: CRA on plans to extend the Watts Corridors Redevelopment Project to parts of Figueroa Street in District 6: Charlotte Brimmer, who was scheduled to speak, did not attend.

4) Approval of the July 27 General Membership meeting minutes: Leo Youngblood moved, Gloria Christmas seconded, and it was carried 10-0 to approve the minutes.

5) Treasurer's Report: Expenditures from July 1 to October 25 total \$6,346.22. The second page of the treasurer's report showed the approved budget for 2010-2011. It was moved by Leo Youngblood,, seconded by Gloria Christmas, and carried 10-0 to approve the treasurer's report.

Because Eric Griffin's supervisor wanted to see carnival booths and games as well as the costume contest and refreshments for the Halloween Carnival to be held Saturday, October 30 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Rosecrans Recreation Center, 840 W. 149th Street, it was moved by Leo Youngblood, seconded by Gloria Christmas, and carried 10-0 to approve additional funding of \$700 (for a total of \$1700) from line item 200EVE for this event. Eva Cooper asked if Councilwoman Hahn's office would be providing \$350 to help cover costs, as mentioned by Justin Brimmer at the October 12 Board meeting. Chair Rosalie Preston thought that there would not be enough time before the event to deposit the money into a non-profit and get the money to the park. Therefore, those funds will hopefully still be donated to cover expenses for the park's holiday activities.

Leo Youngblood left the meeting at 7:58 p.m.

6) Planning Issues Update, including Core Findings Ordinance in the Code Simplification Plan (CPC-2010-1573-ND) with continued hearing set for January 13, 2010; proposed new condominiums at 15812 S. Vermont Avenue in District 2; and case tracking workshop on January 15 in Harbor area: Rosalie Preston and Neodros Bridgeforth attended the November 4 Planning Commission hearing which covered both the Core Findings Ordinance and the Sober Living Homes ordinance.

The Planning Code has not been revised for 50 years. Simplification will result in eliminating conflict in terms and redundancy of terms from one section to another. A major decrease in City Planning Dept. staff also dictates the need for a more streamlined process for approving projects. Neighborhood Council activists are concerned that now more projects will be defined as "by-right" and therefore will not have as much scrutiny and oversight by Neighborhood Councils. The proposed ordinance will be further discussed on January 13, 2011.

HGNNC has received notification that the owner of the property at 15812 S. Vermont Avenue in District 2 plans to construct condominiums on the property. This seems to be the same location as that of the Adelita Market, which appears to be operating without a permit.

The Harbor Alliance will sponsor a workshop on Sat. January 13 on how Neighborhood Councils can track planning issues within their boundaries.

7) Board position on CPC 2009-800-CA related to changes to City ordinance regulating Community Care/Sober Living homes in residential neighborhoods: The item will be on the November 4 agenda of the City Planning Commission. Rosalie attempted to summarize the issues involved. It would not affect operation of board and care homes of six people and under, which are regulated under State law and allowed in residential zones. Rather, it would bring the City into compliance with State law and the 1973 Rehabilitation Act. Due to the complexity of this ordinance, it was decided to table any vote on it at this time.

8) Report on the Board retreat of Sat. Oct. 16, including plans for the spring cultural outreach event with Harbor Gateway South: Rosalie reported on the October 16th Special Board meeting at the Harbor Gateway Community Center during which a number of stakeholders participated. The five goals for the year which were decided upon are

- **Emergency Preparation workshops** – January weeknight classes for CERT training and possible Saturday morning classes for First Aid and earthquake preparedness.
- **Health Fair at Rosecrans Recreation Center** on the first Saturday in April, with electronic recycling
- **Cultural outreach event** on Saturday, April 30, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. This will be sponsored by Councilwoman Janice Hahn and supported by HGNNC and Harbor Gateway South NC. The next planning committee meeting will be the November 16 at the Harbor Gateway Community Center. Let Justin Brimmer know about suitable entertainment groups, including talented HGNNC stakeholders.
- **Clean Up days in various HGNNC Districts**, with electronic waste recycling and lunch for volunteers, on the second Saturday in May
- **Street Fair**, with information booths and food vendors, in June

9) Announcements: Rey Paduani reminded everyone that Officer Appreciation Day is Friday, November 19, from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Southeast Division Police Station, 145 W. 108th Street.

Joan Jacobs announced that there are grants for community gardens. She asked for suggestions for a suitable plot which would get 6 hours of sunshine a day and be about 20 feet by 20 feet or 400 square feet. Joan is willing to complete the application when she has some suggestions.

The next General Meeting will be held on January 25, 2011.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl J. Wendell
Kelly Services