

**Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council  
Board Meeting of March 18, 2008**

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), Willie Blackmon (District 6), Leo Youngblood (District 8), Neodros Bridgeforth (Faith Based Representative), and Eva Cooper (Youth Representative)

Chair Adrian White called the meeting to order at 7:17 p.m.

**1) Public Comment:** BJ Mynatt stated that as the chair of the Emergency Preparedness Committee, she had scheduled Ham Radio training at 135<sup>th</sup> Street School for Saturday April 19 and Saturday April 26 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The trainer, Walt Ordway, will offer the class at no charge but will have a printed PowerPoint handout available for \$10. She has already made the arrangement with Principal Antonio Camacho for use of the Auditorium on those dates. It was pointed out to Ms. Mynatt that all Committee proposals must be brought before the HGNNC Board for approval and that this item will be placed on the March 25 agenda. Additionally, the current Board has not appointed members to an Emergency Preparedness Committee.

Lu Watson reported on the Mayor's Budget Day which was held on Feb. 23 at City Hall. John Delgado from Central San Pedro N.C. and Craig Goldfarb from Northwest San Pedro N.C. were chosen as the Harbor region representatives to the next round of meetings on the budget.

Neodros Bridgeforth reported that the proposed DWP rate increases will be voted on by the City Council on Tues. March 25. As of January 1, 2009, the Metropolitan Water District rates will be going up and more than 70% of the water which DWP provides to residents comes from the MWD. Therefore, those increases will be passed on to DWP customers.

Neodros Bridgeforth also attended the March 14 meeting to plan for Zero Waste. Los Angeles residents need to greatly reduce the amount of trash they produce because the Sunshine landfill will be closing and unavailable to take the trash which currently is hauled there.

**2) Approval of the minutes:** The minutes of the February 19 Board meeting were approved as corrected. Motion: Bridgeforth Second: Hawkins Vote: 12-0

**3) Treasurer's Report:** The Neighborhood Council Funding Report for March 1 was read out by Gloria Christmas, with the remaining account balance being \$118,453.72. She pointed out the amounts spent via the VISA card and the three items through demand warrant (City check). There was some discussion of ways to spend at least \$18,453 before June 30. Betty Hawkins moved, Neodros Bridgeforth seconded and the report was approved 12-0. Gloria Christmas reported that Blanca Alvarenga who works as a bookkeeper through Apple One will be assisting her in preparing monthly financial statements and quarterly reports for DONE. She handed out copies of the DONE guidelines on the supporting documents needed to issue a demand warrant.

The treasurer then read an e-mail correspondence from Milena Albert, DONE Funding Program Coordinator, which requests that HGNNC close the Verizon wireless card account, which was used to provide the wireless Internet connection for the HGNNC laptop computer which the previous chair used for HGNNC business, and pay Verizon a final \$24.12. The former Chair, BJ Mynatt, will be held responsible for the bills for this account from September 10, 2007

to December 9, 2007, which total \$252.77. Verizon invoices show that the wireless card was in use and active during this period. Additionally, Ms. Albert asks that the HGNNC make arrangements to pick up all City property still held by Ms. Mynatt because she is no longer on the Board and does not have the authority to hold in her possession the two laptops, printer, and other City property which were purchased with public funds provided to the HGNNC. Otherwise, the matter will be turned over to the City Attorney's office for further action. Ms. Mynatt was present and disputed the Board's action because the Board never voted to discontinue use of the wireless card. Leo Youngblood moved, Rey Paduani seconded and it was passed 12-0 to close the Verizon wireless account by paying the final \$24.12 and sending this amount to Valery Steffens of DONE along with a letter to Verizon.

It was moved by Delores Allmond, seconded by Leo Youngblood and passed 12-0 to authorize Gloria Christmas to sign the main VISA card for the HGNNC and for Betty Hawkins to be the signer on the secondary card.

**4) Approval of the space sharing agreement for 802 W. Gardena Blvd:** Rosalie Preston reported that Daniel Ruiz, who handles contracts and facilities for DONE, will word the new space sharing agreement with the Boys and Girls Club to allow for occasional 24-hour notice for use of the facility. The HGNNC will explore paying to replace the undersized automated gate motor with one of proper size and also helping to pay for a licensed gardening service to keep up the grounds on a weekly basis. It was then moved by Leo Youngblood, seconded by Willie Blackmon, and passed 12-0 to approve the reworded space sharing agreement.

**5) Discussion of changing Board meeting to the second Tuesday of each month:** Rosalie Preston explained that having the Board meeting on the third Tuesday of the month and the General Membership meeting on the fourth Tuesday of each month means the deadlines for printing and distributing the agenda flyers is too tight. Additionally, the current schedule would not allow enough time to print a newsletter in color, if the Board decided to try that. It was moved by Gloria Christmas, seconded by Neodros Bridgeforth, and passed 12-0 to schedule the Board meetings for the second Tuesday of the month, beginning in April.

**7) Action on liquor license application for 7-Eleven store at 700 W. Imperial Highway in District 6:** (Taken out of order at the request of Leo Youngblood) Lu Watson reported that the Planning Committee had discussed the proposal of the new 7-Eleven store at 700 W. Imperial Highway to be open for 24 hours a day and to sell beer and wine for off-site consumption. The stakeholders of District 6 are very much opposed to this proposal. There are already sixteen other businesses in the area which sell beer and wine. Leo Youngblood moved, Gloria Christmas seconded and the motion passed 12-0 to oppose the conditional use permit for the sale of beer and wine at this location. Ms. Watson also reported that the Community Coalition is willing to help with education and other activities in regards to the conditional use hearing, which has not yet been scheduled. She recommended that the HGNNC make a major effort to inform District 6 stakeholders when the hearing is set. Leo Youngblood moved, Rey Paduani seconded and it was passed 12-0 to allocate up to \$1000 from outreach funds for purposes of advertising the issue and the hearing. DONE Project Coordinator Rose Ibanez suggested holding any major meetings on this issue at a suitable location within District 6 to encourage District 6 stakeholder attendance. (Leo Youngblood left the meeting at 8:35 p.m.)

**6) Updates on outreach events for 2008 and evaluation of January and February programs and paid flyer delivery:** Rosalie Preston reported that she will postpone the Environmental Fair which was scheduled for Sat. April 26 until the fall because Washington Primary Center never responded to her requests to use their playground for the event and although BelVue Community Presbyterian Church is willing to let the HGNNC use their parking lot, there is now not enough time to organize the vendors and other activities. Eva Cooper is still looking for a site to hold the youth job fair on May 17. Neodros Bridgeforth has arranged with Principal Antonio Camacho for the faith-based fellowship picnic to be held at 135<sup>th</sup> Street School in June.

Rosalie Preston reported that Turtle Ridge Media skipped flyer delivery to District 5 in January, to Districts 1 and 5 in February, and to Districts 1, 2, and 3 for the March newsletter, in addition to various streets and houses within the other Districts, including many in District 8. This was in spite of their GPS tracking system for those delivering the flyers. The wider distribution of the flyers than previously done by stakeholders themselves is also not resulting in more attendance at General Membership meetings. She also noted that more stakeholders other than Board members attended the January 22 General Membership meeting (28) which featured a topic which was of great interest to stakeholders than the February General Membership meeting (14) which featured entertainment and a meal and where most of those involved in the entertainment were not actual stakeholders and therefore did not attract other stakeholder family members. The May Cinco de Mayo program needs to involve more actual stakeholders since outreach to those living within the HGNNC boundaries is the goal of the outreach programs.

DONE project coordinator Rose Ibanez encouraged those on the Outreach Committee to set up another meeting.

**8) Discussion on submitting a resolution to City Council to support the overturn of SB 1818 (Density Bonus Ordinance):** Lu Watson suggested that in the event that the Neighborhood Councils of Los Angeles decide to send a resolution to the Los Angeles City Council to support amendment of SB1818 (Density Bonus Ordinance) that the HGNNC support changes which would exempt the City of Los Angeles from such laws due to the undermining of planning protections for our neighborhoods which SB1818 has brought about. Llewyn Fowlkes made the motion, Gloria Christmas seconded it and it was passed 11-0.

**9) Announcements:** The NUSA conference will be held May 21 – 24, 2008 in Hampton, Virginia. Only Neighborhood Council Board members are eligible to be reimbursed and this time the participants must pay all registration costs and travel expenses themselves and then can be reimbursed by DONE after supporting documentation is submitted.

Rose Ibanez handed out copies of the Neighborhood Council Board Assessment Survey to each Board member and asked that they be completed and returned to her by the General Membership meeting. Rose also pointed out that Board members need to complete the City's ethics training (available on-line via the DONE website) and pass the test by September.

Lu Watson passed out petitions in opposition to the 7-Eleven store at 700 W. Imperial Highway for circulation.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston