

**Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council
Board Meeting of May 13, 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), Neodros Bridgeforth (Faith Based Representative), and Eva Cooper (Youth Representative)

Chair Adrian White called the meeting to order at 7:13 p.m.

1) Public Comment: Neodros Bridgeforth announced that she was among the first group of Neighborhood Council representatives to complete the Planning Pilot Program Oversight training classes and has received a certificate.

Lu Watson, Co-Chair of the HGNNC Planning and Land Use Committee, reported that the PLU Committee had met at 6 p.m. and that their recommendations will be brought up later on under agenda items 5 and 6.

Paris Miller, who works as an alcohol and drug counselor for Unity T.W.O., Inc., said that a fundraiser for the non-profit will be held in June and that he will bring flyers to a future meeting.

6) Consideration of letter to Councilwoman Hahn about air quality concerns related to the new Magnolia Academy #3's playground: HGNNC Planning and Land Use Committee Co-Chair Lu Watson presented a recommendation from PLU to oppose the Conditional Use Permit for Magnolia Science Academy #3 which proposes to be located at 555 W. Redondo Beach Blvd. The reasons relate to the air quality in that location, including the 110 Harbor Freeway and its on and off ramps, the heavily trafficked Redondo Beach Blvd., California Waste Services (621 W. 152nd Street), which generates a significant amount of dust and dirt, and a number of manufacturing companies nearby.

Arnie Levitt of Levitt Group, which is representing Magnolia Science Academy, stated that a plant nursery exists near the freeway and this will filter a significant amount of the pollutants before they reach the school and its outdoor playground. Hans Giroux, a senior scientist and consultant to the project, will design air quality monitoring equipment which the students can use to check on air pollution levels daily. There has been a determination that no methane exists on the property. He pointed out that there are homes just to the south and north of the location and those residents breathe the same air. The school has already received 230 applications, mostly from local families.

Board members expressed concern about the difficulty for parents dropping off their children from the busy Redondo Beach Blvd. where only a few cars can fit into the short left turn lane. Mr. Levitt said that a traffic study would be done before final approval. Other Board members stressed the high levels of pollution which the freeway generates, especially on the east side of the freeway, due to wind patterns, and for safety of the children who would share the building with adult students of a medical college. Mr. Levitt said that the medical school would be limited to the second floor during the first year and eventually phased out, and that the medical school would operate only during the evening hours. The restrooms will be separate for both the adult students and the children. Adults not affiliated with the school will not be allowed into the outdoor recreation area, and as at any school, the playground will be monitored by teachers and

other staff. The school will have one full-time security officer. The site was chosen because the building provides adequate space and other options are limited as the area is built up. The high level of air pollution was again raised by a Board member and how it can affect cognitive development. Mr. Levitt said again that the air quality will be monitored and that air filters will be provided as a means of mitigation.

After discussion, Gloria Christmas moved, Eva Cooper seconded, and it was passed 10-2 to table a Board vote until an air pollution study has been completed by Hans Giroux.

2) Presentation by Chrysalis on their services: Rick Stoff, Director of Business Partnerships for Chrysalis Enterprises, discussed the services which Chrysalis can offer the HGNNC, such as trash pick up and clean up in our business districts, pressure washing of sidewalks, and handing out of Neighborhood Council flyers. Chrysalis works with a number of other Neighborhood Councils, such as those in Pico Union, Arleta, and Venice. The clean up service would cost \$925 per week for 46 blocks, with five formerly homeless people doing the work under a supervisor. To clean 100 blocks with a pressure washer would cost \$5000. Board members said that the services of Chrysalis would be considered in the new fiscal year.

3) Approval of the April 8 Board minutes: The minutes were approved as corrected. Motion: Bridgeforth Second: Christmas Vote: 12-0

4) Treasurer's Report: The Neighborhood Council Funding Report for May 1 was read out by Gloria Christmas, with the remaining account balance being \$111,946.99. Rosalie Preston moved, Neodros Bridgeforth seconded and the report was approved 12-0.

It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Joan Jacobs and passed 11-1 to allocate up to \$500 from District 6 funds to provide refreshments when the Community Coalition attends an upcoming General Membership meeting to explain to HGNNC stakeholders how to prepare for a Zoning Administration hearing.

It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Eva Cooper and passed 12-0 to spend up to \$600 from Sam Ash in Cerritos for three new microphones with cords, one cordless microphone, mike stands for the Board's tables, and a carrying bag so that the Board, stakeholders, and speakers can be properly heard during meeting discussions.

It was moved by Neodros Bridgeforth, seconded by Rosalie Preston, and passed 12-0 to allocate up to \$4000 for refreshments and one or two bouncers for the Faith-Based outreach picnic which will be held on Sat. June 21 at the 135th Street Elementary School.

It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Llewyn Fowlkes, and passed 12-0 to approve an AC881USB 3G wireless card to allow the HGNNC laptop used by the Chair to connect to the Internet. AT&T has stated that the cost will be \$44.99 a month plus a one-time charge of \$49.99 and tax on the manufacturer's suggested retail price.

Because the attendance at the May 27 Cinco de Mayo program is now estimated at a higher number (about 75, including the Board), it was moved by Joan Jacobs, seconded by Willie Blackmon, and passed 12-0 to increase the allocation for refreshments and entertainment to \$1200.

It was moved by Rey Paduani, seconded by Gloria Christmas, and passed 12-0 to authorize up to \$1000 for Neighborhood Watch signs for homes within District 3, the aluminum signs to be provided by Sa-So and to have the name of the HGNNC printed on them.

It was moved by Neodros Bridgeforth, seconded by Rey Pauani, and passed 12-0 to authorize an expenditure of \$7,794 from the funds allocated for Youth Programs to pay Accurate Staging for chorus riser decks for the 135th Street School auditorium. This is something the school has needed for their music programs but has not had funding for.

Betty Hawkins presented two bills which had been mailed to her in late March, one for \$215.58 for 24 additional dinners for the February 26 Black History Month program from Char's Catering Service and one for \$250.19 from Sylph of Hawthorne, California for the printing of programs, meal tickets, color flyers, custom banner, two posters, cowboy hat, gloves, and art supplies which were part of the February 26 Black History Month program. After discussion by the Board, during which it was pointed out that 80 dinners were pre-paid by the HGNNC to the caterer and that the other expenses by Sylph were not authorized by the Board, it was moved by Llewyn Fowlkes, seconded by Rey Paduani, and passed 12-0 to deny payment for both invoices.

Gloria Christmas presented the draft of the 2008-2009 budget for \$150,000 which the Finance Committee had worked on at their May 10 meeting. There will be one further Finance Committee meeting before the budget is voted on by the Board at its June 10 meeting. (Joan Jacobs left the meeting at 9:03 p.m.)

5) HGNNC Planning and Land Use Committee recommendation to oppose 7-Eleven CUP in its entirety: HGNNC Planning and Land Use Co-Chair Lu Watson presented the recommendation of the PLU Committee to oppose the Conditional Use Permit in its entirety, meaning both the exemption for beer and wine and for 24-hour operation. Gloria Christmas moved, Neodros Bridgeforth seconded, and it was passed 11-0 to approve this motion.

Neodros Bridgeforth moved, Rosalie Preston, seconded, and it was passed 11-1 to send a letter to Councilwoman Janice Hahn asking for her support of the above Board action. (Adrian Valenzuela left the meeting at 9:15 p.m.)

PLU Co-Chair Lu Watson showed the Board a survey for stakeholders of District 6 which would help assess their opinion on the 24-hour operation issue for the 7-Eleven proposed for 700 W. Imperial Highway. Neodros Bridgeforth moved, Gloria Christmas seconded and it was passed 10-0 to approve distribution of the survey.

7) Support for LANCC motion to revise L.A. City's ordinance for SB1818: Due to the time, this item was postponed to the June 10 Board meeting

8) Updates on outreach events for 2008: Due to the time, this item was postponed to the June 10 Board meeting.

9) Review of agenda for May 27 General Membership meeting: The agenda items were finalized by the Board. On an informal vote of 6-4, the Board decided not to invite the WesPac representatives to make another presentation, even if representatives from the City of Los Angeles would also be present. It was also decided to have no other speaker for the May 27 program.

10) Announcements: Mustapha from Unity T.W.O. Inc. described their work with hard core gang members ages 14-25 and how they arrange for peace treaties.

On Fri. May 15, the Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative presents their sixth annual Community Forum at the USC Davidson Conference Center.

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and I.B.E.W. Local 18 welcome Neighborhood Councils to their 2008 Lineman's Rodeo on Sat. May 17 in Sun Valley.

The Los Angeles Citywide Alliance of Neighborhood Councils is meeting on Sat. May 17 at Los Angeles City College. Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and Jane Ellison Usher, President of the L.A. Citywide Planning Commission will be the key speakers.

South Los Angeles Regional Congress presents a dialogue on gang violence and a discussion on community revitalization on Sat. May 17 at West Adams Preparatory High School

Betty Hawkins, District 4 representative, announced that their District held a very successful clean up day, with several large dumpsters filled with unwanted items. She can advise other Districts on how to organize their own clean up day.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston