

**Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council
Board Meeting of October 16 2007**

Present: Adrian White (Chair), Delores Allmond (Vice Chair), Rosalie Preston (Recording Secretary), Adrian Valenzuela (District 2), Reynaldo Paduani (District 3), Betty Hawkins ((District 4), Llewyn Fowlkes (District 5), Willie Blackmon (District 6), Mattie Menser (District 7), Neodros Bridgeforth (Faith-Based Representative), Dr. Peter Rivera (Community Organization Representative), and Eva Cooper (Youth Representative)

The meeting was called to order at 7:20 p.m. by Chair Adrian White.

1) **Public comment:** Lu Watson reported on the Oct. 13 Mayor's Budget Day and gave out a budget preparation timeline. It is expected that the City budget will have a significant shortfall for 2008-2009. There will be a Telephone User's Tax (TUT) measure on the Feb. 6, 2008 primary election ballot which will help to reduce the shortfall. Neighborhood Councils are encouraged to widely distribute budget surveys, hold budget discussion meetings, and appoint two Neighborhood Council representatives (one of which can be a stakeholder and the other a Board member) for the February 2008 Regional budget priority meetings. Later in February, fourteen representatives from the Regional meetings will meet with the Mayor to further discuss budget priorities.

3) **Treasurer's report:** There was no regular report on expenditures available. It was moved by Dr. Peter Rivera, seconded by Eva Cooper and passed 10-0 to request that DONE allow the HGNNC to expend \$10,000 more than the \$6,250 already approved for the second quarter because of the expenses related to the Health Fair and the Board installation.

Betty Hawkins moved, Dr. Peter Rivera seconded and it was passed 10-0 to rekey the HGNNC Post Office Box located at the main Gardena Post Office on Redondo Beach Blvd. (Llewyn Fowlkes entered the meeting at 7:45 p.m.)

It was moved by Betty Hawkins, seconded by Dr. Peter Rivera and passed (8-1-2 abstentions) to approve payment of a monthly bill for a dedicated cell phone for the HGNNC Chair's use related to Neighborhood Council business, with the monthly cost being a reasonable amount in the \$80 range.

Eva Cooper moved, Delores Allmond seconded and it was passed 11-0 that the HGNNC arrange for one or more flyer distribution companies to deliver the general membership meeting flyer each month as a means to more effective outreach to stakeholders. As an example, The Walking Man Inc. would charge \$595 for distribution of 10,000 flyers or \$400 for 1500 flyers and would need them two days in advance.

Neodros Bridgeforth moved, Dr. Rivera seconded and it was passed 9-0 with 2 abstentions to allocate \$1000 to District 2 for their proposed "Greening the Gateway Wall" Community Beautification Grant proposal which will be submitted tomorrow.

Gary Lira, Unit Director for the Boys and Girls Club of Harbor Gateway, asked that the HGNNC pay for some suggested items or services to benefit the Club and therefore the young people who utilize the services of the Club after school in District 1. Dr. Peter Rivera moved, Willie Blackmon seconded and it was approved 11-0 that the HGNNC

spend up to \$500 for decorations at the Boys and Girls Club for upcoming holidays, Thanksgiving food baskets for District 1 residents, and the toy drive related to the re-opening ceremony of the Club.

Betty Hawkins asked the Board to clarify the understanding with Archie Bush regarding the catering of lunches for the Oct. 13 Health Fair before reimbursing him. After discussion, it was agreed that he should be paid \$2125 for 425 meals but not an additional \$90 for the continental breakfasts for those setting up because he had agreed to include the 30 continental breakfasts in his original proposal of \$1500 for 300 meals.

2) The **minutes of the September 18 Board** meeting were approved as read. (Neodros Bridgeforth motion, Dr. Peter Rivera second, 11-0) (Betty Hawkins left the meeting at 8:30 p.m.)

4) **Neighborhood Council DWP Oversight Committee resolution:** Neodros Bridgeforth reported on her attendance at the Oct. 6 meeting of the N.C. DWP Oversight Committee, their proposed resolution of September 3, 2007, opposing the 2007-2008 DWP revenue increase and rate modernization and their reasons for so doing, including labor issues such as outsourcing and compensation, the transfer to the City's General Fund of \$216,000,000, and deferred maintenance. She then moved and Dr. Peter Rivera seconded that the HGNNC Board alternatively send a letter to the President of the DWP Commission expressing the HGNNC's opposition to the proposed rate increases and their violation of the agreed to MOU between the DWP and the Neighborhood Councils. This motion passed 10-0.

5) **Office Assistant Committee Report:** Rosalie Preston, Neodros Bridgeforth and Joan Jacobs met on Oct. 7 to discuss the proposed duties and supervision for this paid position. The Committee recommends that the person be bi-lingual Spanish, drive a car (mileage would be reimbursed), not be a Board member or related to a Board member so as not to violate conflict of interest provisions, and not necessarily live within the HGNNC boundaries though this would be ideal. The Office Assistant would be supervised by two to three Board members who would sign the time sheets and oversee the duties. The hours could be flexible per day. Some Board members may be able to sit in on the interview of qualified candidates. AppleOne was sent the proposed duties and responded that they seemed to require an Administrative Assistant (\$20.25 per hour) rather than a clerk typist (\$13.95 per hour). The Board asked that AppleOne be asked for clarification on which of the proposed duties required the higher paid position before the HGNNC proceeds with hiring this 20-hour per week staff member. (Adrian Valenzuela left the meeting at 8:50 p.m.)

6) **Report on Oct. 23 Board Installation dinner:** Delores Allmond and Mattie Menser discussed the various dishes ordered from Guiliano's and El Pollo Loco, the beverages, tablecloths, and decorations. It was suggested that 65 dinners instead of the original 50 be ordered. Dr. Peter Rivera moved, Llewyn Fowlkes seconded, and it was passed 9-0 to increase the approved dinner expenditure from \$1000 to \$1250.

Councilwoman Hahn's office will be asked about providing a photographer for the installation. If necessary, the HGNNC will pay a professional photographer up to \$200 to

photograph the event (moved by Delores Allmond, seconded by Dr. Peter Rivera, and passed 9-0).

There is a need to provide a large cooler for the beverages. Dr. Peter Rivera moved, Llewyn Fowlkes seconded and it was passed 9-0 to spend up to \$100 on such a cooler.

7) **Small lot houses at 843 W. 164th Street:** Rosalie Preston discussed the October 10 hearing which she and a District 1 stakeholder attended in Room 1020 of City Hall. Five small lot houses would be built on a 7,000 sq. ft. lot where formerly one house existed. It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Dr. Peter Rivera and passed 9-0 to write a letter to the Planning Department expressing the HGNNC's concerns over removal of parkway trees to create a driveway for the project, the reduction in front yard setback from 15 feet to 4 feet 8 inches, having the trash enclosure in the front area instead of at the back, and the increase in traffic and parking problems along 164th Street and around the corner on Vermont Avenue which would further impact a small business.

8) **Letter to DONE on the need for further action on HGNNC property not returned by former Board members:** The former chair of the HGNNC has not yet returned the Boys and Girls Club front door key, new laptop, older laptop, and possibly other HGNNC property. It was moved by Mattie Menser, seconded by Eva Cooper and passed 8-0 with one abstention to write DONE about the need for City Attorney action on this matter.

9) **AT&T request for a fiber optic cable box on 135th Street near Ainsworth in District 4:** Due to the time, it was agreed to table this item.

10) **Committee report on the Oct. 13 Health Fair in Rosecrans Park:** Due to the time, it was agreed to table this item.

11) **Determination of dates in November and December for HGNNC meetings:** It was agreed to move the Board meeting to the second Tuesday of November, to cancel the General Membership meeting for November, and to determine any meeting dates for December at the November 13 Board meeting.

12) **Announcements:** The Congress of Neighborhoods will be held on Sat. Oct. 27 from 9:30 a.m. to noon at the Convention Center and all stakeholders are encouraged to attend the workshops, with free parking, breakfast, and lunch.

Habitat for Humanity is seeking volunteers of at least 18 years of age between October 28th and November 2 to build and rehabilitate nearly 100 homes in the local area.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston