

## Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Board Meeting

Tuesday, April 8, 2025

Held via Zoom webinar

Present: Joan Jacobs (Vice Chair), Rosalie Preston (Secretary), Majenni Nixon (Treasurer), Laivern Frerichs (District 1), Nita Stonehocker (District 2), Dave Trejo (District 3), Arvie Powell (District 4), Eva Cooper Pace (District 5), Marvin Bell (District 6), Barbara Tyson-Frazier (District 7), Oscar Ruiz (District 8), Frankie Mays (Community Organization), Jackie Jackson (Youth Advocate), and Finesse Simmons (Youth Representative)

Absent: Craig Kusunoki (At-Large Representative)

**1) Welcome/call to order/Board roll call:** Vice Chairperson Joan Jacobs called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. The roll call determined that a quorum was present.

**2) General public comment on non-agenda items that are within the Neighborhood Council's subject matter jurisdiction:** There was none.

### 3) Reports

**a) LAPD:** Senior Lead Officer Tyson Hamaoka said that he patrols the area from Imperial Highway to 120<sup>th</sup> Street and from Figueroa to Central Avenue in Basic Car 18A63. He said that the abandoned house at 11715 S. Avalon had been demolished and also 11878 S. Main Street has been demolished and housing will be constructed on both properties. Another empty property at 901 E. 116<sup>th</sup> Street is waiting for the permits to conduct renovations, but meanwhile transients were squatting in it. All of the problem RVs have also now been removed. The vacant former 7-Eleven at 600 E. Imperial Highway has now been boarded up and "no trespassing" signs posted. Officer Hamaoka has found that both the owner and property manager have been very cooperative in addressing the issues. Officer Robert Martinez is on vacation until April 28. Officer Eric Loomis can handle his issues by calling him at 213-458-4872 or via email at [38328@lapd.online](mailto:38328@lapd.online)

**b) Council District 15:** Harbor Gateway Field Deputy Rudy Martinez said that he has now been the Field Deputy for a month. A number of concerns have been raised regarding Gardena Blvd. from Vermont Avenue to Figueroa Street. He has organized the CD 15 Clean Team to do a weekly Tuesday clean up of bulky items and trash debris. He has talked with the market next to the Boys and Girls Club and they are now no longer selling alcoholic beverages to the men who used to then loiter and drink them outside the Club. A clean up along 116<sup>th</sup> Place along the railroad tracks was carried out in partnership with Union Pacific and he is continuing to monitor the area for new bulky item dumping. The auto repair business at 16500 S. Menlo Avenue has been reported to Building and Safety. He has talked to the business owner and to the property owner about not parking cars they are working on in red zones and on residential streets. He is checking on the graffiti situation near the Environmental Charter Middle School every other day. On Estrella he is aware of RVs parked along Estrella and working with Kmond Day, the CD 15 Unhoused Services Coordinator, to remove them. He has contacted apartment building owners in the area of Ainsworth and 165<sup>th</sup> Place about the chronic illegal dumping and reminded them that they need to keep reporting to 311. He arranged for a CARE+ clean up of several homeless encampments on the sides of the 110 freeway Caltrans easement at Alondra Blvd. A number of the people were housed but some did turn down resources. He has talked with the nursery owners on both sides of Alondra to ask them to fortify their fencing to discourage the unhoused from assessing those properties. A CARE+ operation was also carried out on the north side of Redondo Beach Blvd. east of the 110 freeway and also along the Union Pacific tracks south of the Rosecrans Recreation Center. He has asked the Recreation Center to fortify their fencing on the corner.

**c) Other elected officials:** Jocelyn Dominguez, Mayor Bass' Community Engagement Manager for Watts and the Harbor area, said that she had been on a temporary assignment to assist with the Palisades fire recovery. Sat. April 26, which is Earth Day, will be a day of service event with clean ups scheduled at multiple locations around the City, including Imperial Courts in Watts, Rancho San Pedro, and

Halldale/225<sup>th</sup> Street. This is in preparation for the World Cup event that will be held in Los Angeles in June 2026.

**d) Department of Neighborhood Empowerment:** Helena Doub, Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate for Harbor Gateway North, reminded the Board that the Recreation and Parks Department has a needs assessment survey that can be completed online. The MyLA311 app has been updated and now allows searching of reports by Neighborhood Council area. On April 16 at 5 p.m. the Mayor's Office will hold a virtual meeting on infrastructure. Two bills have been introduced in the State legislature regarding extending the ability of Neighborhood Councils to continue meeting virtually through January 2031: AB 467 (Fong) and SB 707 (Durazo). The new Funding Representative for HGNNC is Ana Cardozo. All event requests need to be submitted by May 20, check requests by June 1, and use of the bank card by June 20. The City budget has major shortfalls. The Mayor will release her budget on April 21.

**e) HGNNC Board election results:** Outreach/Communications Committee Chair Frankie Mays said that the City Clerk has posted the unofficial election results, with the final official results due out next week. 99 stakeholders requested ballots, but only about half that number voted by mail.

**f) Updates on 2024-2025 Board goals/priorities:** Rosecrans Avenue medians planting with trees--Dave Trejo said he had talked with Christopher Pulido, a student at Cal Poly Pomona in the Urban Planning Department, about possibly involving their school in taking on the project as a class project. Coffee with a Cop--Frankie Mays said that Officer Martinez plans to help organize the event in the next few months. Increasing stakeholder engagement via van tour of HGNNC--no update. Cultural event involving youth--District 5 Representative Eva Cooper Pace has talked with Rudy Martinez about the Juneteenth event, which CD 15 will organize this year. Farmers' Markets--Majenni Nixon said that she had learned that the Enclave is planning to hold an outdoor market with various types of vendors once or twice a month on a Saturday. Updating website--Rosalie Preston said that there have been no proposed redesigns yet.

#### **4) Presentations from non-profits regarding potential Neighborhood Purposes Grants**

**a) PESA:** Executive Director Seymour Amster presented to the Finance Committee on March 17, at which time the Committee asked for more details of the proposed Neighborhood Purposes Grant and for him to discuss those details with the full Board. Parents, Educators/Teachers and Students in Action has a contract with the Probation Department and District Attorney to work with 2,000 juveniles to provide supportive services, such as mental health support, career training, and educational support. As part of that support they sometimes provide food and other support for the families of those youth. PESA has identified 20 youth living within the Harbor Gateway North area, using the zip codes 90044 and 90247. The support helps to reduce recidivism, and their program has a 90% success rate. Because those zip codes include areas outside the HGNNC, Treasurer Majenni Nixon asked if the exact addresses could be provided or a map showing that addresses were within the HGNNC boundaries. Seymour said he would do that.

**b) Beautify LA:** Mark Ragan said that his non-profit serves homeless youth through various programs, including outreach to the homeless, clean up of trash and graffiti, creation of community gardens, and support for outreach events. Treasurer Majenni Nixon said that Beautify LA had made a presentation at the March 17 Finance Committee meeting regarding their NPG for \$4,750. He had planned to update the budget to also show a small expense for administrative costs but the HGNNC has not yet received that. Beautify LA was incorporated in October 2024. Majenni Nixon said that the Finance Committee would be meeting again to make final recommendations on the two NPGs, with any vote placed on a future Board agenda.

(Finesse Simmons left the meeting at 8:30 p.m.)

#### **5) Approval of a comment regarding quality of life/safety issues along Gardena Blvd. from**

**Vermont Avenue to the I-110 freeway in District 1:** District 3 Representative Dave Trejo said that he has been the Principal of the Environmental Charter Middle School since January 2020 and that the current state of Gardena Blvd. near the school is the worst he has seen during that time. This includes daily instances of gang-related graffiti and repetitive illegal dumping. Therefore he asked for the letter to be considered and sent to various decision makers. It was moved by Nita Stonehocker, seconded by

Majenni Nixon, and passed 13(Bell, Cooper-Pace, Frerichs, Jackson, Jacobs, Mays, Nixon, Powell, Preston, Ruiz, Stonehocker, Trejo, Tyson-Frazier -0-0 to approve the letter.

#### **6) Administrative motions**

**a) Approval of the March 11, 2025, Board minutes:** It was moved by Barbara Tyson-Frazier, seconded by Frankie Mays, and passed 13(Bell, Cooper-Pace, Frerichs, Jackson, Jacobs, Mays, Nixon, Powell, Preston, Ruiz, Stonehocker, Trejo, Tyson-Frazier)-0-0 to approve the minutes as submitted.

**b) Approval of the February 2025 Monthly Expenditure Report:** Treasurer Majenni Nixon screen-shared the report. It was moved by Majenni Cooper-Pace, seconded by Arvie Powell, and passed 13 (Bell, Cooper-Pace, Frerichs, Jackson, Jacobs, Mays, Nixon, Powell, Preston, Ruiz, Stonehocker, Trejo, Tyson-Frazier)-0-0 to approve the Monthly Expenditure Report.

**c) Approval of the March 2025 Monthly Expenditure Report:** Treasurer Majenni Nixon screen-shared and reviewed the report. It was moved by Eva Cooper-Pace, seconded by Barbara Tyson-Frazier, and passed 13 (Bell, Cooper-Pace, Frerichs, Jackson, Jacobs, Mays, Nixon, Powell, Preston, Ruiz, Stonehocker, Trejo, Tyson-Frazier)-0-0 to the Monthly Expenditure Report.

**d) Approval of up to \$200 to renew the HGNNC Zoom license:** It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Majenni Nixon, and passed 13 (Bell, Cooper-Pace, Frerichs, Jackson, Jacobs, Mays, Nixon, Powell, Preston, Ruiz, Stonehocker, Trejo, Tyson-Frazier)-0-0 to approve the expenditure.

**e) Approval of \$130 to renew the HGNNC Canva Pro license for flyer/graphics creation:** It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Frankie Mays, and passed 13(Bell, Cooper-Pace, Frerichs, Jackson, Jacobs, Mays, Nixon, Powell, Preston, Ruiz, Tyson-Frazier, Stonehocker, Trejo)-0-0 to approve the expenditure.

(Dave Trejo recused himself on the following agenda item, as he is the Principal of the Environmental Charter Middle School and left the meeting at 8:58 p.m.)

**f) Approval of \$285 for Environmental Charter Middle School to cover meeting costs for the April 22 General Membership meeting and approval of meeting location:** Due to both the 135<sup>th</sup> Street Elementary School and Gardena Elementary School being unavailable for the April 22 General Membership meeting, an alternative location is being sought. It looks like EECI will allow use of their space (Room 185) at 555 W. Redondo Beach Blvd. at no cost, but as a back up, the Environmental Charter Middle School is offering a meeting space. It was moved by Majenni Nixon, seconded by Rosalie Preston, and passed 12(Bell, Cooper-Pace, Frerichs, Jackson, Jacobs, Mays, Nixon, Powell, Preston, Ruiz, Stonehocker, Tyson-Frazier)-0-0, with one recused (Trejo), to approve the expenditure and use of the Environmental Charter Middle School for the April 22 General Membership meeting, if needed.

(Barbara Tyson-Frazier left the meeting at 9:08 p.m.)

**g) Approval of a revised 2024-2025 fiscal year budget, as recommended by the Finance Committee:** Treasurer Majenni Nixon reviewed the proposed changes. It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Majenni Nixon, and passed 12(Bell, Cooper-Pace, Frerichs, Jackson, Jacobs, Mays, Nixon, Powell, Preston, Ruiz, Stonehocker, Trejo)-0-0 to approve the budget with the addition of the amount for the Canva Pro cost and move \$5,000 to cover possible Neighborhood Purposes Grants.

#### **7) Board business/announcements**

**a) Reports from Committees:** The Finance Committee met on March 17, for the first time in this Board term, and will be meeting more regularly. The Planning and Land Use Committee will meet on April 15 and draft the Prologis Final EIR comment letter now that the Final EIR was released on March 28.

**b) Brief announcements from Board members:** The Spring Egg Hunt will be held at Rosecrans Recreation Center on April 19 from 12-4 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:29 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Secretary