

Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council Board Meeting

135th Street Auditorium, 801 W. 135th Street

Tuesday, October 8, 2013

Present: Delores Allmond (Chairperson), Pamela Thornton (Vice Chair), Rosalie Preston (Recording Secretary), Joan Jacobs (Treasurer), Neodros Bridgeforth (Corresponding Secretary), Ramon Montoya (District 1), Adrian Valenzuela (District 2), Betty Hawkins (District 4), Llewyn Fowlkes (District 5), Marvin Bell (District 6), Rosario Rico (District 7), Mary Hinton (District 8), Deborah Lee (Community Organization Representative), Richard Lee (Youth Representative), Donald Cook (Outreach Representative), and Gloria Christmas (At-Large Representative)

The meeting was called to order at 7:12 p.m. by Chair Delores Allmond. She welcomed the Board and stakeholders, complimented the Board on its strengths, and noted its many accomplishments, including winning one of the first EmpowerLA awards last year. She remarked that this is an auspicious time for the Board because of the upcoming Board Retreat and setting of goals for the remainder of the fiscal year so that many more good things are accomplished for the community. She then led the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence.

1) Public Comment: Diana Diankoff, Facilities Director for Rosecrans Recreation Center, introduced herself. She has worked for the City for 14 years and her new assistant, Derek Bible, is equally experienced. They are planning to restart the after school program. She said the Halloween program on Thurs. October 31 will include storytelling, coloring activities, carnival games, and a costume contest. The sports fields are still not ready for use and she has not been told yet when the grand re-opening will take place.

Betty Hawkins, District 4 Representative, said that the 135th Street School needs to institute valet parking for after-school pickup of the students. Also there are many traffic and safety issues occurring along 135th Street in front of the school. She asked that a letter about the issues and potential solutions be put on the November 12 Board agenda.

(Rosario Rico entered the meeting at 7:25 p.m.)

2) Approval of the September 10, 2013, Board minutes: It was moved by Neodros Bridgeforth, seconded by Rosario Rico, and passed 12-1-1 to approved the September 10 Board minutes as submitted.

3) Treasurer's report: Treasurer Joan Jacobs reviewed the monthly expenditure report for September 2013, which amounted to one purchase at the U.S. Postal Service for \$6.97. The total remaining of the \$37,000 for the fiscal year is now \$29,765.06. A copy of the 2013-2014 budget as revised on August 13, 2013, was also attached, as well as the HGNNC budget goals for the year. Gloria Christmas moved, Neodros Bridgeforth seconded, and it was passed 14-0-0 to approve the Treasurer's report.

3a. Approval of \$200 to support the Officer Appreciation Luncheon at Southeast Division on Wed. November 20: The letter from Officer Hill requesting support for this event was read out. Eugenia Ramirez of the Southeast Volunteers said that the Volunteers will also contribute food, but since the event runs from 4 a.m. to 6 p.m. and is intended to feed 300 officers, the assistance from the Neighborhood Council is greatly appreciated. She suggested purchasing fried chicken. Deborah Lee volunteered to coordinate the purchase and Richard Lee said that he would help Ms. Lee transport the HGNNC food contribution and also help out at the event. It was moved by Llewyn Fowlkes, seconded by Neodros Bridgeforth, and passed 9-1-1.

3b. Southeast Division has asked for support of their youth programs, including Jeopardy and the Cadets. There is a fundraising dinner for the Police Assistance League which would contribute money to the program. However DONE recommends a grant through the Neighborhood Purposes Grant program directly to the Southeast Boosters with the money earmarked for the youth programs. There is adequate money in the "unknown events" category. Pamela Thornton expressed concern that no one was present to speak for this item and that no paperwork had been submitted. She emphasized that the Finance Committee needs to finalize a policy on how to determine which funding requests are brought to the

Board. It was moved by Richard Lee, seconded by Gloria Christmas, and passed 7-3-1 to make this contribution.

3c. Mary Hinton said that District 8 has decided to move forward with a clean up day in their neighborhood on Sat. November 2. Funds will be used for sandwiches and water to feed the volunteers and also for funding flyer delivery to those living within District 8. It was moved by Mary Hinton, seconded by Richard Lee, and passed 11-0-0 to spend up to \$300 for this outreach event.

3d. The HGNNC has been working with Council District 15 and the Harbor City-Harbor Gateway Chamber of Commerce to outreach to the businesses along the Figueroa Street Industrial Corridor. The breakfast event will likely take place in mid-November, possibly in the large training room of the WSS headquarters. It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Joan Jacobs, and passed 11-0-0 to approve up to \$400 to help pay for the catered breakfast.

4) Appointment of Richard Lee and Rosalie Preston to the Bylaws Committee: Lu Watson said that she also would like to be appointed to this Committee. It was moved by Richard Lee, seconded by Mary Hinton, and passed 14-0-0 to appoint Luetta Watson, Richard Lee, and Rosalie Preston to the Bylaws Committee. Their task is to write the necessary Standing Rules.

(Donald Cook entered the meeting at 8:17 p.m.)

5) Appointment of an Ad Hoc Election Committee Chair: This item was tabled until the November 12 Board meeting.

6) Position on zoning code amendment to ordinance 176354 to fast-track the construction of small-lot houses: Lu Watson attended the September 17 hearing on this issue and reported on the issues. Rosalie Preston pointed out that the small-lot ordinance refers only to single-family residences on small lots. Pamela Thornton said that this amendment was a way to shorten the time that a developer had to wait to begin building small-lot houses after the notice to nearby residents, Neighborhood Council, and public hearing had taken place and plan approval had been given. It currently takes at least a year to vest the tract maps with the County Registrar-Recorder during which time the project cannot move forward. It was moved by Llewyn Fowlkes, seconded by Neodros Bridgeforth, and passed 12-2-1 to oppose this amendment due to the undesirable impact of such small lot developments on residential neighborhoods.

7) HANC motion on 60-day notice to Neighborhood Councils on issues for consideration: It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Neodros Bridgeforth, and passed 15-0 -0 to support this motion to require a 60-day notice on issues of importance to Neighborhood Councils.

8) Letter in support of mitigating the impact of 18-wheeled trucks parking next to residences along Figueroa Street from Redondo Beach Blvd. to the 91 Freeway: Due to the continuing problems of the 18-wheeled trucks parking on the residential (L.A. City) side of Figueroa Street in District 1 and District 2 and no definite solution for mitigation since the September 30, 2011, letter on the issue was sent to Crystal Killian of the City's Department of Transportation and copy to many agencies, including then Councilwoman Janice Hahn, it was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Gloria Christmas, and passed 15-0-0 to send a new letter to Councilman Buscaino, DOT, Congresswoman Janice Hahn, Assemblyman Isadore Hall, AQMD, CalTrans, and CalOSHA.

9) Report by the Chair on NC Presidents' meeting with Councilman Buscaino on Sept. 30 and Councilman Parks' Leadership meeting on October 5: Delores Allmond attended the meeting on behalf of the HGNNC and reported that Councilman Buscaino has a newly designed website: www.la15th.com. Constituents can use it to find information and also to make suggestions or comment on issues. The Councilman is happy that Harbor-area Neighborhood Councils are filing Community Impact Statements on issues. After concern was expressed that the new Harbor Division jail has never been staffed, the Councilman recommended that each of the six Neighborhood Councils served by that Division write him letters requesting the staffing so that local patrol officers do not have to drive to the 77th Division to book in suspects they have arrested. Delores made a report of current HGNNC issues, including the two illegally operating marijuana clinics in Districts 1 and 6, the dumping under freeway overpasses and along railroad tracks, many homeless encampments along the 105 and 110 freeways, and

illegal street vending, including in front of elementary schools when the children leave school in the afternoon.

Pamela Thornton and Rosalie Preston attended the 8th District Leadership meeting on October 5, which Councilman Bernard Parks hosted. He now represents the northern half of District 6, north of the 105 Freeway. The two Board members were able to meet Southeast District Representative Berny Motto, who was very happy to know that there is an organized group to represent the constituents of that area.

10) Report on HGNNC activities: The Halloween Carnival will be held at Rosecrans Recreation Center from 4-7 p.m., the draft flyer for the October 22 General Membership meeting was reviewed, more details of the proposed November Figueroa Corridor business breakfast were discussed, and a flyer from the City's Emergency Management Department on the potential for developing a customized Neighborhood Emergency Plan within a District of the HGNNC was handed out.

11) Report on Harbor Alliance meeting of October 2: The head of the new Code Compliance Unit of the City Planning Department, Rocky Wiles, discussed the proposed goals for the new unit which only has three staff members. They have started by mailing out 150 letters to businesses relating to alcohol and entertainment to follow up on the paperwork that should have been submitted to show compliance with the conditions imposed on them by the Planning Department before starting to operate.

12) Announcements: Mayor Eric Garcetti is opening his Mayor's South LA Help Desk on Fri. October 11 at 9:30 a.m. at the Constituent Services Center, 8475 S. Vermont Avenue.

Councilman Buscaino is holding his second annual Block Party and Spaghetti Dinner on Sun. October 13 from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Italian American Club, 1903 S. Cabrillo Avenue in San Pedro. A bus will be leaving from in front of the 135th Street School at 12:30 p.m. and returning at 5:30 p.m.

The Neighborhood Council Community Budget Day will be held on Sat. October 26 from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at City Hall.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Recording Secretary