

Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council Board Meeting

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

135th Street School Auditorium, 801 W. 135th Street

Present: Delores Allmond (Chairperson), Pamela Thornton (Vice Chair), Rosalie Preston (Recording Secretary), Neodros Bridgeforth (Corresponding Secretary), Joan Jacobs (Treasurer), Ramon Montoya (District 1), Adrian Valenzuela (District 2), Rey Paduani (District 3), Betty Hawkins (District 4), Llewyn Fowlkes (District 5), Marvin Bell (District 6), Mary Hinton (District 8), Donald Cook (Outreach Representative), and Gloria Christmas (At-Large Representative)

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. by Chair Delores Allmond.

1) Public Comment: There was no public comment.

2) Approval of the January 14 Board minutes: It was moved by Gloria Christmas, seconded by Neodros Bridgeforth, and passed 11-0-1 to approve the minutes as corrected.

3) Treasurer's report: In the absence of Treasurer Joan Jacobs, Recording Secretary Rosalie Preston reviewed the monthly expenditure report for January 2014. As of the end of January, total HGNNC expenditures of the \$37,000 allocated are \$16,300.15, with \$21,344.85 remaining. It was moved by Marvin Bell, seconded by Rey Paduani, and passed 12-0-0 to accept the Treasurer's report.

3a. Approval of \$750 for a Sat. April 5 clean up day in District 7: After review of the proposed expenditures to support this outreach event, including bottled water and lunches for the volunteers, delivery of 1300 flyers by CIPS Marketing, translation of the flyer into Spanish, and printing of 1300 two-sided flyers in black ink on a colored paper, it was moved by Mary Hinton, seconded by Marvin Bell, and passed 12-0-0 to approve up to \$850 for the District 7 clean up day on Sat. April 5.

3b. Approval of \$5,500 for the May 6 election outreach: The proposed budget includes a two-sided candidate recruitment flyer, delivery of the candidate recruitment flyer, a get-out-the-vote flyer, delivery of a get-out-the-vote flyer, translation of both flyers into Spanish, the vote-by-mail option, a joint media ad on KJLH, robo-calls for both the candidate recruitment and get-out-the-vote, refreshments for three candidate meet and greet sessions, and miscellaneous additional election-related expenses. It was moved by Neodros Bridgeforth, seconded by Gloria Christmas, and passed 12-0-0 to approve up to \$5,500 for election-related expenditures.

3c. Approval of \$700 for Rosecrans Park reopening refreshments: The HGNNC has been working with Council District 15 and the Department of Recreation and Parks to help plan the grand re-opening ceremony of the Rosecrans Recreation Center's sports fields on Sat. February 15 and has offered to pay for the hot dogs for this event. The recommended number was 500 hot dogs and buns and this amount was moved by Rey Paduani and seconded by Marvin Bell. However, after some discussion, an amendment to the motion was made by Marvin Bell, seconded by Rey Paduani, and passed 12-0-0 to approve up to \$750 for 700 hot dogs, buns, plates, napkins, mustard, and ketchup to support this event.

3d. Approval of \$1,750 for Drupal software, website, and Facebook updates: The designer of the new HGNNC website, Wendy Moore has advised that the website's Drupal software requires periodic updates. She also suggested that she could update the website in a more professional manner than is being done by current Board members, and also that she could work on the HGNNC Facebook site to generate a more public presence during the election

period. However, the Finance Committee believes that only the Drupal software updates are really required at this time since the funds remaining for 2013-2014 are limited. Therefore, it was moved by Donald Cook, seconded by Gloria Christmas, and passed 12-0-0 to approve up to \$150 for Drupal software updates through June 2014.

(Joan Jacobs entered the meeting at 7:25 p.m.)

9) Report on HGNNC activities and events (Saturday Feb. 15 re-opening ceremony at Rosecrans Recreation Center): Because a stakeholder needed to leave and wanted to hear more about the Rosecrans Recreation Center Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony on Sat. February 15, the details of this event were discussed.

4) Adoption of revised budget for 2013-2014 as recommended by the Finance Committee:

The revised 2013-2014 budget as prepared by the Finance Committee was reviewed. The Committee had forgotten to create a line item for the Rosecrans Recreation Center re-opening refreshments and this had been added in to the draft, reducing the “Possible other events” line item to \$1003. The Committee reviewed their priorities list for the small amount of un-designated funds (GAP, District 5 Neighborhood Watch signs, and the Boys and Girls Club – Harbor Gateway/Gardena). It was moved by Joan Jacobs, seconded by Donald Cook, and passed 13-0-0 to approve the revised budget.

7) Update on Rosecrans 3D Imaging Project property issues and citywide fracking ban proposal:

District 4 stakeholder Luisa Gratz gave out copies of the DOGGR map showing the closed and active wells in the HGNNC area, many of which are clustered under Athens on the Hill in District 5. There was discussion about what further actions the HGNNC can take on the property damage and active wells issues which stakeholders are reporting. Diane Ripley, Communications for LA Seismic which performed the Rosecrans 3D Imaging Project, is asking stakeholders with property damage to contact her so that she can send out a structural engineer to evaluate their property damage (562-883-3001). The fracking moratorium file will be heard before the Committee. District 5 Representative Llewyn Fowlkes said that he has talked with employees working the active well on 126th Street and that two to three tank-loads of oil are being removed several times a week, which is about 150 barrels of oil per week. This well was refurbished last year. Llewyn now smells odors coming from the well site. Some Board members suggested contacting the L.A. Watts Times, channel 2 or 7, and other media outlets to get more public awareness of these issues which are facing HGNNC stakeholders.

8) Report on the Budget Advocates and Mayors’ Budget 101 meeting on January 23, with letter recommending HGNNC budget priorities:

Joan reported that the Budget Advocates will meet again next week. Joan Jacobs, Rosalie Preston, and District 7 stakeholder Vanessa Johnson attended the Mayor’s Budget 101 session in the West Adams area on January 23. The overflow crowd created priority lists for the budget which included the need for economic development and job growth, affordable housing, and healthy communities (community gardens, green space, joint-use agreements with LAUSD schools for utilization of school playgrounds after school hours). Mayor Garcetti attended near the end and said that the City will be offering 10,000 jobs for those ages 14-21 this summer and also job training for the long-term unemployed.

(Marvin Bell and Ramon Montoya left the meeting at 8:45 p.m.)

The HGNNC discussed budget priorities for the HGNNC based on the issues which stakeholders most frequently mention, including . A final list will be reviewed at the March 11 Board meeting.

(Rey Paduani left the meeting at 8:52 p.m.)

6) Letter requesting a traffic signal at the intersection of 157th Street and Vermont Avenue in District 2: District 2 stakeholders have previously requested a traffic signal at 157th Street and Vermont Avenue after a resident was killed in a traffic accident there. There have also been many car collisions at the intersection. On January 6 a District 2 resident was attempting to cross Vermont on his bicycle when a car turning left onto the north bound lanes of Vermont Avenue hit his bicycle throwing him about twenty feet and causing him to land on his head leading to bleeding in the brain and concussion. It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Mary Hinton, and passed 10-0-0 to approve sending a letter to Councilman Buscaino, with a copy to the Department of Transportation, requesting the needed signal.

(Neodros Bridgeforth and Gloria Christmas left the meeting at 9 p.m.)

5) Report on the January 27 Neighborhood Council Presidents' meeting with Councilman Buscaino and update on a Board meeting with him; report on Feb. 1 Leadership meeting with Councilman Parks: Chair Delores Allmond attended the January 27 Presidents' meeting and said that Councilman Buscaino emphasized that Neighborhood Councils always have access to him to discuss their issues and that he is willing to meet anywhere, including in people's living rooms. Board of Neighborhood Commissioners member Victor Medina summarized the BONC's goals for the year, including having Neighborhood Councils adopt standardized bylaws, a change in the posting policy for Neighborhood Councils with emphasis on having NC's post their agendas on their websites, along with approved minutes, and notices of events, and a new policy and guidelines for outreach, including a mandated outreach spending policy. Victor also said that there will be mandated leadership training for Board members after the spring Board elections and a matrix for evaluating the effectiveness of Neighborhood Councils. Four Board members attended Councilman Parks meeting on February 1 and said that he is using his officeholder funds to repair sidewalks in Council District 8. HGNNC District 6 north of the 105 freeway is in Councilman Parks' District.

10) Report on the Harbor Alliance meeting of February 5: Tabled for lack of time.

11) Announcements: There were no announcements.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Recording Secretary