

# Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council Board Meeting

Tuesday, September 13, 2016

135<sup>th</sup> Street School, 801 W. 135<sup>th</sup> Street (outside the Auditorium)

Present: Pamela Thornton (Chair), Tim Richardson (Vice Chair), Rosalie Preston (Recording Secretary), Hannah Woods (Corresponding Secretary), Joan Jacobs (Treasurer), Mark Lupfer (District 1), Clyde Noguchi (District 2), Rey Paduani (District 3), Betty Hawkins (District 4), Marvin Bell (District 6), Janet Mitchell (District 7), Larry Morrison (District 8), Deborah Lee (Community Organization), Richard Lee (Youth Representative), Theo Fowles (Outreach Representative), and Eva Cooper-Pace (At-Large Representative)

**1) Welcome/introductions:** The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m. by Chair Pamela Thornton. She reviewed safety procedures for emergency situations. This was followed by the salute to the flag and a moment of silence. Pamela then reviewed key elements of the adopted Code of Civility.

**2) Public Comment on non-agenda items:** Karen King, Director at the Rosecrans Recreation Center, showed off a sample of the purple T-shirt for their summer Day Camp which the HGNNC had funded in June. The Harbor gateway North Neighborhood Council name was prominently displayed on the back.

**3) Report from the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment on the June 11 Board election:** Stephen Box, Director of Outreach and Community Engagement for the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, noted that he works closely with Octaviano Rios, Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate for the Harbor Area. Stephen said that there had been a request for an audit of the HGNNC elections by HGNNC Board members at the August 3 Town Hall hosted by Department Manager Gayce Liu. An extensive audit had then been conducted. He and Octaviano handed out copies of a letter from Grayce Liu, a revised Canvass of Votes based on the audit, and a summary of the audit process. He apologized for the mistakes made by the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment during the finalizing of the HGNNC voting summary. One candidate's name (Rosalie Preston) had been listed twice on the unofficial Canvass of Voters. When her name was removed from the listing, the votes for the two candidates for the Community Organization Representative were switched. Additionally, an initial database of voters sent to the HGNNC Board was actually a listing of those stakeholders who had completed a paper registration. Stephen apologized to Pastor Bryan Davis for the errors on the unofficial Canvass of Voters which then resulted in him being certified as elected and sworn in to the HGNNC Board. He encouraged him to stay involved and to serve on some of the HGNNC Committees. He also apologized because the challenge by Deborah Jean Lee of the results of the Community Organization Representative seat was dismissed as at the time of the challenge, the evidence to support her claim was not available. The online election process involved two databases of voters and this caused some problems as well. He apologized again for the difficulties this caused to the HGNNC election process. He noted that Vic Chair Tim Richardson will be meeting with Sevak next week to further analyze the voting results as a way to help improve the online voting process for the 2018 elections. Stephen suggested possibly having the Ad Hoc Election Committee meet to review the final results. Board members asked some questions and expressed concern about the issues raised by the audit and whether even the final results presented could be trusted. Stephen said that the problems which the HGNNC

experienced with the wrong candidate being certified were unique to the HGNNC online Board election.

Octaviano Rios then administered the oath of office to Deborah Lee and she was seated as the Community Organization Representative.

(Janet Mitchell entered the meeting at 7:28 p.m.)

**4) Consent agenda items:** Chair Pamela Thornton explained that the Board is experimenting with having a number of routine business items voted on as consent items, in a group with one vote, as a way to save time. Any of the eleven items can be pulled off and discussed and voted on separately. After three items were requested to be considered individually, it was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Joan Jacobs, and passed 15-0-0 to approve the following:

- a. July 12, 2016, Board minutes
- b. July 23, 2016, Board minutes
- c. July monthly expenditure report
- d. August monthly expenditure report
- e. Approval of up to \$2,500 for the Clean Streets LA Challenge
- g. Approval of up to \$250 for the District 7 mini clean up day on October 15
- h. Approval of up to \$200 to fund the “Coffee with Joe” event on August 27
- j. Approval of up to \$550 to fund a Youth Leadership program in October

The following items were then discussed separately:

i. Youth Representative Richard Lee said that the program wouldn’t be ready to start in September, as listed on the agenda. It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Janet Mitchell, and passed 15-0-0 to approve up to \$200 to fund a Financial Literacy program for youth during fall 2016

f. District 7 Representative Janet Mitchell explained that the purpose of this event is to create a partnership between the HGNNC and the 118<sup>th</sup> Street School, which has a new principal who is very interested in working together on community issues. It was moved by Joan Jacobs, seconded by Tim Richardson, and passed 15-0-0 to approve up to \$500 to fund a joint clean up day at the 118<sup>th</sup> Street School in District 7 on Sat. October 1.

4k. The Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils has been rotating the taking of the minutes among the six Neighborhood Councils who are members of the Alliance. It has been suggested that if each of the six Neighborhood Councils paid for a minute-taker, each Council’s share would be \$310 (rather than \$300). It was moved by Richard Lee, seconded by Tim Richardson, and passed 15-0-0 to approve spending \$310 for the 2016-2017 fiscal year to support the HANC meetings by paying for a portion of the costs for a paid minute-taker.

**5) Approval of a letter stating the HGNNC recommendations for the proposed 36 new apartments at 16101 S. Figueroa Street in District 1 (DIR-2016-2255-DB; DIR-2016-2256-CE) as recommended by the Planning and Land Use Committee:** This item was tabled because the representative for the apartment development at 16102 S. Figueroa Street was unable to attend the Planning and Land Use Committee meeting.

**6) Report on the HANC meeting of September 17:** HANC Representative Lu Watson reported that a new requirement for Board members is to update their Code of Conduct training every two years. The deadline for young people to apply for the Mayor’s Youth Council is September 23. Neighborhood Councils are reminded to send in their updated equipment inventory to Jeff Brill.

**7) Announcements:** The Bureau of Street Services will be repairing small potholes in the HGNNC area on September 29. Send in your requests to [hgnc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hgnc@sbcglobal.net) by September 20.

The annual Board Retreat will be held on Sat. September 17 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The focus will be on the 2016-2017 Strategic Plan: what is your personal vision for the HGNNC and the solutions to help achieve that vision.

The Mayor's Welcome Home Project for those formerly homeless who are moving into permanent homes will be held on September 17. Baskets of useful items are being requested as donations for this project.

District 7 is hosting a toy drive from September 26 to December 14 and is partnering with You Can Health Services and the Los Angeles County Probation Department. The toy drop off location is the Charity Mission Church, 200 W. Imperial Highway.

District 7 is organizing support for a holiday feast at the 118<sup>th</sup> Street School on November 19.

The Emergency Preparedness Committee is meeting on Wed. September 14 to organize a second Emergency Preparedness Neighborhood Survey and an event on probably Sat. November 5.

The Congress of Neighborhoods takes place on Sat. September 24 at City Hall with many useful workshops for neighborhood activists.

Pastor Bryan Davis of the Gospel Tabernacle Holiness Church, 11861 S. Main Street, said that his church and other churches within the HGNNC, along with LAUSD Parent Centers, will be sponsoring a toy giveaway on December 6.

The 135<sup>th</sup> Street School, with support from the HGNNC and Council District 15, will be hosting the Harvest Health Festival on Sat. October 22 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment is offering funding training on Wed. September 14.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Recording Secretary