Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council Board Meeting
Tuesday, October 11, 2016
135th Street School, 801 W. 135th Street Auditorium

Present: Pamela Thornton (Chair), Tim Richardson (Vice Chair), Rosalie Preston (Recording Secretary), Hannah Woods (Corresponding Secretary), Joan Jacobs (Treasurer), Clyde Noguchi (District 2), Rey Paduani (District 3), Betty Hawkins (District 4), 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 7:12 p.m. by Chair Pamela Thornton. She reviewed safety procedures for emergency situations and the Code of Conduct. Speakers will hold the “Talking Stick” to indicate that they have the floor. For this Board meeting, Pamela said that the HGNNC was instituting a call-in for those Board members who were not able to attend in person. District 1 Representative Mark Lupfer took advantage of this, to be able to listen to comments and add his own. This was followed by the salute to the flag and a moment of silence.

2) Public Comment on non-agenda items: District 1 stakeholder Anahi Corte was introduced by Richard Lee as a potential member of the HGNNC’s Youth Council, which he is working to create. Anahi said that she is a student of Social Work at California State University Long Beach and works for an afterschool program in Gardena. She plans to be an active stakeholder.

   District 7 stakeholder Lonnie Hillman, Deacon of the Charity Mission Church, 200 W. Imperial Highway, noted that there is no street sweeping along Imperial Highway and he would like to see a regular street sweeping program instituted. He also said that homelessness is a big problem in the area.

   Dexter McLeod said that he is the new Executive Director/CEO of the LA South Chamber of Commerce, a Chamber which is covering an area which has not had a Chamber before. They are launching a consumer advocacy program and can assist new businesses get started. They will be holding their next monthly business networking breakfast on Thursday October 13 from 7:30-9 a.m. at Carrow’s Restaurant in Gardena.

   District 6 stakeholder Mike Okereke reported on uneven pavement where the 105 Freeway exits onto Vermont Avenue.

   District 7 stakeholder and 118th Street School Principal Grace Lee thanked the HGNNC for their support for their October 1 school clean up day, which was also the first event for the HGNNC’s Clean Streets LA Challenge. District 7 Representative Janet Mitchell showed the many thank you letters which the children of the school had sent.

3) Outreach Committee report on the proposed new website design: Outreach Representative and Outreach Committee Chair Theo Fowles said that the Committee has been working on a revised and updated website design and also a new logo. For the logo, an older design proposal will be revised and a draft presented to the Board at an upcoming meeting. Comparing the current HGNNC website with other websites, Theo and the Committee want to see the redesigned website have more photos and less text. There will be a website manual so that Board members can easily update it. The proposal from Moore Business Results is for $3,000. The new logo design will be possibly a few hundred dollars as that work is billed at $60 per
hour. The Outreach Committee is also working on procedures for interacting with other Committees and HGNNC event planners for better coordination of flyers and other marketing. Theo is currently working on a flyer for the Sat. October 15 District 7 Clean Up Day and the Sat. November 5 Emergency Preparedness Fair.

4) Emergency Preparedness Committee report on the October 20-November 4 Neighborhood Survey and Sat. November 5 Emergency Preparedness Fair at the 135th Street School: Emergency Preparedness Committee Chair Deborah Lee said that during the weeks of October 23 and October 30 ninety Block Leaders from all eight Districts will be giving out small bags of emergency preparedness information and other flyers along their blocks. The 2,000 bags will be assembled on Thursday October 20 and many volunteers are needed for that. The Emergency Preparedness Fair will be held on Sat. November 5 from 10 am to 12 noon at the 135th Street School in the west parking lot. Councilmember Buscaino’s office has arranged for ten canopies, ten tables, and fifty chairs. The Red Cross, F and M fire Extinguisher, the Los Angeles Amateur Radio Club, Care with emergency preparedness supplies, and the Los Angeles County Fire Department Shakey van are expected to be present.

5) Finance Committee Report on the revised 2016-2017 budget of $37,000: Treasurer and also Finance Committee Chair Joan Jacobs said that the Finance Committee had met on September 29 to adjust the adopted 2016-2017 budget of $37,000 to reflect the higher costs of the Board Retreat and the projected cost of $3,000 for a redesigned HGNNC website. She also noted that the amount for the Harvest Health Fair at the 135th Street School should be $850 and not $700, which was due to a misinterpretation. The Finance Committee had moved the $3,000 from the “possible other events” category to website.

(Richard Lee left the meeting at 7:50 p.m.)

She also said that the proposed HGNNC Funding Policy was based on the one written by the United Neighborhoods Neighborhood Council and would help decide funding requests from neighborhood groups. She explained why the requests should be submitted 90 days before an event, to allow time for Finance Committee review, Board vote, and Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment review and approval. She also emphasized that only Board members can be reimbursed for expenditures related to events and that these should be avoided when at all possible. By speakerphone, District 1 Representative Mark Lupfer said that he would like to see all submitted funding documents ahead of time in order to understand the Finance Committee decisions before the Board votes on them.

6) Consent agenda items: A motion to approve the following was made by Rosalie Preston and seconded by Janet Mitchell. The Board voted 12-0-0 to approve them.

a. September 13, 2016, Board minutes
b. September 17, 2016, Board minutes
c. September monthly expenditure report
d. Recommendation to adopt the revised 2016-2017 budget of $37,000
e. Recommendation to adopt the HGNNC Funding Policy
f. Recommendation - $500 to support the Halloween Carnival at Rosecrans Recreation Center on Monday October 31
   i. Recommendation - $2,600 to support the Emergency Preparedness Fair at the 135th Street School
j. Recommendation - $200 to support 50 Thanksgiving food baskets for needy families at the 118th Street School on Sat. November 19, in partnership with the Peggy Beatrice Foundation, as a Neighborhood Purposes Grant

k. Recommendation - reimbursement of Joan Jacobs for $75 for printing HGNNC name on T-shirts

l. Recommendation – reimbursement of Joan Jacobs for $12 for water, plates, napkins for July 26, 2016, General Membership meeting

m. Approval of $200 for a “Coffee with Mike Gipson”

6g. Recommendation - $700 to support refreshments for the Sat. October 22 Harvest Health Fair at the 135th Street School: It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Tim Richardson, and passed 12-0-0 to approve up to $850 to support refreshments for the Sat. October 22 Harvest Health Fair at the 135th Street School.

Council District 15 report: John Jones III said he had stopped by to introduce the new Field Deputy for the Harbor Gateway, Aksel Palacios. Aksel is the lead for the GRID program within CD 15. John said that he was glad that the HGNNC held the October 1 clean up day at the 118th Street School because the District 7 area is one that needs constant vigilance to remove the trash and illegal dumping from the streets. He reminded the Board that if a Board member would like to have Aksel view the issues in their area, they can call him a week ahead to set up a Tuesday tour. So far, District 4 Representative Betty Hawkins is the only one who has done this. Aksel previously worked for Reggie Jones-Sawyer, Assemblymember for the 59th District.

(Richard Lee returned to the meeting at 8:20 p.m.)

John encouraged board members and stakeholders to try calling 311 first, using 311 online, or the MyLA311 app, and recording the service request number. Council District 15 staff serve as the liaison between residents and City services.

6f. Recommendation - $3,000 to Moore Business Results for a redesigned WordPress website: Outreach Representative Theo Fowls projected the current and proposed website designs and explained that the newly designed website would be created on a platform (WordPress) which would make use of the website easier and more functional. There would be more photos of HGNNC events. A lot of the cost involved is due to the reformatting and creation of additional webpages. The current format is known as a tri-column. The new format would look more like that of Central Hollywood Neighborhood Council with the new logo prominently displayed at the top. There would be a more obvious way to sign up for the emailed newsletters. Send photos for the new website to Theo and information about events and achievements. It was moved by Hannah Woods, seconded by Rey Paduani, and passed 13-0-0 to approve spending $3,000 for the redesigned website, with work performed by Moore Business Results.

(Joan Jacobs left the meeting at 8:45 p.m.)

7) Recommendation of the Planning and Land Use Committee to approve a letter stating HGNNC opposition for a zone change at 17236 S. Hoover Street in District 1: After review of the draft letter, a member of the Planning and Land Use Committee requested that the item be tabled for further review. It was moved by Tim Richardson, seconded by Rey Paduani, and passed 11-1 (Preston)-0 to approve tabling the item until the October 25 General Membership meeting.
8) Appointment of three Community Impact Statement filers: It was moved by Tim Richardson, seconded by Richard Lee, and passed 12-0-0 to table this item until the November 8 Board meeting to allow Board members more time to understand what Community Impact Statements are and what the duties of a filer would be.

9) HANC meeting of October 5:
   a. HGNNC HANC Representative Lu Watson reported on the meeting. Councilmember Harris-Dawson was present to discuss the City’s Comprehensive Homeless Plan and to urge a vote for Measure HHH on the November 8 ballot which would fund housing for the homeless. It has been decided to hold an annual HANC Retreat each July. Neighborhood Councils are asked to appoint a Homeless Liaison. Neighborhood Councils are urged to keep their Strategic Plans in focus and to follow them to reach their goals for the year. The Wilmington Neighborhood Council held its election with 375 voters. HGNNC Vice Chair Tim Richardson assisted with the election.

   b. Referral to the Planning and Land Use Committee-consideration of a letter to Councilmember Buscaino re: tracking approved mitigation measures/planning conditions. This will be taken up by the Planning and Land Use Committee.

10) Announcements: Pamela noted that the second Tuesday of November will be November 8, the election night. It was agreed to set the next Board meeting on the third Tuesday, November 15.

    Janet Mitchell reminded the Board that the second Clean Streets LA Challenge Clean Up event will be Sat. October 15 in District 7.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Recording Secretary