

**Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council
General Membership Meeting of June 24, 2008**

Present: Adrian White (Chair), Delores Allmond (Vice Chair), Rosalie Preston (Recording Secretary), Joan Jacobs (Corresponding Secretary), Gloria Christmas (Treasurer), Adrian Valenzuela (District 2), Rey Paduani (District 3), Betty Hawkins (District 4), Llewyn Fowlkes (District 5), Willie Blackmon (District 6), Mattie Menser (District 7), Leo Youngblood (District 8), and Eva Cooper (Youth Representative)

Chair Adrian White called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. and reminded those present to observe the adopted Code of Conduct.

1) Public Comment: Dr. Deborah Robinson (District 8) said that she is the program director for the Emergency Network Los Angeles County, which is a network of community and faith-based organizations in Los Angeles County to handle disasters. She gave out flyers for the Community Emergency Preparedness Workshop on Tues. July 8 which is sponsored by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health and the City of Compton.

Rey Paduani (District 3) gave out flyers for the Health and Job Fair to be held Sat. June 28 at 1251 W. Redondo Beach Blvd.

Itichai Tiemsanjai (District 4) announced that there will be a Ham Radio field day at Fort MacArthur on Saturday June 28 and Sunday June 29 with more details available on www.arrl.org.

Reverend Charles Tolbert, Associate Pastor for Home Assembly Church, announced that their church, which is currently located in the Adams and Arlington area, will be moving to 13515 S. Figueroa later this year. They are a socially-minded church and wish to get involved with the community.

Reginald Zachery, Community Advocate for Councilwoman Janice Hahn, gave out brochures from the Bureau of Sanitation on how to deal with tree roots in the sewer lines and also the 2008-2009 Community Beautification Grants booklets.

2) The minutes of the May 27, 2008, General Membership meeting were approved as corrected. Christmas (motion), Menser (second) 12-0

3) Treasurer's Report: Printed copies of the June 1, 2008, monthly funding status report from DONE were available showing a balance of \$107,815.87 and detailing three demand warrant expenditures and ten via the VISA card in May. The treasurer's report was approved on a motion by Rosalie Preston, second by Willie Blackmon, and vote of 12-0.

LAPD Report: Senior Lead Officer Armando Ramirez described the area of the HGNNC and reported that crime is dramatically down from previous years. He introduced new Officer Cesar Valdez. Gloria Christmas asked how the LAPD would be handling the Fourth of July fireworks this year. Officer Ramirez reminded the group that all fireworks, including "safe and sane" fireworks, are illegal within the City of Los Angeles boundaries. He suggested that neighborhood groups could create a flyer listing nearby locations where fireworks displays will be presented and he said that Southeast Division will have a special unit to target illegal fireworks this year.

4) Speaker from the Bureau of Street Services: Kirk Bible, Superintendent II for the area south of the Santa Monica (10) freeway to San Pedro and from Alameda to Vermont Avenue, discussed the types of City services which the Bureau provides. He noted that this past year, the City fixed 178 miles of streets with asphalt and just 14.5 of those miles were within the 15th Council District. The decision as to which streets to repair is made by working with community members and the Council office. He then answered many questions from those present, including how a neighborhood can have their streets posted for street sweeping, how to get broken curbs repaired, how to repair potholes, how to request speed humps, and how to get weeds cleared from CalTrans property. He recommended using the 311 number to make requests because then the request is logged and can be tracked and timed.

5) Position on Magnolia Science Academy-3: Lu Watson, co-chair of the Planning and Land Use Committee, said that the Committee recommends that the Board vote to oppose the conditional use permit, write letters to the Los Angeles Unified School District Office of Environmental Health Services and the City's Planning Department asking that environmental studies be done before the CUP hearing, and send the Board's position to Councilwoman Janice Hahn. She presented four additional concerns to add to the twelve already presented to the Board on May 13, 2008.

Arnie Levitt, architect for the Magnolia Science Academy-3, said that their application had been made to the Planning Department and they were answering all issues required of them. A traffic study is being done, which will include traffic flow within the boundaries of the cities of Gardena and Carson. They have hired an air quality scientist who has compiled data from May and June. The issues of traffic and air quality will be addressed at the CUP hearing. He questioned the need for a full EIR and asked the Board to wait to vote until the traffic and air quality studies have been completed.

Frank Hong, Director of Labor and Planning for Councilwoman Janice Hahn, stated that the City of Los Angeles is preparing a mitigated negative declaration on the Magnolia Science Academy-3 at the present time and that a full environmental impact report is not usually done for most City projects.

Board members said that they are not opposed to the Charter school per se, but do have concerns over the health and safety of children attending the school. One parent who is a HGNNC stakeholder has called the HGNNC to express concern that the school may not open on time this fall, if the Board opposes the CUP. On a motion of Eva Cooper, with a second by Gloria Christmas, the Board then voted 11-0 (with two abstentions) to support the recommendations of the Planning and Land Use Committee and oppose the conditional use permit and send letters requesting full environmental impact reports from the LAUSD and the City of Los Angeles and convey concern about all sixteen issues of the PLU Committee to the LAUSD, City Planning, and Councilwoman Janice Hahn.

6) Letter to Councilwoman Hahn regarding the June 16 meeting on the WesPac jet fuel pipeline and other actions regarding the pipeline: It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Leo Youngblood, and passed 12-0 to send a letter to Councilwoman Janice Hahn expressing the disappointment of the Board that she did not attend the June 16 meeting which she had called to hear the constituent concerns about the WesPac jet fuel pipeline project and also stating concern that the presentation was dominated by WesPac and not the objective presentation with appropriate City representatives which those receiving her letter had been led to believe it would be.

7) Letter to support District 3 request for speed humps, District 7 request for alley paving, and other needed improvements: Due to the time, this item was tabled until a future meeting.

8) Appointment of additional members to the Emergency Preparedness Committee: It was moved by Gloria Christmas, seconded by Joan Jacobs and passed 12-0 to appoint Dr. Deborah Robinson to the Emergency Preparedness Committee.

9) Setting date(s) and budget for Board retreat in July and/or August: The Board had expressed interest in having more training and time to discuss goals and objectives for the coming fiscal year at a retreat to be held in a nearby hotel. Rose Ibanez, DONE Project Coordinator, explained that such a meeting would have to take place within the HGNNC boundaries and be posted as per the Brown Act, so that any stakeholder could attend and help set the goals. She said that the City's Human Relations Commission could provide a facilitator for some of the training at no cost, if several Neighborhood Councils held a training session together. Otherwise, the HGNNC could pay for their own facilitator. It was suggested that Board members call the HGNNC office with possible dates during July, August, or September and the matter can be further discussed at the July 8 Board meeting.

10) Announcements: Rosalie Preston pointed out the web address for the HGNNC calendar of events which the HGNNC Office Assistant has created: <http://calendar.yahoo.com/hgnc@sbcglobal.net>

Rosalie Preston announced that the HGNNC had received a packet from the Department of City Planning for a zone variance related to an existing recycling collection facility at 11227-11231 S. Broadway, which is just to the north of the HGNNC boundary. If anyone knows of residents in that area who are interested in this project, the HGNNC will make the packet available to them.

Joan Jacobs said that the Department of Public Works will be issuing small green pails for the collection of kitchen food scraps on a trial basis within our area during the first and second weeks in August. The pilot program will begin September 1.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston