

**Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council  
Membership Meeting of October 28, 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), Neodros Bridgeforth (Faith Based Representative), Dr. Peter Rivera (Community Organization Representative), and Eva Cooper (Youth Representative)

Chair Adrian White called the meeting to order at 7:17 p.m.

**1) Public Comment:** Luetta Watson, District 5 stakeholder, reported on the October 23 Board of Transportation Commissioners hearing on the WesPac jet fuel pipeline. On the advice of the City Attorney, the hearing was actually rescheduled because the City of Gardena challenged the wording of the item on the agenda as not meeting Brown Act requirements. However, because so many had submitted speaker cards, the eight speakers were allowed to make their comments, which will be part of the record, and then the rest of the hearing will continue on November 13. Councilwoman Janice Hahn's office did not send a representative to the hearing.

Rosalie Preston, Recording Secretary, reported on the October 20 hearing in San Pedro on the Magnolia Science Academy #3. More than fifty parents of students at the school attended to praise the quality of education which their children are currently receiving at the temporary location. Rosalie and Luetta Watson were the only representatives to speak about the environmental issues related to the school's proposed location at 555 W. Redondo Beach Blvd., just east of the 110 Harbor Freeway. The hearing officer, \_\_\_\_\_, did point out that at the final hearing before the Planning Commission on November 20 in Van Nuys, the focus will be on the whether the school should be located so close to a major freeway because of the adverse health effects of the resultant pollution on children's health. Frank Hong, Councilwoman Janice Hahn's Planning Deputy, spoke in favor of the project, saying that Councilwoman Hahn supports charter schools.

Neodros Bridgeforth, Board representative to the DWP M.O.U. Oversight Committee, reported that the Ratepayer Advocate for the Department of Water and Power has been approved, as recommended by the Oversight Committee.

Rey Paduani, District 3 Representative, said that the annual Community Police Advisory Board (CPAB) appreciation luncheon will be held November 21 at the Southeast police station, 145 W. 108<sup>th</sup> Street and that the HGNNC will be contributing to the food provided the officers throughout the day.

Eva Cooper, Youth Representative, reminded those present that the Halloween Carnival at Rosecrans Recreation Center will take place on Friday, October 31 from 4 to 8 p.m., with the HGNNC providing financial support this year.

Rose Ibanez, DONE project coordinator, thanked those who attended the Oct. 11 Congress of Neighborhoods, which saw over 500 participants. She also thanked HGNNC Chair Adrian White for his work on the planning committee for the Congress. She also handed out paper copies of the budget survey and referred to the link on-line.

Senior Lead Officer Robert Martinez from the LAPD Southeast Station responded to questions from stakeholders, including the issue of loud motorcycles along 118<sup>th</sup> Place in District

7, related to the motorcycle club nearby on Main Street. Officer Martinez said that LAPD does check on the situation once a month but during the daytime. The motorcyclists can only be cited for excessive noise or racing. District 3 has similar problems along Rosecrans, Menlo and Orchard. Photo documentation might help. District 8 reported on illegal dumping of trash and large items. The nitrous oxide use in District 7 was again mentioned. A stakeholder from District 8 mentioned the panhandling which occurs at the exit to the 105 freeway. SLO Martinez said that the LAPD can be called to cite the illegal activity. He also advised residents to not have valuables in their cars when shopping during the holiday season. District 4 reported on a rash of slashed tires. The LAPD is planning to deploy more officers during the evenings in our neighborhoods and to strictly enforce curfew for teenagers. SLO Martinez introduced Officer Phillip Bobo, Community Affairs, whose direct telephone number is (213) 972-7966. He helped provide information to for the Neighborhood Council's letters about the 7-Eleven Stores proposal to sell liquor at 700 W. Imperial Highway. Officer Bobo advised calling South Bureau Traffic (213) 485-7417 about loud motorcycles or hotrods on residential streets. SLO Martinez's direct cell phone number is (213) 793-0726.

Senior Lead Officer Armando Ramirez announced a Gardena Blvd. clean-up for Sat. November 8 sponsored by the GGCC (Gardena Gateway Community Club), which will clean up along Gardena Blvd. from Vermont Avenue to Orchard. He noted that a lot of burglaries have occurred in District 5, Athens on the Hill. There has also been more illegal dumping along the railroad tracks south of Rosecrans Park.

A stakeholder reported that there is illegal activity going on along 118th Street near Main Street, which is close to the 118<sup>th</sup> Street School.

Reginald Zachery, Community Advocate for Council District 15, reported on a recent meeting with the City Attorney and handed out a sheet "Important Facts to Know about Gang Injunctions" which explains how to begin the removal process from the gang database. He also announced that as of November 3, he will no longer be located at the Harbor Gateway field office, 19401 S. Vermont Avenue. Due to budget constraints, that office will be closed as of December 31, and the Harbor Gateway South Neighborhood Council and the Harbor City Neighborhood Council will have to find other offices and/or locations to receive their mail, along with the Harbor City/Harbor Gateway Chamber of Commerce. Zachery will still represent the Harbor Gateway and will be working out of the Watts field office. He can be reached there at (213) 473-5128. If the budget situation improves, then a new office will re-open in the Harbor Gateway.

**Not on agenda: Position on closure of Council District 15 Harbor Gateway field office:** On the advice of City Attorney Tom Griego that an item not being known about in time for posting of the agenda could be discussed and voted on if two-thirds of the Board is present, Dr. Rivera moved, Llewyn Fowlkes seconded, and it was passed 14-0 to add this item to the agenda.

After discussion, it was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Gloria Christmas and passed 14-0 to take a position of opposition to the closure of the Councilwoman Hahn's Harbor Gateway field office, 19401 S. Vermont Avenue, because of the impact on services to HGNNC stakeholders, to write a letter to that effect, and to join with the two other affected neighborhood councils in any actions they may organize.

**2) Approval of the September 23 Membership meeting minutes:** It was moved by Leo Youngblood, seconded by Dr. Peter Rivera, and passed 14-0 to approve the minutes as read.

**3) Treasurer's report:** Gloria Christmas reported that the Neighborhood Council Funding Report for October 1, 2008, shows a balance of \$127,941.61, with 15 Visa expenditures and two demand warrants during September. The summary of expenditures by quarter shows a total of \$17,933.39 spent from July 1 to October 28, 2008. Leo Youngblood moved, Neodros Bridgeforth seconded, and the treasurer's report was approved 14-0.

It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Joan Jacobs, and passed 14-0 to approve up to \$300 for each of the four Districts (4, 6, 7, and 8) which are planning to decorate trees and/or light poles during the holiday season, using the "Major Outreach Events" line item.

It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Neodros Bridgeforth, and passed 14-0 to approved an additional \$500 for the Halloween Carnival at Rosecrans Recreation Center to cover the costs of prizes for costumes and Halloween candy from the "Youth Programs" line item.

**4) Speaker: "Gangs and what the City of L.A. can do about them":** The speaker, Jeff Carr, had had to cancel at the last minute due to illness. He will be rescheduled to speak early in 2009.

**5) Proposed bylaws revision-comments and discussion:** Bylaws Committee Chair Mark Lewis led the discussion about the October 14 draft version of the bylaws. He explained that the new definition of a stakeholder ( ) is more inclusive than what most neighborhood councils had formerly used and is the required new definition under the Neighborhood Council Review Commission. Two stakeholders expressed the need for a longer review period for proposed new amendments to the bylaws. Some stakeholders raised the issue of requiring some sort of identification to prove stakeholder status put in the bylaws to ensure that this is used during the next election process in 2010.

**6) Change of date or location for Tues. November 11 HGNNC Board meeting:** Because November 11 is Veterans' Day and the 135<sup>th</sup> Street School will be closed that day, the Board must either meet elsewhere on that second Tuesday or else move the Board meeting to the third Tuesday in order to meet at the usual location. It was moved by Eva Cooper, seconded by Delores Allmond, and passed 14-0 to set the November Board meeting for Tuesday, November 18 at 135<sup>th</sup> Street School auditorium.

**7) Announcements:** The National Association for Equal Justice in America (NAJEA) is hosting a discussion on "Law and Order in the City of Compton" on Mon., November 3.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston