

## Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Board Meeting

Tuesday, May 8, 2018

135<sup>th</sup> Street School Library, 801 W. 135<sup>th</sup> Street

Present: Pamela Thornton (Chair), Saira Cooper (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), Llewyn Fowlkes (District 5), Larry Morrison (District 8), and Richard Lee (Youth Representative)

**1) Welcome/introductions:** Chair Pamela Thornton called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m. This was followed by a review of safety procedures, the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence in memory of District 5 stakeholder Alcue Jones, Jr.

**2) General public comment on non-agenda items:** LAPD Community Relations Officer Dawson Hill, Southeast Division, thanked the Board for their previous support of National Night Out. This year National Night Out will be held on August 7.

District 5 stakeholder Lu Watson announced that the funeral for Alcue Jones, Jr. will be held on Wed. August 16 at 10 a.m. at Grant A.M. E. Church, 10435 S. Central Avenue.

### **3) Committee updates:**

**a) Ad Hoc Homeless Issues Committee activities:** Committee Chair Bryan Davis reported that the backpacks and toiletries for the homeless youth in the five elementary schools will be assembled on Tues. May 22. He is working with the staff at the local schools to keep them up to date about the City's homeless initiatives. He is the HGNNC liaison to the Neighborhood Council Homeless meetings and the liaisons are working with Mayor Garcetti on his initiatives to reduce homelessness.

**b) Outreach Committee – HGNNC branding and upcoming activities:** Outreach Chair Saira Cooper reported that the Committee met on April 30 and will be working on partnerships with the Rosecrans Recreation Center, businesses, and schools to have banners or window posters placed on their fences/properties advertising the HGNNC in preparation for the spring 2019 Board election. The Committee is proposing new branding items such as Board name badges, caps, polo shirts, etc.

Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment Neighborhood Advocate Octaviano Rios said that the Department will be supporting the outreach and election efforts. The HGNNC election date is tentatively set for May 20.

LAPD Community Relations Officer Hill said that if the HGNNC emails him event flyers, he can send them on to his email list.

### **4) Board governance:**

**a) Upcoming Harbor Area – Neighborhood Council President's meeting with Councilmember Buscaino – Board and stakeholder feedback requested in preparation for meeting May 14:** At the request of the Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils, Councilmember Buscaino has set up a meeting of Neighborhood Council presidents for May 14. Meanwhile, HGNNC Chair Pamela Thornton met briefly with Councilmember Buscaino to discuss some of the HGNNC issues, including maintenance of the Harbor Gateway Community Center and the HGNNC's lease with the Boys and Girls Club. A year and a half ago, Council District 15 planned to have an office in the building, but that is not going to happen. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment staff member Jeff Brill will follow up on the maintenance issues after Pamela Thornton provides a current list of interior and exterior building issues. Councilmember Buscaino said that he plans to hold more events at 802 W. Gardena Blvd. so that

would ensure that maintenance is taken care of by the Boys and Girls Club, who hold the lease on the building. Another issue discussed was the need for Vision Zero safety measures along 135<sup>th</sup> Street between Vermont Avenue and Hoover Street, which Councilmember Buscaino said he would work on. They also discussed the over-concentration of illegal dumping in Districts 6, 7, and 8. Councilmember Buscaino suggested creating an Ad Hoc Committee to work on longer term solutions to the issue.

Pamela said that the Planning and Land Use Committee will hold a Town Hall meeting on Sat. June 2 at the 116<sup>th</sup> Street School or 118<sup>th</sup> Street School from 10 am to 12 noon, with a focus on the Districts 6, 7, and 8 issues.

**b) The State of HGNNC Districts – feedback to Board by HGNNC District**

**Representatives:** Each District Representative or Board member knowledgeable about the District's issues gave a report. District 1 has a number of illegal dumping locations, a lack of parking along Gardena Blvd. which impacts long-term success of the small businesses that open there, On a positive note, the large ficus trees in front of 515 W. Gardena Blvd. and along the Three Ranch Estates on Figueroa Street were recently trimmed for the first time in over fifteen to twenty years.

District 2 is dealing with a homeless man who sleeps under the 110 freeway on Alondra Blvd. There are also issues with the 157<sup>th</sup> Street cul de sac on the east side of the 110 freeway where homeless people hang out at night and drug dealing takes place. Other issues were documented in the HGNNC budget letter—lifted sidewalks and trees that need removal. There were over 25 people at a recent Neighborhood Watch meeting.

District 3 faces concerns over the homeless who live along the railroad tracks south of the Rosecrans Recreation Center, the proposed Prologis warehouse, and illegal vehicle sales along the south side of Rosecrans Blvd. There needs to be a wrought iron fence along the south side of Rosecrans Recreation Center so that the homeless don't cut through the chain link fence to get into the park after hours. The park needs more public restrooms and air conditioning for the building. The gym floor is being refinished via a donation made by the LA Clippers. A new child care center may be built on the east side of the park.

District 4 wants to see speed humps along Hoover Street from El Segundo to Rosecrans to help stop speeders. Caltrans has been asked to remove debris from along the 110 freeway sound wall. The alley south of 135<sup>th</sup> Street needs repaving. The left turn signals on 135<sup>th</sup> Street at Vermont Avenue are very slow in being activated. There is drag racing along Hoover Street and street takeovers there. And many loud parties in the neighborhood on weekends.

District 5 will be holding a clean up on Sat. May 19 from 10 am to 2 pm. The focus will be on cleaning up Laconia. 700 flyers will be delivered to District 5 stakeholders. Lunch will be provided for volunteers and a shredder will be on site. There are still street takeovers going on. The sidewalks along 121<sup>st</sup> Street need repair.

District 6 continues to see homeless encampments along the south side of the 105 freeway north of 117<sup>th</sup> Street.

District 7 held a clean up day on April 28, with four dumpsters being filled. Many stakeholders thanked the volunteers for their clean up work although they didn't stop to volunteer themselves. There have been burglaries from cars. Neighbors have been posting incidents on Ring. There is a new thrift store at 118<sup>th</sup> and Main Street. There is no street sweeping along Main Street, though it is badly needed. Graffiti is not being removed even though reported.

District 8 faces continued issues of trash, illegal dumping, lifted sidewalks, and missing curbs. Some tree trimming has occurred via contractors hired by the City. Larry Morrison said that he and District 7 Representative Janet Mitchell met with Pepe Garcia of the Bureau of Sanitation in April to discuss having trash bins placed under the 105 freeway where illegal dumping regularly occurs. The bins would have to be chained to posts. There are cameras at Stanford and the 105

but they have not made an impact on the regularity of illegal dumping at that location. Illegal car repair is happening at one location.

Youth Representative Richard Lee said that he has reached out to the schools within the HGNNC boundaries on various issues. Gardena Elementary would like to have a bus trip to City Hall in the coming year.

**5) Approval of a letter to Dept. of Transportation requesting Vision Zero safety measures implemented for Avalon Blvd. pedestrian crossing under the 105 Freeway at the Metro Green Line Station:** A District 8 stakeholder raised this issue at the April 24 General Membership meeting. A letter similar to the one for 135<sup>th</sup> Street will be written to Seleta Reynolds, general Manager of the Dept. of Transportation. It was moved by Richard Lee, seconded by Llewyn Fowlkes, and passed 11-0-0 to send the letter.

**6) Approval of revised HGNNC budget**

**a) \$42,000 general funds 2017-2018:** It was moved by Rey Paduani, seconded by Saira Cooper, and passed 11-0-0 to approve the revised budget as recommended by the Finance Committee.

**7) Consent calendar (items 7a through 7m)**

**a) Approval of the April 10, 2018, Board minutes**

**b) Approval of the April Monthly Expenditure Report**

**c) Approval of \$34.10 L.A. City Publishing (bo of business cards for Larry Morrison)**

**d) Approval of \$550 for a District 4 311 informational flyer (printing and delivery to 700 households)**

**e) Approval of \$5,000 for marketing and branding supplies (polo shirts, name badges, pens, banners, canopies, giveaways)**

**f) Approval of up to \$1000 for office computer tower**

**g) Approval of up to \$500 for Microsoft Office Professional software**

**h) Approval of \$500 for the Congress of Neighborhoods on September 22**

**i) Approval of \$500 as an NPG for GAP**

**j) Approval of an additional \$500 as an NPG for the San Pedro Art Association**

**k) Approval of \$1,500 as an NPG for Family Promise of the South Bay**

**l) Approval of up to \$500 for a small storage shed**

**m) Approval of \$2,000 for a District 8 Stakeholder Appreciation Day event on July 4**

It was moved by Llewyn Fowlkes, seconded by Saira Cooper, and passed 11-0-0 to approve Consent Calendar items 7a through 7m.

**8) Announcements:** District 8 Representative Larry Mitchell thanked the Board for their condolences on the loss of his nephew.

The Executive Committee will meet on Wed. May 15 at 6:30 p.m.

The annual Board Retreat will be held on Sat. June 9 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Los Angeles Gateway Torrance.

**11) Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Recording Secretary