

Harbor Gateway North General Membership Meeting
Tuesday, July 24, 2018
Harbor Gateway Community Center, 802 W. Gardena Blvd.

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), Marvin Bell (District 6), Janet Mitchell (District 7), Larry Morrison (District 8), and Deborah Lee (Community Organization Representative)

1) **Welcome/Introductions:** Chair Pamela Thornton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. She reviewed safety procedures in the event of an emergency which was followed by the salute to the flag and a moment of silence. Board members then introduced themselves to the stakeholders present.

2) **General Public Comment on non-agenda items:** Joseph Kirksey, District 6 stakeholder, commented on all of the trash generated by the homeless living along the 105 off-ramp at Vermont Avenue and passed around photos.

Rethalma Merriex, District 8 stakeholder, said that there is very loud noise from late-night parties in her area. She would like to see a flyer delivered to all homes informing residents of the noise limit before the LAPD are called in for continuing violators.

Art Cramer, District 1 stakeholder, reported that his area is still deteriorating. There is a homeless person living under the 168th Street freeway overpass. There is also no street sweeping along Figueroa Street and none on the 500 block of 170th Street, either.

3) **Council District 15 report:** No one was present to make a report.

4) **Assembly District 64 report:** No one was present to make a report.

5) **LAPD report:** Senior Lead Officer Robert Martinez said that he now represents the 18A97 reporting area (Districts 1-5 and most of District 6). He and SLO Carmen Gutierrez switched areas. Earlier in the day, the LAPD HOPE team, LAHSA, Rothman Management Company, and Prologis worked together to clean up the lot at the southeast corner of Redondo Beach Blvd. and Vermont Avenue. The homeless were removed and weeds cut down. He is also working with the Park Ranger to reduce the number of homeless who hang out at Rosecrans Recreation Center. There have been some burglaries and a number of thefts of older Nissans and Hondas from Redondo Beach Blvd. to Artesia. He is working on solutions to the vehicle racing and doing donuts at various locations, including 126th Street and Ainsworth. For the northwest corner of 135th Street and Hoover, he is trying to fund the installation of guard rails or bollards for about \$3,000, which would prevent vehicles from crashing through the fence and into the nearby playground equipment. Southeast LAPD Captain Alfred Pasos has taken another job with LAPD and there will soon be a new Captain appointed.

Officer Martinez said that when he talks with the homeless, he finds they do not like living in shelters because of the poor quality. The LAPD HOPE team is dedicated to removal of homeless encampments. Chair Pamela Thornton then explained the Bridge Home initiative and Safe Parking LA. Each of the five areas of Council District 15 (Wilmington, San Pedro, Harbor City, Harbor Gateway, and Watts) will have one temporary shelter and one parking area. However, the Harbor Gateway will be using the new El Segundo affordable apartments as the shelter for that area. A location for the temporary parking of vehicles of the homeless is needed, such as a church parking lot or private property. The homeless using the parking lots overnight are interviewed and supervised. A handout about the programs from the South Bay Daily Breeze was handed out.

6) **Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy – Brief Overview of upcoming activities/events:** No one was present to make a report.

7) **Speaker – Lorraine Curry, Battalion 13 CERT Coordinator – Los Angeles Fire Department, “How to Create a GO Bag for Use in Major Emergencies”:** Lorraine explained that the CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) concept was started in Los Angeles and now CERT classes and organization have spread across

the country. The CERT program offers a series of seven classes which help Los Angeles City residents prepare for major disasters. She encouraged attendees to not only make their own preparations but to assist the elderly in their neighborhood to be sure they are also prepared or that someone else can help them during the emergency. She also recommends having an emergency bag for each pet. A GO bag has key items for survival but is lightweight. At evacuation sites, there will be a roving pharmacy to help fill prescriptions, so be sure to include a copy of your prescriptions in your GO bag inside a plastic ziplock bag and even keep a few tablets on hand, if possible. A copy of items for a GO bag is attached.

Community Organization Representative Deborah Lee announced that the HGNNC will be sponsoring a series of CERT classes on Mondays from 6:30-9:00 at the 135th Street School in early October to early November. Graduates will receive a green CERT bag and hard hat.

8) Speaker – Citizens Climate Lobby, South Bay/Long Beach Chapter “What is the Climate Change Carbon Fee and Dividend Policy and how would it reduce carbon emissions?” Blair Frye from the Citizens Climate Lobby explained that the group is non-profit, non-partisan, and working to pass a Climate Change Carbon Fee at a national level. The Carbon Fee would be a tax at the source of carbon generation per ton of carbon emissions extracted from that particular site, such as coal or petroleum. The fee would slowly increase year by year. Every household would receive a monthly dividend (possibly \$369 per month) which would offset the increase on the price of consumer goods. The fee would help to clean the air and also incentivize the creation of jobs in the green energy field. At this point, the Climate Lobby is working to build support from legislators and is working on a resolution that would be passed by the State of California and then other states. The Fee and policy would be overseen by the Environmental Protection Agency. Those interested in helping can sign up for weekly Wednesday webinars at cclusa.org/intro.

Department of Neighborhood Empowerment – Octaviano Rios: Octaviano Rios is the Neighborhood Council Advocate assigned to the HGNNC. He announced that the City Clerk has set the HGNNC Board election date for Sat. June 8. There will be a need for candidates for the seventeen Board seats and volunteers to help out with the election. Councilmember Ryu has proposed some modifications to the rules governing Neighborhood Councils which the HGNNC and individuals can weigh in on. City Clerk Funding now oversees funding to Neighborhood Councils, which are public funds. Two Neighborhood Councils were recently created (North Westwood and Historical Cultural North), so there are now 99 Neighborhood Councils. The Congress of Neighborhoods will be Sat. September 22 and is a great opportunity for stakeholders to attend a variety of workshops on how to improve neighborhoods, with a free breakfast and lunch provided. The City of Los Angeles has a new Chief of Police, Michel Moore. Visit the LAPD website to find information on how to start a Neighborhood Watch group: lapdonline.org This site also explains the role of the Senior Lead Officer.

(Clyde Noguchi left the meeting at 8:45 p.m.)

9) Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council 2018-2019 Committee and Liaisons

a) Community outreach and call for community member volunteers to serve on committees: Chair Pamela Thornton reviewed all five Standing Committees and three Ad Hoc Committees. She also noted that in June 2019, all 17 Board seats will be up for re-election and serving on a Committee is a good way to become more involved with the Neighborhood Council. Dr. Princess Sykes volunteered to be on the Emergency Preparedness Committee, Angela Springs volunteered to be on the Outreach Committee, and Rethlama Merriex volunteered to be on the Ad Hoc Committee on Arts and also the Ad Hoc Homeless Issues Committee.

b) District 6 Representative recommendation to study the level of customer service and food quality at local restaurants and food markets within Harbor Gateway: District 6 Representative Marvin Bell has raised the issue of restaurants and food markets stores located within the HGNNC area not having a high quality of offerings compared to restaurants and markets in more affluent areas. It was moved by Janet Mitchell, seconded by Marvin Bell, and passed 10-0-0 to approve a study of the level of customer service and food quality at local restaurants and food markets within the HGNNC boundaries.

10) Consent Calendar (Items 10a-10d)

- a) Approval of the April 24, 2018 General Membership Minutes**
- b) Approval of the June Monthly Expenditure Report**

c) Acceptance of resignation from Theo Fowles, Outreach Representative

d) Appointment of Vice Chair, Saira Cooper, to Chair- Outreach Committee

It was moved by Marvin Bell, seconded by Rey Padunai, and passed 10-0-0 to approve Consent Calendar items 10a through 10d.

11) Announcements: Karen King, Director of the Rosecrans Recreation Center, announced summer camp programs at the Center. On Tues. July 31, summer basketball will start. She also reported that the Recreation Center has a beautiful new floor for the gym which was funded by the Annenberg Foundation. Additionally, speed humps have finally been installed along 149th Street in front of the Recreation Center, as a safety measure for those crossing the street in front of the park.

Community Organization Representative Deborah Lee announced that Southeast Division – LAPD will host a National Night Out event on Tues. August 7 from 2 to 7 p.m. Car seats for babies and kids and backpacks with school supplies will be given out while supplies last. National Night Out is held nationwide on the first Tuesday of August each year.

Dr. Princess Sykes is one of the two HGNNC Budget Representatives and also a Harbor Area Budget Advocate. She will be visiting the other Harbor area Neighborhood Councils to report on the work of the Budget Advocates. They will be interviewing each of the Los Angeles City Departments and preparing a White Paper. Sierra Gothe is the other HGNNC Budget Representative.

Mothers in Action will be sponsoring a school supplies giveaway in Exposition Park. This is the 20th year for this event.

Vice Chair Saira Cooper and Chair of the Outreach Committee announced that the next meeting of the Outreach Committee will be August 9.

Chair Pamela Thornton reported that there was a rally for a Call to Action on Gun Violence on July 13 at Manchester Avenue and Vermont Avenue, which was hosted by Assemblymember Mike Gipson.

State Senator Holly Mitchell held a legislative update for the nineteen Neighborhood Councils within her State Senate District on July 20 and Pamela Thornton attended as a small part of the HGNNC falls within her District.

On Sun. July 20 the Gardena Valley Chamber of Commerce held Operation Backpack at the Gateway Crossroads Shopping Center and the HGNNC had a booth at the event. Backpacks and supplies were given out to 150 middle school and high school student.

Council District 15 has a Working Group on Homelessness which is advising Councilmember Buscaino on site selection for A Bridge Home locations and Safe LA Parking sites. The three locations that will be proposed are in Wilmington, San Pedro, and Imperial Highway at Mona.

12) Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Recording Secretary