

Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Board Meeting
Tuesday, October 9, 2018
116th Street School Auditorium, 11610 S. Stanford Avenue

Present: Pamela Thornton (Chair), Rosalie Preston (Recording Secretary), Rey Paduani (District 3), Betty Hawkins (District 4), Llewyn Fowlkes (District 5), Marvin Bell (District 6), Janet Mitchell (District 7), Larry Morrison (District 8), Deborah Lee (Community Organization Representative), Richard Lee (Youth Representative), and Eva Cooper-Pace (At-Large Representative)

1) **Welcome/introductions:** Chair Pamela Thornton called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. She explained that the HGNNC Board was rotating meetings until March and holding meetings in every District within its boundaries in advance of the June 8 Board elections. The meetings are designed to inform stakeholders of City services and to learn if City services are not being provided, and if so, to provide follow up with the relevant Departments and City Council. The Board members present introduced themselves. This was followed by the salute to the flag and a moment of silence in honor of former Board member Gloria Christmas.

2) **Presentation by California Common Cause – outreach for Voter Center Placement Project:** Kiyana Asemanfar, Policy Outreach Coordinator for California Common Cause, said that the organization works on democracy issues and are working to make voter registration easier and more streamlined. They are the group responsible for California “Motor Voter” registration at the DMV. They have been working with the Los Angeles County Registrar Recorder on issues such as vote by mail and also to transition from precinct based polling places to having vote centers County-wide. For the March 2019 election, a centralized ballot will be available at every polling place. They have also supported the Voters’ Choice Act which allows for early voting up to ten days before an election at Vote Centers. Community members can suggest locations for Vote Centers online through January 2019: www.placeworkscivic.com/project/lacovepp California Common Cause has also promoted the County’s use of the secure vote-by-mail ballot drop boxes at various public libraries and other community locations.

3) **Presentation by Affirmed Housing – proposed affordable housing located at 12003 S. Main Street in District 7:** Marie Allen, Affirmed Housing, explained the details of the proposed supportive housing project at 1203 S. Main Street, which would have 61 units, mostly studios with some one-bedroom apartments, plus one apartment for the resident manager. The supportive services will be provided by Homeless Health Care and will only be for the residents of the building. The tenants will be drawn from those currently homeless and living within LAHSA SPA 6, which is the area where the project is located. There will be an on-site case manager at a ratio of one for every 20 residents and the case manager will be providing intensive case management.

Amber Rose of Homeless Health Care said that their organization has provided supportive services to 22,000 formerly homeless individuals. Aubrey, Director of Housing Programs for Homeless Health Care, said that their support includes providing connections to health care, including mental health, substance abuse treatment, and job searches.

Gianna Richards, President of Solari Enterprises, said that their company specializes in property management services for affordable housing. They have been in business for over thirty years and are family-owned.

Alex Taylor is the architect for the project. He said that he is aware of concerns by the community over the five-story height of the building and potential impact on air flow to nearby areas. There are also concerns about parking as there are currently only eight surface parking spaces, which would mostly be for staff. The project is located in a transit-oriented community so that the residents will be close to bus lines. Usually those living in permanent supportive housing will not own a vehicle when they move in. Underground parking is not feasible as the lot is small and the cost of creating an underground lot would not be justified. Could there be a different building design that would allow for more on-site parking since there will be no guest parking on-site? It may be possible to work out a parking agreement with one of the nearby churches.

The rent for the units will be subsidized with vouchers for those with very low income. There are four older rental units on the property. Those residents will be moved to other apartments at Affirmed Housing's expense.

Chair Pamela Thornton said that there will be one or two future meetings with Affirmed Housing about the final design. She also said that the Neighborhood Council will organize an Affordable Housing 101 at one of the future Planning and Land Use Committee meetings to review the guidelines and constraints that affordable housing builders face. She also hopes that such meetings will help affordable housing developers understand and incorporate community input into their designs from the beginning.

4) **Planning and Land Use Committee position on the proposed affordable housing development at 12003 S. Main Street in District 7:** It was moved by Joan Jacobs, seconded by Eva Cooper, and passed 12-0-0 to table this item until a recommendation has been made.

5) **Presentation by Los Angeles Homeless Authority (LAHSA)**

a) **Educational overview of the Safe Parking Program and site identified in Harbor Gateway North:** Saira Cooper, Community Engagement Coordinator for LAHSA SPA 8, said that LAHSA is interested in those willing to host a Safe Parking lot, such as a church. The hours are 6 pm to 6 am. Once a site is located, LAHSA reaches out to a service provider, such as Homeless Health Care or Path Partners to provide the services to those using the Safe Parking at night. There are two models for the Safe Parking program: 1) full services for those using the parking lot, with 10-20 spaces provided each night and 2) leveraged services where the parking lot host partners with the provider to offer services for those parking in the lot. LA Bridge Home temporary shelter sites are kept separate from Safe Parking sites. Only cars can park in the lots. Requirements for RV's and campers will be worked out later on.

Council District 15 has a Working Group on Homelessness. This group has announced that the Harbor Gateway North area will have a Safe Parking lot located at 14000 S. Figueroa Street. Those eligible to use the lot will be vetted first and must have an ID, vehicle registration, and vehicle insurance. Supportive services will be provided at the site.

b) **Discussion and option for Harbor Gateway North area as a deployment site for the 2019 homeless count:** Saira Cooper said that she is coordinating the January 23, 2019 Homeless Count locations for SPA 8 and some parts of SPA 6. The count takes place from 8 to 11 p.m. LAHSA is looking for a deployment site in the Harbor Gateway area. Data gathered will be used to determine funding for homeless services for the next year. For each deployment site a coordinator is needed. The Coordinator will provide refreshments for volunteers via a \$25 gift card and will recruit volunteers. The site would be for both Harbor Gateway North and Harbor Gateway South and cover eleven census tracts. Volunteers do not exit their cars for the count. Homeless encampments are counted separately by trained staff. To volunteer, go to www.theycountwillyou.org/volunteer There will be a winter shelter for the homeless opening in late November/early December at 111th and Main Street.

6) General public comment on non-agenda items: Chair Pamela Thornton read out the statement by 116th Street School Principal Tyra Henderson Brookins thanking the HGNNC for their past support of the school.

District 5 stakeholder Anthony Tate said that there has been a decrease in homelessness in the SPA 6 area. Therefore, he wondered how it was determined to site the supportive housing at 12003 S. Main Street when the SPA 6 area already has its fair share of supportive housing.

District 8 stakeholder Stephanie Meeks said that she has lived in the area for a long time and the huge tree roots along the East 700 block of 115th Street have lifted the street pavement and now damage the underside of vehicles traveling in that block. The sidewalks are also badly raised and dangerous. The City has fixed one side of the street but not the other. (It was noted that the HGNNC raised the issue to the City in its letter on the City budget and also to Council District 15. These and similar issues will be raised at the Ad Hoc Quality of Life Committee on October which will be held at Fire Station 64).

Tene Kishan said that she will be participating as one of the artists at American Peace Day Music and Arts Festival at Athens Park in early August 2019 and will keep the HGNNC informed about the details. This will be the second year for the Festival, which uses music and art to attract homeless youth to the park where service providers will be present to work with them.

7) Reports

a) **Outreach for the June 8, 2019, Board election; One Community Fair on October 27:** The Board meetings will be rotating to different schools throughout the HGNNC until March to better outreach to stakeholders before the June 8 Board election. There will also be pop-up outreach events and the One Community Fair on Sat. October 27 at the 135th Street School with information on City services, vendors, coupons, and samples of food from local restaurants.

Octaviano Rios, Neighborhood Council Advocate from the Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment, reminded stakeholders that candidate filing for the seventeen HGNNC Board seats will be open February 23 and close March 26. The Dept. has sent the Neighborhood Council a demographic profile of the stakeholders by ethnicity and income level.

b) **Planning and Land Use:** The Committee will meet Sat. November 3 with a further review of the design for 12002 S. Main Street. On Saturday October 20 the Dept. of City Planning will hold an outreach event at Gardena High School for those living in HGNNC Districts 1 through 5. The event will seek resident input on how best to update the Harbor Gateway Community Plan.

c) **Youth activities and outreach:** Youth Representative Richard Lee said that he is planning a field trip to City Hall for the fifth graders of Gardena Elementary School. He also wants to encourage participation in the next round of Civic Youth classes which are held at City Hall.

d) **Harbor Alliance meeting of October 3:** HANC Representative Hannah Woods summarized highlights of the Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils meeting. LADWP will try out a Shared Solar pilot program for renters in January 2019. Harbor Area Neighborhood Councils will hold their elections on Sat. June 8. Wilmington Neighborhood Council will be one of ten Neighborhood Councils trying out online voting. Gabriela Medina has replaced Jacob Haik as Deputy Chief of Staff for Council District 15.

5a) Safe Parking Program site in the Harbor Gateway North: It was moved by Marvin Bell, seconded by Hannah Woods, and passed 12-0-0 to support the proposed Safe Parking site at 14000 S. Figueroa Street in the Harbor Gateway North area.

5b) Harbor Gateway North area as a deployment site for the 2019 homeless count: It was moved by Richard Lee, seconded by Rosalie Preston, and passed 12-0-0 to support having the Harbor Gateway North area as a deployment site for the 2019 homeless count.

8) **Resolution to the City Attorney on the necessity of holding a Board meeting at Gompers Middle School as part of Board election outreach:** It was moved by Joan Jacobs, seconded Llewyn Fowlkes, and passed 12-0-0 to table the vote on this motion until a later meeting.

9) **Approval of filing Community Impact Statement-Council File 18-0467 (Neighborhood Council system reform):** It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Llewyn Fowlkes, and passed 12-0-0 to table this discussion until the October 23 General Membership meeting.

10) Consent calendar (items 10a through 10c)

Consent calendar items are considered to be not controversial and will be treated as one agenda item. The Consent Calendar will be enacted with one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless the item is removed from the Consent Calendar, in which event the item will be considered as time allows on the regular agenda.

a) Approval of the August 14, 2018, Board minutes

b) Approval of the September 11, 2018, Board minutes

c) Approval of the September Monthly Expenditure Report

Consent calendar item 10 a. was pulled as the minutes are not yet ready. It was moved by Eva Cooper-Pace, seconded by Joan Jacobs, and passed 12-0-0 to approve Consent Calendar items 10b and 10c.

11) Announcements: The next Outreach Committee meeting will be held on Thurs. October 11

District 7 Representative Janet Mitchell commented that for the District 7 clean up on September 29, no large dumpsters were provided and the gathered bags of trash were not picked up in a timely manner, so that most were ripped opened by scavengers and the contents redistributed along the streets.

Hannah Woods said that the church would hold a Health Fair for the public on Sat. October 13 with a health screening van, free legal advice, Shred Zero, and sign ups for mammograms.

Rosecrans Recreation Center will hold a Halloween Festival on Wed. October 31 from 4-8 p.m. at 840 W. 149th Street.

District 8 Representative Larry Morrison introduced himself and said he will give out his cards to anyone needing assistance with City issues after the meeting.

12) Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Recording Secretary