

Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Board Meeting

Tuesday, January 8, 2019

135th Street Elementary School, 801 W. 135th Street

Present: Pamela Thornton (Chair), Saira Cooper (Vice Chair), Rosalie Preston (Recording Secretary), Hannah Woods (Corresponding Secretary), David Matthews (District 1), Clyde Noguchi (District 2), Betty Hawkins (District 4), Janet Mitchell (District 7), Larry Morrison (District 8), and Richard Lee (Youth Representative)

1) **Welcome/introductions:** Chair Pamela Thornton called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. This was followed by the salute to the flag and a moment of silence.

2) **General public comment on non-agenda items:** Johanna Rodriguez, Mayor's Representative for the Harbor Area, introduced herself. She previously worked for a Councilmember in Northern California so is familiar with addressing constituent service needs.

District 1 stakeholder Ralph Hamada discussed the problems with parking due to the overflow of vehicles from apartments along Vermont Avenue at 169th Street which sometimes results in double-parking along 169th Street. There is also a need for a traffic signal at 169th and Vermont Avenue. He also said that Merit Tract residents are dealing with issues related to a former resident John Ross who has returned to the neighborhood.

Darwin Ramirez, program manager for Southern California Crossroads, said that his organization is funded through the City's GRYD program (Gang Reduction Youth Development) and oversees services for the Harbor Gateway North area. He has done asset mapping in relation to gang activity and Gardena Blvd. is a priority area, particularly the corner of Gardena Blvd. and Ainsworth. He is looking into creating a gang prevention component for the South Bay Youth Clubs and will be partnering with them. Southern California Crossroads will also have a presence at Rosecrans Park. The organization will soon be operating out of 834 W. Gardena Blvd. Their focus is on those ages 10-15 years old. They conduct a risk assessment for each youth member and if necessary, can provide case management and social services to support the youth. They also work with the family members.

3) **Board Governance**

a) **Board Members – expired Board training and compliance:** Chair Pamela Thornton noted that each month the Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment emails a profile of the Neighborhood Council and it contains a listing of Board members with expired trainings. She asked that those who need to take the trainings online. The profile includes information on new City initiatives and a listing of training and workshop dates for the upcoming month.

b) **HGNNC Strategic Plan Goals – HGNNC Report Card (7/2018-12/2018):** Chair Pamela Thornton read from the June 12, 2018, Board minutes where the HGNNC goals for the year were listed and then reviewed what has been accomplished for each and what might still take place before the end of June: beautification, public safety, youth engagement, civic engagement, homelessness, and workforce development.

c) **HGNNC Committees (roles, responsibilities and reporting):** The current Committees and their membership was reviewed. Youth Representative Richard Lee suggested adding a Youth Issues Committee in the future. Pamela Thornton asked that assigned liaisons report back to the Board on their activities and meetings attended. Those representing the Board are to represent official Board positions and not their own individual positions on issues.

d) **Board communication and issues resolution:** Keep Chair Pamela Thornton and the official hgnnc@sbcglobal.net email informed of community activities and events being planned. If there are conflict issues among Board members, contact DONE Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate Octaviano Rios to discuss how to resolve them. Stakeholders can also use the Dispute Resolution Services of the City for neighbor-on-neighbor disputes.

(Larry Morrison entered the meeting at 7:40 p.m.)

4) **Position letters**

(Saira Cooper recused herself from the meeting at 7:41 p.m.)

a) **Letter to Dept. of City Planning with support for supportive housing at 12003 S. Main Street, as recommended by the Planning and Land Use Committee:** The draft letter recommended by the Planning and Land Use Committee was reviewed. It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Janet Mitchell, and passed 9-0-0 to approve the letter of support.

(Saira Cooper re-entered the meeting at 7:45 p.m.)

b) **Letter to Councilmember Joe Buscaino and Dept. of City Planning supporting zone changes along the north side of Redondo Beach Blvd. from the 110 freeway to Vermont Avenue, as recommended by the Planning and Land Use Committee:** The draft letter recommended by the Planning and Land Use Committee was reviewed. It was moved by Janet Mitchell, seconded by Hannah Woods, and passed 10-0-0 to approve the letter requesting the zone change.

c) **Letter to Mayor Garcetti with recommendations for budget priorities based on stakeholder issues in the HGNNC area:** This letter was tabled until the February 12 Board meeting.

5) **Approval of filing Community Impact Statements**

a) **Council File 18-0002-S112 (City Council Resolution supporting SB 834 Jackson and AB 1775 Muratsuchi to ban any new oil and gas infrastructure within the State's jurisdiction):** It was moved by Janet Mitchell, seconded by Richard Lee, and passed 10-0-0 to support Council File 18-0002-S112.

6) **Reports**

a) **Outreach for the June 8, 2019, Board election:** Pop up locations for promoting candidate filing and voting in the election will start in February, such as at Ralphs, Farmer Boys, McDonalds, etc.) The One Community Fair is set for Sat. February 23 at the 135th Street School, with informational booths from City Departments, a mobile health screening van, and a showing of "Black Panther."

b) **Homeless Issues:** The members of the Ad Hoc Homeless Issues Committee are focusing on encouraging turnout for the January 23 and January 24 homeless counts. The Safe Parking location in the Harbor Gateway North area, 14000 S. Figueroa Street, will open later in the year. It will provide spaces for vehicles to park from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. and will have shower facilities and toilets.

c) **Planning and Land Use:** The Committee is focusing on providing input to the Harbor Gateway Community Plan update. A walking audit along Gardena Blvd. is planned for Sat. January 26 at 10 a.m. with members of the Department of City Planning. The Sense LA workshop is postponed from January 26 to Sat. February 16 from 10 am to 4 pm.

d) **Youth activities:** Youth Representative Richard Lee said that after organizing the November 30 field trip to City Hall for half of the Gardena Elementary School fifth graders, additional City Hall trips are on hold due to a potential teachers' strike. He plans to reach out to young adults at community colleges, youth organizations, and parks. He also plans to work with the HGNNC schools on the LADWP's Bucket Brigade program, which encourages water conservation. Chair Pamela Thornton suggested organizing more 311 workshops with the elementary and middle schools.

e) **Budget Representatives report:** La Juana Mitchell said she will be working to help craft the 2019-2020 budget recommendations letter from the HGNNC and will incorporate a tracking feature for internal use and follow up.

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

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 December 11, 2018, Board minutes

b) Approval of the December Monthly Expenditure Report

It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Janet Mitchell, and passed 10-0-0 to approve Consent Calendar items 7a through 7b.

8) Announcements: State Senator Steven Bradford and Assemblymember Mike Gipson will hold a Legislative Briefing on Sat. January 12.

The 46th annual Gardena Martin Luther King parade will be held on Sat. January 12 at 10 a.m., leaving from Serra High School and going north on Van Ness Avenue to Rowley Park.

District 7 Representative Janet Mitchell thanked all of the HGNNC Board and stakeholders who supported the holiday parade in District 7 on December 15.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Recording Secretary