

## Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Board Meeting

Tuesday, April 9, 2019

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

Present: Pamela Thornton (Chair), Princess Sykes (Vice Chairperson), Rosalie Preston (Recording Secretary), Joan Jacobs (Treasurer), Clyde Noguchi District 2), Betty Hawkins (District 4), Llewyn Fowlkes (District 5), Marvin Bell (District 6), Janet Mitchell (District 7), Larry Morrison (District 8), and Eva Cooper-Pace (At-Large Representative)

**1) Welcome/introductions:** Chair Pamela Thornton called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. This was followed by the salute to the flag and a moment of silence for peace in the streets and in memory of Nipsey Hussle.

**2) General public comment on non-agenda items:** Maccaia Jones introduced herself and said that she lives in the unincorporated Los Angeles County area and was attending tonight's meeting for her policy studies class at Our Lady of the Lake University.

District 8 stakeholder Angela Springs invited those present to attend the Sat. April 27 New Beginnings International Hallelujah Vibe Crusade from 2-8 p.m. at Locke High School which features entertainment, free bags of groceries, resource booths, and the KJLH choir. Tickets are \$10 per person.

**4) Presentation by Kiyana Asemanfar – California Common Cause (regarding Council File 19-0046 LA Ethics Commission recommendations involving campaign contributions):**

Kiyana Asemanfar explained that Common Cause is part of a coalition which is supporting a number of campaign reforms. Proposed reforms will make it easier for non-wealthy candidates to run for office via small contributions from many donors. On April 10, the City Council Rules Committee will consider lowering the threshold to be raised before matching contributions are given from the current \$20,000 to \$11,400. Another requirement is that candidates wishing to receive matching funds must participate in candidate debates before receiving any matching funds.

(Llewyn Fowlkes entered the meeting at 7 p.m.)

Common Cause is also supporting restricting contributions from corporations and behested payments to charities associated with a candidate or elected official, as is reflected in Council file 19-0046, which would place restrictions on contributions from real estate developers and those associated with their projects.

**5) Position letters**

**a) Approval of CIS to recommend the LA City Council to adopt the complete package of reforms approved by the LA Ethics Commission:** It was moved by Eva Cooper-Pace, seconded by Joan Jacobs, and passed 10-0-0 to file a community impact statement and send a letter in support of Council File 19-0046, which would prohibit contributions to City elected officials and candidates for City office from "Restricted Developers" (owners of real property, principals of the entity) for more than 4,000 square feet of residential floor area or 15,000 square feet of commercial floor area. The HGNNC letter will also ask that the ordinances cover new industrial construction in the restrictions on contributions.

**3) Appointment of a Vice chairperson to fill the vacancy temporarily until June 30:** Chair Pamela Thornton asked if anyone present was interested in filling the vacancy until June 30 and District 7 stakeholder Dr. Princess Sykes said that she was. She said that she is a great-grandmother and community activist of over sixty years and also a Neighborhood Council Budget Advocate. She is interested in helping the HGNNC have a functioning Board. It was

moved by Marvin Bell, seconded by Llewyn Fowlkes, and passed 10-0-0 to appoint Dr. Princess Sykes to the remaining term of Vice Chairperson.

## 5) Position letters

**b) Approval of a letter recommending specific land use/zoning for the updated Harbor Gateway Community Plan:** It was moved by Princess Sykes, seconded by Joan Jacobs, and passed 11-0-0 to approve the recommendations of the Planning and Land Use Committee regarding land use and zoning for the Harbor Gateway North portion of the updated Harbor Gateway Community Plan.

**c) Approval of a letter regarding HGNNC budget recommendations for the 2019-2020 City Budget:** This vote was tabled until a future Board meeting in order to incorporate additional information.

**d) Approval of a letter expressing concern over replacement of the Public Works contact for Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council:** It was moved by Princess Sykes, seconded by Eva Cooper-Pace, and passed 11-0-0 to send this letter expressing concern about the replacement of Renee Shackelford as the HGNNC Public Works contact person.

**e) Approval of CIS in support of City of Los Angeles Resolution in opposition to SB 50 (Weiner) bill – Council file 19-0002-S38 (High Density Multi-Family Housing Development Construction/Major Transit Stops/Out-of-Compliance with Local Land Use Regulations and Procedures/City Provisions/Amendments):** It was moved by Eva Cooper-Pace, seconded by Janet Mitchell, and passed 11-0-0 to file a Community Impact Statement and send a letter of support for the City Council's Resolution of opposition to SB 50 (Weiner).

**f) Letter supporting AB 345 (Muratsuchi) which would mandate a 2,500 foot health and safety buffer zone between new oil and gas wells and sensitive land uses:** It was moved by Janet Mitchell, seconded by Joan Jacobs, and passed 11-0-0 to send a letter of support for AB 345 (Muratsuchi) to create a 2,500 foot health and safety buffer zone.

## 6) Finance Committee

**a) Current status of HGNNC available funds and expenditures to date:** Treasurer Joan Jacobs reported that as of March 31, \$13,717.32 is still available to the HGNNC to spend before June 30, 2019. On March 30, the Finance Committee voted to recommend spending \$3,000 as a Neighborhood Purposes Grant to the Queen Isis Foundation to support their outreach work to homeless and transitional-aged youth ahead of the August event which will be held at a park within Council District 15, possibly at Ted Watkins Memorial Park in Watts.

**b) Finance Committee review of funding requests to include new funded projects and Neighborhood Purposes Grants:** New proposals for funding during the 2019-2020 fiscal year will be accepted from April 10 to May 8. Packets were given out with the HGNNC Funding Request form, City Clerk Event Approval Form, and HGNNC Funding Guidelines Policy. These will also be posted on the HGNNC website. It was agreed that some money will be set aside as undesignated in the 2019-2020 budget so that new Board members seated in July will be able to propose additional projects. At the April 6 Finance Committee meeting, new letters of approval and denial were created to send to those who have submitted proposals, after the Finance Committee has met in May and ranked the funding proposals.

## 7) Reports

**a) List of certified candidates and get-out-the-vote for the June 8, 2019, Board election:** The Candidate Forum will be held on Tues. April 23 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the 135<sup>th</sup> Street School. Amber Ginsberg of Coast San Pedro Neighborhood Council will be the moderator, with assistance from Jacquelyn Badejo of the Watts Neighborhood Council. Twenty-three candidates

have been certified for the seventeen Board seats, with four seats contested. The election will be held on Saturday June 8,

**b) Homeless Issues:** Members of the Ad Hoc Homeless Issues Committee are planning to attend one of the Fresh Start Monday days at HOPICS on Monday April 22. Showers, clean clothing, and breakfast are provided for the homeless each Monday at 5715 S. Broadway.

**c) Planning and Land Use-Harbor Gateway Community Plan, Vercher's Liquor hearing, proposed new 7-Eleven at 110 W. Imperial Highway:** A Community Workshop on the Harbor Gateway Community Plan will be held Saturday May 4 at Gardena High School and those living in HGNNC Districts 1 through 5 are encouraged to attend. There will be no Planning and Land Use Committee meeting on Sat. May 4 in order to allow the Committee members to attend the workshop.

The hearing on moving Vercher's Liquor to 12019-12023 S. Central Avenue was held on February 26, with three attending from the HGNNC, plus the daughter of the South Central Cleaners owner. The hearing officer extended his final decision until the end of March, so the letter of determination should be released any day now. The hearing officer noted that the new location would be much closer to residences than the current location and also that the new site is considered a commercial corner where businesses should close by 11 p.m. Vercher's had asked for closing at 1 a.m. Sunday through Thursday and 2 a.m. on Fridays and Saturdays.

7-Eleven is proposing another new store at 110 W. Imperial Highway, with a gas station. The store would be open 24 hours per day but would not sell any alcohol.

**d) Budget Representatives report:** HGNNC Budget Representative and Harbor Area Budget Advocate Dr. Princess Sykes presented a copy of the Budget Advocates White Paper to Chair Pamela Thornton. The Harbor Area Budget Day is Sat. May 4.

**e) Harbor Alliance meeting of April 3:** HGNNC Representative to HANC Lu Watson reported that there will be a Planning 101 Workshop on environmental issues on Thurs. May 23 at 6 p.m. Comments on the new Urban Design Studio Citywide Design Guidelines are due by May 24. Some of the Harbor area Neighborhood Councils have expressed concern over the restrictions inherent in the City Clerk Funding guidelines. Neighborhood Councils will be permitted to rollover up to \$10,000 in funds to the 2019-2020 fiscal year. Each Neighborhood Council is asked to allocate \$50 per year in their 2019-2020 budget for a new HANC website. Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council once again sponsored Pathways to Employment on Sat. April 6.

## **8) Consent calendar (items 8a through 8d)**

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 March 12, 2019, Board minutes**

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

**c) Approval of the March Monthly Expenditure Report**

**d) Approval of \$3,000 NPG Neighborhood Purposes Grant to Queen Isis Foundation for outreach via R.O.O.F. to homeless youth and transitional aged youth about services**

It was moved by Princess Sykes, seconded by Joan Jacobs, and passed 11-0-0 to approve Consent Calendar items 8a through 8d.

**9) Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Recording Secretary