

## Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Board Meeting

Tuesday, December 10, 2019

1035<sup>th</sup> Street School, 801 W. 135<sup>th</sup> Street

Present: David Matthews (Chair), Franz Rodriguez (Vice Chairperson), Rosalie Preston (Recording Secretary), La Juana Mitchell (Treasurer), John Ward (District 1), Joan Jacobs (District 2), Rey Paduani (District 3), Betty Hawkins (District 4), Llewyn Fowlkes (District 5), Jackie Jackson (District 6), Vanessa Johnson (District 7), Angela Springs (District 8), Larry Morrison (Community Organization Representative), and Janet Mitchell (Outreach/Communications Representative)

**1) Welcome/introductions:** Chair David Matthews called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. This was followed by the salute to the flag, a moment of silence, and safety instructions in the event of an emergency.

**2) General public comment on non-agenda items:** District 3 Representative Rey Paduani said that he had attended the Watts Christmas parade and had a contact for HGNNC for future parade planning.

District 6 stakeholder V. Hill discussed the increase in illegal dumping, transients, and prostitution in the area of 108<sup>th</sup> to 113<sup>th</sup> Street and the 110 freeway. She has already made sixty three 311 calls about these issues. There have also been a number of break ins in the area by burglars on bicycles. She is also concerned about the new supportive housing that will be built on the triangular lot at Broadway and Imperial Highway and whether that will attract more homeless to the area.

District 6 stakeholder Marvin Bell said there is a large homeless encampment at Hoover and Imperial Highway on the lot where the church was torn down. Cars are being stripped there and drugs being sold.

District 7 stakeholder Barbara Tyson said that construction workers are dumping construction materials along 116<sup>th</sup> Place near San Pedro Street. Some homes along the street have cameras but cameras are needed on the freeway side that would capture and document the illegal activity and send it to the LAPD.

District 7 stakeholder Dr. Princess Sykes said she would like to see a report comparing what types and quantity of City services have been provided to the HGNNC as compared to San Pedro, to check on the equity in coverage.

### 3) Reports

**a) Council District 15:** Field Deputy Caitlin Muldoon was unable to attend.

**b) Department of Neighborhood Empowerment:** Neighborhood Council Advocate Octaviano Rios was at another meeting and unable to make a report.

**c) Budget Representatives:** Dr. Princess Sykes, HGNNC Budget Representative and Harbor Area Budget Advocate, said that there are vacancies for Budget Advocates. The Budget Advocates are preparing a letter to Mayor Garcetti alerting him to their upcoming vote of no confidence for his inaction on the large City budget deficit. Budget Advocate for the Harbor Area Danielle Sandoval will be reviewing which Harbor area Councils have appointed Budget Representatives and are participating in the City budget process.

(Larry Morrison entered the meeting at 7:30 p.m.)

**d) Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils:** HANC Representative Lu Watson reviewed highlights of the December 4 HANC meeting. Department of City Planning Liaison Fipe Uloa sent out a summary of the vacation rental ordinance. As of December 19 there will be a dashboard to track the creation of new housing units in the City of Los Angeles. The Board of

Neighborhood Commissioners will soon be drafting new policies on leadership orientation, dispute resolution, censure of Board members, and removal of Board members. Comments can still be submitted. As no one from the Budget Advocates have been attending the Harbor Gateway North and Wilmington Neighborhood Councils, Danielle Sandoval will attend to give updates on the Budget Advocates' work. The new Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment General Manager Raquel Beltran has four goals: Neighborhood Council Advocates, such as Octaviano Rios will now be able to recommend solutions for Neighborhood Council issues. There will be a proposal for a complaint procedure. The Department will also be working more closely with candidates during the 2021 Neighborhood Council elections.

**e) Youth Representative:** In the absence of the Youth Advocate and Youth Representative, the Chair of the Ad Hoc Youth Issues Committee Richard Lee said that the Committee would be making plans to work closely with the HGNNC schools in the new year.

**f) Outreach:** Outreach Representative Janet Mitchell said that there are still some issues regarding the scope of the event and permits. Janet said that the Southeast LAPD determined on November 27 that they did not have the staff to accompany the parade along its route but did not notify her until December 5. The parade/procession will start at True Love Missionary Baptist Church, 119<sup>th</sup> and end at Gompers Middle School where a toy give away will take place in the gymnasium. Treasurer La Juana Mitchell clarified that because this is the first year that the HGNNC is the parade sponsor, various permits are required to hold a parade on City streets and for the food trucks which will provide refreshments at Gompers Middle School. If the Bureau of Street Services permit is not secured, then the HGNNC will only be sponsoring the event on the Gompers campus.

**g) District Representatives:** District 1 held a meet and greet on December 5 with twenty people attending and raising issues. John Ward said he will continue these meetings quarterly.

District 2 has learned that there is an issue with a business on the east side of Figueroa Street with not enough parking and their employees park on the west side of Figueroa Street in the residential neighborhood. A resident has reported a truck in the 600 block of 157<sup>th</sup> Street that has not moved from its spot for three years. Joan Jacobs has already trapped eleven feral cats from around her home and taken them to Animal Services in San Pedro for spaying and adoption.

District 3 has learned that the City does not use a street sweeper on the bridges which go over the 110 freeway; cleaning those streets is considered a Caltrans responsibility.

District 5 reported that neighbors are concerned about the size and speed with which a new home has been built at Vermont Avenue and 126<sup>th</sup> Street. Residents have reported seeing coyotes in the area.

District 6 is working on developing relationships with neighbors and teaching them how to report issues to the City. Jackie Jackson has also been talking with the four homeless families who live on Hoover Street between 115<sup>th</sup> and 116<sup>th</sup> Streets. She is teaching them to use 311 to report illegal dumping in their area. She has created a District 6 Facebook page and there are 182 people following it.

District 7 There is a mentally ill homeless man who frequents Main Street under the 105 freeway and creates a lot of the trash that is to be seen there. He has received assistance in the past but keeps returning to that location. He actually lives on the third level of the 110/105 interchange.

District 8 held a meet and greet on November 21 but there was a very small turnout considering the amount of flyers delivered, email, and robo-call. Discussion focused on the lack of parking on the R2 zoned streets related to the over-sized duplexes. Stakeholders are considering petitioning for permit parking but must submit requests for six blocks at one time. The next meeting will be January 21. Angela Springs is also planning a Community Day for District 8 in April.

**h) Report of the Chairperson, including Sat. January 25 Board Retreat:** Chair David Matthews reminded the Board to save Saturday January 25 for the Board Retreat. Luncheon menu selections will be emailed to the Board. Stakeholders are welcome to attend, as well. Figueroa Street from El Segundo to Alondra will have curbs painted red to try to solve the homeless RV parking issue. Street sweeping will then take place along Figueroa Street on a weekly basis with the local businesses paying for the service. Forty-nine abandoned vehicles were towed from the District 1 area. A tracking form has been created for reported abandoned vehicles. If they are not removed after reporting them by telephone or online, please let David know for follow up.

#### **4) Consent Calendar (items 4a through 4c):**

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 November 12, 2019, Board minutes**
- b) Approval of the November 2019 Monthly Expenditure Report**
- c) Approval of adjustments to the 2019-2020 budget, for a total of \$44,774, including NC Funding reimbursement of \$250 for CERT translation services, re-allocation of funds to cover January 28 and April 28 flyer delivery, office equipment repairs, CERT class refreshments, and Cancer Awareness event costs**

It was moved by Rosalie Preston and seconded by Joan Jacobs to approve Consent Calendar items 4a through 4c. Franz Rodriguez expressed his concern that the recovery of information from the Neighborhood Council flash drive had cost so much money. The motion passed with a vote of 10(Chair David Matthews voting)-4(Fowlkes, Hawkins, J. Mitchell, Rodriguez)-0.

#### **5) Position letters**

**a) Progress report on HGNNC City budget letter 2020-2021:** Recording Secretary Rosalie Preston said that all Board members would receive an email of the 2019-2020 HGNNC budget letter to update for issues in their Districts. She encouraged mention of issues which stakeholders are currently reporting, such as illegal dumping and homeless encampments, as priority areas for City funding. New information for the letter should be submitted before the January 14 Board meeting.

**b) Letter of re-affirmation for STAND-LA Coalition position on a 2,500 foot health and safety buffer for oil and gas production near sensitive uses:** It was moved by Joan Jacobs and seconded by Rosalie Preston to submit a letter re-affirming the STAND-LA Coalition position on a 2,500 foot set back from sensitive uses, such as residences, schools, parks, nursing homes, and churches for oil and gas production as the HGNNC had taken a similar position in 2017 on this issue. The new letter asks that the City Attorney analyze whether the buffer zone would be within the law and would not subject the City to excessive financial liability. The letter also asks for the City Council and Mayor's office to pursue a workforce development and economic revitalization program that benefits impacted oil and gas industry workers and cleans up polluted neighborhoods. The Board voted 11-2(Rodriguez, Ward)-0 to send the letter of reaffirmation of this position.

#### **6) Funding recommendations**

**a) Approval of up to \$100 to support District 8 meet and greet meetings expenses:** It was moved by J. Mitchell, seconded by Franz Rodriguez, and passed 13-0-0 to approve \$100 to support District 8 meeting refreshments.

**b) Approval of an additional \$1,428 for the December 14 Holiday Community Parade, for a total of \$2,928:** It was moved by Franz Rodriguez, seconded by Vanessa Johnson, and passed 13-0-0 to approve an additional \$1,428 for the Holiday Community Parade/Processional, to cover the Bureau of Street Services permit and refreshments, if it is possible to obtain all permissions for the permit before Sat. December 14.

**c) Approval of up to \$2,000 to support a Holiday Community event, if Holiday Community Parade Bureau of Street Services permit is not granted:** In the event that the Bureau of Street Services cannot be obtained before Sat. December 14, it was moved by John Ward, seconded by Vanessa Johnson, and passed 13-0-0 to approve up to \$2,000 to support a Holiday Community event at Gompers Middle School.

**d) Approval of a Neighborhood Purposes Grant to Special Services for Groups Inc.-HOPICS Division for a HOPICS sponsored Fresh Monday in the HGNNC SPA 6 area:** It was moved by Janet Mitchell, seconded by Joan Jacobs, and passed 13-0-0 to approve an NPG in the amount of \$1,000 to Special Services for Groups Inc.-HOPICS Division for a Fresh Monday in the HGNNC SPA 6 area.

**e) Approval of up to \$2,000 for outreach marketing materials, including 500 branded reusable bags, 500 branded pens, and/or 500 branded cell phone holders/stands:** It was moved by Vanessa Johnson, seconded by Joan Jacobs, and passed 13-0-0 to approve spending up to \$2,000 for outreach marketing materials, including 500 branded reusable bags, 500 branded pens, and/or branded cell phone holders/stands.

**7) Announcements:** District 7 stakeholder Dr. Princess Sykes has voter registration forms for distribution to encourage new voters or those who have moved to register to vote.

Fatima Iqbal-Zubair announced that she is running for the 64<sup>th</sup> Assembly District seat, which will be on the March 3 ballot. She works as a public school teacher in Watts.

Recording Secretary Rosalie Preston announced that the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder is seeking pollworkers who can work for six days at the new Voting Centers during the March 3 primary election. The voting period will be extend over eleven days.

Community Organization Representative Larry Morrison showed a sample of the gloves he purchased and is giving out to homeless individuals.

District 7 stakeholder Dr. Princess Sykes said that the Census Bureau needs 20,000 workers across the country to cover Census tracts for the 2020 Census. To apply, go to <https://2020census.gov/en/jobs>

Treasurer La Juana Mitchell said she is looking for more stakeholders to be appointed to the Finance Committee.

**8) Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Recording Secretary