

Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Board Meeting

Tuesday, January 14, 2020

1035th Street School, 801 W. 135th 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), Janet Mitchell (Outreach/Communications Representative), and Eva Cooper-Pace (At Large Representative)

1) Welcome/introductions: Chair David Matthews called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m. This was followed by the salute to the flag and a moment of silence.

2) General public comment on non-agenda items: Debbie Stinson and Steve Magee from the San Pedro Art Association discussed their non-profit's Student Art Contest which is entering its ninth year and has participation from 42 schools from San Pedro to Watts in the 15th Council District area. Winning art entries will be displayed at an exhibit reception on Sunday June 7 at Crafted at the Port of Los Angeles in San Pedro. Last year, 500 attended the reception. Children from pre-K through 8th grade are eligible. The SPAA is seeking funds from the HGNNC via a Neighborhood Purposes Grant which would fund framing of the art, the reception for the winners, cash prizes, and a SPAA membership for one year.

Dave Trejo, introduced himself as the new Principal for the Environmental Charter Middle School. He has worked in various aspects of education for sixteen years and is currently a Ryan Fellows, which allows him to study best practices for students enrolled in urban schools.

(Eva Cooper-Pace entered the meeting at 7:27 p.m.)

He believes in partnering with the community. ECMS has 360 students and has programs in art and college readiness, a Green Ambassador program, and activities to encourage students to be social justice change agents. Students interested in applying for placement at the school have until March 3.

Karen King, Director of the Rosecrans Recreation Center, thanked the Board for supporting the October 21 Halloween Festival both financially and also with three volunteer for the game booth and costume judging (Rosalie Preston, Rey Paduani, and Richard Lee). There was a large attendance, as there also was for their Santa Claus event in December.

3) Reports

LAPD: Southeast Division Captain Lou Pagliolonga said that he is aware that often the HGNNC area does not receive its share of LAPD patrols because more serious incidents occur in the Watts area. However, he believes that progress is being made with the issues along Gardena Blvd. Seven or eight marijuana clinics have been shut down. There was an officer-involved shooting with the G13 last year.

He then introduced Lara Drino from the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office. Lara heads the new Children Exposed to Gun Violence Initiative (CEGV) from City Attorney Mike Feuer, which has a partnership with the Children's Institute to address the needs of children who have experienced gun violence, either personally, in their family, or in the community. After the LAPD alerts the CEGV staff to a need for therapeutic support, they respond within 24 hours. They will be reaching out to all schools in the City to inform them of the free therapy available through the program. Lara can be reached at lara.drino@lacity.org or 213-202-5400.

(Jackie Jackson entered the meeting at 7:40 p.m.)

a) Council District 15: Field Deputy Caitlin Muldoon gave updates on City initiatives. The application period for new speed humps will be opening on January 29 at 8 a.m. Department of Transportation has reported that stop signs for the intersection of 116th and Link Street have been approved as has a pedestrian hybrid beacon for the crosswalk area at 118th Street and Central Avenue, though the latter is currently unfunded. To date in January, there have been 712 requests for service via 311, which is an increase over 2019 for the same time period. This includes 272 bulky item pick up requests. If reported abandoned vehicles are not picked up by Parking Enforcement, follow up with

Ashley Lozada, the Constituent Services Deputy, at ashley.lozada@lacity.org. The Bureau of Sanitation can send a note to property owners who have a lot of trash in their front yards.

Mayor's Office: Johanna Rodriguez, who is the Mayor's Representative for the Harbor and Watts areas, said that the Bridge Home in Watts recently opened as the ninth Bridge Home to provide temporary shelter and supportive services to the homeless. By the end of the year there will be 26 open around the City of Los Angeles. Council District 15 will have a Bridge Home in Wilmington and one in San Pedro. The 2020 Census begins in March, with paper surveys mailed out the second week of March. Goodwill Ambassador training for Census workers will take place in both the northern area of CD 15 and at Harbor College on February 6. U.S. Census staff has created Goodwill Ambassadors and will provide them two hours of training in methods to increase participation in the Census. Those who help sign up 25 people will receive \$100 and \$500 for working with larger groups. This will be offered to the first 300 people who participate. Street Vending permits are now available online. All vendors must register by June 30 at a cost of \$300. As of July 1, the permit will cost \$541 and enforcement of those selling without a permit will begin. Exact details of enforcement are still being worked out.

b) Department of Neighborhood Empowerment: Neighborhood Council Advocate Octaviano Rios reported that Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment General Manager Raquel Beltran has now visited 66 of the 99 Neighborhood Councils. The Department is asking each Neighborhood Council to appoint up to three data liaisons to take workshops and create maps and charts which can help their Council make better decisions based on the data provided. Councilmember Nury Martinez has become the new City Council President, succeeding Councilmember Herb Wesson. The Council President appoints all City Council Committees and their Chairs. Octaviano also reviewed the guidelines from the City Attorney on how Councils can hold discussions of ballot measures and advocate for various issues on behalf of their stakeholders in a legal, impartial manner. Any proposed Bylaws changes must be submitted to DONE by April 15.

c) Budget Representatives: Dr. Princess Sykes, HGNNC Budget Representative and Harbor Area Budget Advocate, said that the Neighborhood Council Advocates White Paper will be finalized by February 1 and a copy sent to each Neighborhood Council, the Mayor, and City Council members. The Budget Advocates are concerned that the City faces a \$1.5 billion budget deficit over the next four years. They would like to see an Inspector General appointed to oversee the City's budget and provided a listing of the City's debts.

d) Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils: There was no HANC meeting this month.

e) Youth Representative: The Chair of the Ad Hoc Youth Issues Committee Richard Lee reported that he has visited all five elementary schools (116th Street, 118th Street, Figueroa Street, 135th Street, and Gardena Elementary) and now volunteers one hour per week at each school in order to have an HGNNC presence there and to learn about their activities and needs. He plans to create a civics program to explain to students how the Los Angeles City government works and how they can participate. He also plans to organize two field trips for the students before June 30. He also hopes to advertise the Civic Youth program to HGNNC youth and have them participate in this program this coming summer and also involve more parents in being active in the HGNNC. As a goodwill gesture, he brought holiday refreshments to the staff of each of the five elementary schools.

f) Outreach Representative: Outreach/Communications Representative Janet Mitchell reported that the Holiday Community Festival at Gompers Middle School on December 14 was well-received. The Principal of Gompers, Blanca Esquivel, is interested in participating in a similar event this year.

4) Consent Calendar (items 4a through 4b):

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 10, 2019, Board minutes

b) Approval of the December 2019 Monthly Expenditure Report

4a, the December 10, 2019, minutes were pulled for individual discussion. It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Joan Jacobs, and passed 13-0-1 (Rodriguez) to approve the December 2019 Monthly Expenditure Report.

For Consent Calendar items 4a, Eva Cooper-Pace noted that although the minutes reflect the Board actions of December 10, they were headed with the date of the November Board meeting. It was moved by Eva Cooper-Pace, seconded by Joan Jacobs, and passed 12-0-2(Fowlkes, Rodriguez) to approve the minutes as corrected.

5) Acceptance of Board resignations

a) Youth Advocate Viridiana Yahuaca

b) Youth Representative Anahi Gomez

Chair David Matthews reported that the two Board members had submitted written resignations. Their positions will be advertised as vacant and available for filling on the HGNNC website and via email.

6) Treasurer's report

a) Approval of an additional \$700 for the January 25, 2020, Board Retreat, for a total of \$2,200 to cover Holiday Inn facilities costs based on final number of attendees: Eva Cooper-Pace made the motion, Rosalie Preston seconded the motion, and it was passed 11-3(L. Mitchell, Morrison, Rodriguez)-0 to approve the additional funds in case they are necessary, based on final attendance.

b) Review of the 2019-2020 HGNNC fiscal year budget for the July-December 2019 period: Treasurer La Juana Mitchell reviewed the expenditures to date. Total remaining is \$24,003 of the \$44,524 allocated.

(Rey Paduani left the meeting at 9:00 p.m.)

7) Appointment of three data liaisons to work with the Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment on maps creation and data visualizations and analysis: The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment is encouraging each Neighborhood Council to appoint three (or more) Data Liaisons who will be trained to create maps and other visual analysis of Neighborhood Council data to help set goals and guide Council activities. It was moved by Janet Mitchell, seconded by Llewyn Fowlkes, and passed 11-0-1(Rodriguez) to appoint Rosalie Preston and Joan Jacobs as Data Liaisons. The first training session will be offered on January 22 with others to be scheduled.

8) Sat. January 25 Board Retreat: Chair David Matthew asked that Board members arrive at 8:45 a.m. to help set up. He is expecting to have someone from Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas's office, City Clerk Funding, and Octaviano Rios from the Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment as speakers. At this point, twenty-six Board members and stakeholders will be attending.

9) Position letters:

a) Board input for HGNNC City budget letter 2020-2021: Only District 5 has submitted some additional items for the letter. Further input can be submitted until February 4. The final draft will be presented at the February 11 Board meeting.

10) Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count 2020 and HGNNC involvement – Districts 1-5 and HG South on Wed. January 22 from 8-11 pm and Districts 6-8 on Thurs. January 23 from 8-11 pm; volunteer recruitment: HGNNC Board members and stakeholders are being asked to participate in the count so that it is as accurate as possible for our area.

11) Announcements: District 8 Representative Angela Springs said that there will be a District 8 community meeting on Tues. January 21 at 7 p.m. at Temple of Believers Church.

12) Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Recording Secretary