

Harbor Gateway North General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, January 28, 2020
135th Street School, 801 W. 135th Street

Present: David Matthews (Chair), Franz Rodriguez, (Vice Chair), 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), and Eva Cooper-Pace (At-Large)

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 in honor of Kobe Bryant and the others who died in the helicopter crash on January 26.

2) Reports.

a) LAPD: SLO Robert Martinez, who represents the area from Artesia to 120th Street, said that in the HGNNC area, compared to last year, the number of homicides, rape, and burglaries from homes and vehicles are down, but robberies are up by 23%, aggravated assaults are up by 65% , and grand theft auto is up by 42%, with most of those stolen being Ford and Chevrolet trucks and large utility vans, A gang-related homicide occurred at Vermont Avenue and Imperial Highway. Twenty-six of the aggravated assaults were gang-related. From El Segundo to Alondra, a number of catalytic converters have been stolen. If you have to leave your truck on the street, leave near a well-lighted location. LAPD has been working on the homeless encampment issue along the railroad tracks, including negotiating an agreement with Union Pacific so that LAPD can make arrests on their property. There are large homeless encampments at Hoover and Imperial Highway. 115th Street and Vermont Avenue, and south of Rosecrans Recreation Center at Vermont Avenue, all along the railroad tracks. LAPD is working with the City Attorney Neighborhood Prosecutor on these issues. Use 311 to request clean up of encampments. Use the LAPD non-emergency number 1-887- to report illegal parking issues, double-parking. There will be a Walk with a Cop at the 11th Street School on January 29 and at two schools in the Southeast Division area every month.

Laura Drino, City Attorney, introduced staff from the Children's Institute REACH team which provides free counseling to children in the LAPD Southeast Division area who have experienced gun violence. The team also educates teachers on how to be aware of the impact of gun violence on children's behavior in school.

b) Council District 15: There was no report.

3) Speaker: Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder demonstrates the new VSAP (Voting Solutions for All People) system of touch screen voting for the Tues. March 3 Primary Election and explains the new Vote Centers which are replacing neighborhood polling places: Jean and Isabetta from the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder Outreach Team showed the new touch screen and related equipment and demonstrated how it will be used for the March 3 primary election. Early voting at the Regional Vote Centers will begin on February 22. The voting equipment is not connected to the Internet. All types of ballots will be recognized via a QR code and a paper ballot will be generated. Local polling places will be replaced with Vote Centers and voters can vote at any Vote Center throughout Los Angeles County. The touch screen allows selection of any language for the ballot and the voter can adjust the screen for the size of the print. The system automatically prevents over-voting on an issue. Candidate write ins are still allowed. A voter can easily change their selection

when they review their ballot before printing it and as before, will have three times to re-vote. The ballot will then be inserted into the machine.

(Larry Morrison entered the meeting at 7:55 p.m.)

Voters can download an app to their smartphone to pre-mark their sample ballot and then scan those selections into the voting machine. View the Interactive Sample Ballot at isb.lavote.net.

If the electricity goes out there will be generators to provide back-up power. Voters can request a paper ballot. There will also be mobile voting centers at different locations around Los Angeles County. An audio ballot with headphones for the blind will be provided at each location. The keypad is also tactile to assist blind voters, but any voters can use the tactile keypad if they do not wish to use the touch screen. A listing of the Vote Centers will be mailed to each voter. The paper ballots will be counted on a different machine. Those stakeholders present were then offered a chance to try out the touch screen.

4) What are the major issues in your neighborhood – let us know: A District 6 stakeholder said that he is interested in working on a program in the schools to educate HGNNC youth about not using drugs. He sees so many young people using marijuana and then going to school under the influence, which impacts their ability to learn. He sees a need for local adults to show leadership and caring for young people.

A stakeholder said that when people bring food to the homeless in encampments, it encourages the homeless to remain in those locations.

A stakeholder asked about permit parking because a neighbor has too many cars parked on the street. 75% of those living on a block have to sign a petition to apply for the permits.

Vehicles doing donuts in the street is happening at El Segundo Blvd. and Vermont Avenue.

5) General Public Comment on non-agenda items: There have been multiple car accidents at 120th Street and Central Avenue due to the left turn lane striping and not enough light.

District 7 stakeholder Dr. Princess Sykes complimented Chair David Matthews and the Board for an impressive Board Retreat on January 25.

District 3 Representative Rey Paduani said that the Dept. of Motor Vehicles Investigations Office can be called for illegal car sales on public streets and some other issues.

6) Funding recommendations

a) Approval of Board reimbursement for Janet Mitchell of \$521.01 for expenses related to the December 1 Holiday Community Event: It was moved by Rosalie Preston and seconded by Franz Rodriguez to approve the Board Reimbursement for Janet Mitchell of \$521.01 for expenses for the December 14 Holiday Community Event. But this motion failed 2(J. Mitchell, Rodriguez-10-2 (Hawkins, Jacobs).

It was then moved by John Ward, seconded by Joan Jacobs, and passed 12-0-2 (Cooper-Pace, Hawkins) to approve \$341.01 pending receipt of the LAUSD letter waiving the \$180 cost for the permit to use Gompers Middle School. If the waiver letter is not received, then the additional \$180 reimbursement will be voted on separately at a future Board meeting.

b) Approval of Board reimbursement for Angela Springs for \$36.74 for refreshments for the January 21 District 8 outreach meeting: It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Eva Cooper-Pace, and passed 13-0-1(Hawkins) to approve the reimbursement.

c) Approval of an additional \$14.60 to Studio Effects for marketing items for a total of \$2,014.60: It was moved by Janet Mitchell, seconded by Joan Jacobs, and passed 13-0-1(Hawkins) to approve the expenditure.

d) Approval of an additional \$86.86 for the Board Retreat at the Holiday Inn LA Harbor – Torrance for a total of 2,286.86: It was moved by Joan Jacobs, seconded by Rosalie Preston, and passed 13-1(Rodriguez)-0 to approve this expenditure.

7) Announcements: The Los Angeles Police Commission will meet in San Pedro on January 30.

The City of Los Angeles is seeking Census 2020 Ambassadors and will be holding informational meetings on February 6 at Harbor College and February 27 at the Weingart YMCA.

The Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils will hold its next meeting on February 6.

City Clerk Funding will hold a Funding Round Table on February 4 from 6:30-8 p.m. Treasurer La Juan Mitchell encouraged all Board members to attend to learn more details of how Neighborhood Council events are approved and funded.

Outreach Representative Janet Mitchell noted that Measure R will be on the March 3 ballot. The Community Coalition is encouraging a “yes” vote on this measure which would authorize the Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission to develop a comprehensive public safety reinvestment plan to reduce the jail population.

8) Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Recording Secretary