

Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Board Meeting

Tuesday, July 14, 2020

Held via Zoom webinar

Present: David Matthews (Chair), Franz Rodriguez (Vice Chairperson), Rosalie Preston (Recording Secretary), La Juana Mitchell (Treasurer), 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), Richard Lee (Youth Advocate), Janet Mitchell (Outreach/Communications Representative), and Eva Cooper-Pace (At Large Representative)

1) Welcome/introductions/roll call of Board members: After determining that a quorum was present, Chair David Matthews called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. He asked Board members to confirm that they had reviewed the meeting Board agenda and documents ahead of time. This was followed by the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence.

2) General public comment on non-agenda items: There was no public comment.

3) Reports:

a) LAPD Southeast Division: No one was present to give a report.

b) Council District 15: Field Deputy Caitlin Muldoon and Constituent Services Representative Ashley Lozada were present. Caitlin said that during her maternity leave which will start soon and continue until October, Ashley will cover for her. CD 15 staff are all working from home. Stakeholders can call 213-978-1028, the Mayor's Office, to get information on COVID-19 resources, including the renters' relief program. Applications for speed humps will open again on September 26. A traffic signal for 117th and Figueroa Street was denied because the DOT study showed that it was not warranted. There will be a right-turn only sign instead. Getting a traffic signal installed anywhere near a railroad crossing makes the signal very expensive to install. The roundabout in District 5 (Athens on the Hill) to curb traffic issues has gone to DOT's design office and that process will take about two months. Streets off of Hoover (117th, 181th, 119th, and 120th) will be slurry-sealed. Designating Figueroa Street from El Segundo to Alondra Blvd. a no-parking zone/tow away is being approved. Council member Joe Buscaino does not support de-funding of the LAPD. Rather he supports expansion of the LAPD's Community Safety Partnership Bureau. Use the MyLA31 app to report the need for sidewalk repairs, tree trimming, etc. For abandoned vehicles use the website or call 1-800-ABANDON. If the vehicle might be stolen, email Caitlin or Ashley or the Senior Lead Officer so they can check on the VIN. LAHSA is doing outreach to homeless encampments and the City is providing clean up of encampments but not in a comprehensive manner due to CODIS-19. Use www.la-hop to report homeless encampments. The Wilmington and San Pedro A Bridge Home sites are now open. The Watts site opened in November 2019.

c) Department of Neighborhood Empowerment: There was no report.

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 June 9, 2020, Board minutes

b) Approval of the June 23 Special Board minutes

c) June 2020 Monthly Expenditure Report

It was moved by Eva Cooper-Pace, seconded by Vanessa Johnson, and passed 14-0-0 to approve Consent Calendar items 4b and 4c.

For item 4a, La Juana Mitchell noted a correction to the minutes that needed to be made for the office space on 182nd Street, the correct square footage was 87 square feet rather than 8700 square feet. It was moved by Franz Rodriguez, seconded by La Juana Mitchell, and passed 14-0-0 to approve the June 9 Board minutes as corrected.

5) Treasurer's report

a) Review of final budget and expenditures for FY2019-2020: For the new fiscal year, the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment has allocated \$32,000 to each Neighborhood Council. In addition, each Council could rollover \$10,000 left from the previous fiscal year automatically and also encumber other unspent funds, which for the HGNNC amounts to another \$7,273. Therefore, the total amount available to the HGNNC in FY 2020-2021 will be \$49,273.

b) Recommended approval of a Neighborhood Purposes Grant for PESA (Parents, Educators/Teachers and Students in Action), in the amount of \$3,000, as recommended by the Finance Committee: Treasurer La Juana Mitchell said that the Finance Committee had reviewed PESA's application for a Neighborhood Purposes Grant and determined that they had the experience and would provide direct services to HGNNC students. On the HNNC NPG rating form they received 44 out of 45 points. They asked for \$5,000 but due to only \$3,000 being allocated for NPGs in the HGNNC budget, \$3,000 is the amount that the Committee recommended for approval. Seymour explained that during this time of COVID-19, the non-profit provides K-12 educational support through paid tutors. The students who need the tutoring are identified by their schools. PESA works with Gardena High School and Fremont High School which students from the HGNNC attend. The tutors also serve as mentors. PESA will outreach using social media to the HGNNC zip codes and reach out to elementary and middle schools. PESA currently has forty paid tutors who are paid \$20 per hour. PESA also provides online career fairs and virtual field trips. PESA has five full-time employees. Funds are received from a Department of Mental Health contract and donors. They have expanded in the last two years and their budget is now \$500,000 a year. It was moved by La Juana Mitchell, seconded by Richard Lee, and passed 6-4(Morrison, Paduani, Preston, Rodriguez)-3 (Hawkins, Johnson, Springs), with Chair David Matthews not voting, to approve the NPG in the amount of \$3,000.

6) Position letters

a) Approval of filing a Community Impact Statement in support of CF-20-S101 (City Council opposition to SB 120, which would take away the local review of subdivisions for duplexes and make them "by right"), as recommended by the Planning and Land Use Committee: The draft letter was reviewed. The subdivisions would take place on R1 (single-family homes) lots, thus changing them to R2 with no local review. It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Joan Jacobs, and passed 14-0-0 to approve support for this Council File.

b) Approval of a position letter on the proposed 7-Eleven store/gas station, 110 W. Imperial Highway, (ZA-2020-944-CU-CPIOA; ENV-2020-3945-EAF) in District 7, as recommended by the Planning and Land Use Committee: This item was tabled as the Planning and Land Use Committee has not yet taken a position.

c) Approval of a letter regarding proposed LAPD budget cuts and priorities for LAPD service within the HGNNC, as recommended by the Public Safety/Emergency Preparedness Committee: There was discussion of the draft letter, but diverse opinion on what exactly the letter should say. It was moved by Larry Morrison, seconded by Franz Rodriguez,

and passed 10-1 (Preston)-2 (Jacobs, Mitchell) to not adopt this letter and to have the Public Safety/Emergency Preparedness Committee come up with a new draft.

(Jackie Jackson left the meeting at 9:25 p.m.)

7) Update on new HGNNC office/meeting space location, with a possible recommendation to proceed with a contract: Ad Hoc Office Relocation Committee member La Juana Mitchell reported that on July 6 the office furniture and supplies had been moved to free storage in the old Watts Library building at 1501 E. 103rd Street. The Committee had viewed two possible new office spaces at 555 W. Redondo Beach Blvd., one of which has 470 square feet at \$1.75 per square foot or \$0,000 per year. However, that space is not large enough for big Committee meetings, such as those of the Planning and Land Use Committee. The other office has 763 square feet for \$1,300 per month and could hold the office and storage items and have space for Board and Committee meetings. The parking lot behind the building has a lot of parking spaces and the building is secure with 24-hour access. Meanwhile, Home Assembly Church can provide space for the quarterly General Membership meetings for a possible fee and could be used when the auditorium at the 135th Street School is not available. The Committee is still exploring possible use of the Dae Hueng Korean Presbyterian Church as another possible site for General Membership meetings. It was moved by Joan Jacobs, seconded by Rosalie Preston, and passed 13-0-0 to authorize that a contract be drawn up for the larger office space at 555 W. Redondo Beach Blvd. for \$1,300 a month. La Juan said that the property owner would like the HGNNC to move in as of August 1, but the City of Los Angeles leasing process will take longer than that.

2) General public comment on non-agenda items: District 7 stakeholder Ivan Cotton said that there had been a number of shootings and a murder in District 7, along with gang activity, and he wondered what types of action would the HGNNC take to address these issues.

8) Announcements: There will be a large dumpster at Gardena Blvd and Ainsworth for the coming weekend, with a dumpster the following weekend on Main Street at 119th Street.

9) Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:43 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Recording Secretary