

## Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Board Meeting

Tuesday, October 13, 2020

Held via Zoom webinar

Present: David Matthews (Chair), Franz Rodriguez (Vice Chairperson), Rosalie Preston (Recording Secretary), La Juana Mitchell (Treasurer), Joan Ward (District 1), Joan Jacobs (District 2), Arvie Powell (District 4), Llewyn Fowlkes (District 5), Jackie Jackson (District 6), Vanessa Johnson (District 7), Angela Springs (District 8), Janet Mitchell (Outreach/Communications Representative), and Eva Pace (At Large Representative)

**1) Welcome/introductions/roll call of Board members:** Chair David Matthews called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. Vice Chair Franz Rodriguez led the pledge of allegiance. A moment of silence was held in honor of those who have departed.

**2) General public comment on non-agenda items:** District 5 Representative Llewyn Fowlkes said that he had been present but was having technical difficulties.

Martha Arias, Board member of Nuestras Raices, said that it was her first meeting and that she plans to be a regular attendee.

A District 6 stakeholder who lives on the west side of the 110 freeway north of Imperial Highway said that there is increased homelessness, graffiti, and illegal dumping. She is reporting the issues nearly every day but is not seeing any action regarding the homeless.

### 3) Reports

a. **LAPD:** No one was present.

b. **Council District 15:** Council District 15 Field Deputy Caitlin Muldoon said that she had returned from two months of maternity leave. She expressed condolences on the passing of long-time Board member Betty Hawkins. She said that she has emailed her report to the Board but summarized it for attendees. Bureau of Street Services will keep the \$291 permit fee for sidewalk vendors the same until July 1, 2021. The Fire Department will increase the amount they charge for ambulance calls as they haven't been increased in five years. The speed hump program has been delayed due to issues related to the pandemic. However, the already approved speed humps along Hoover Street from 120th to 123rd Street in District 5 are funded and will be installed. "No parking" signs have been installed along Figueroa Street from El Segundo Blvd. to Alondra Blvd. The street has been striped for a bike lane but the installation of bollards to protect the riders have been delayed. Email Caitlin or Ashley Lozada, Constituent Services Representative, if your 311 requests are closed out before the work is completed. Delayed pick ups are due to smaller staffs working in the City Departments.

At Large Representative Eva Pace reported that the speed humps on Hoover Street in District 5 were installed last week.

c. **Department of Neighborhood Empowerment:** Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate Octaviano Rios said that he was also having technical issues with Zoom tonight. He expressed condolences to the Board and the community on the passing of District 4 Representative Betty Hawkins. In regard to the 2021 Board Elections, he will mail out the Election Information Worksheet which asks for the location of the vote by mail ballot drop box location for the Neighborhood Council and whether the Neighborhood Council needs to have election materials translated into languages other than Spanish and Korean. It should be approved and submitted by November 13. The deadline for commenting on the City Clerk Election Handbook is October 25. All new Board will be seated after July 1, 2021, even those Boards who have their elections earlier in 2021. Election Day for HGNNC is Tuesday, June 15. Lanee Basulto is the Election Administrator for the HGNNC. The City of Los Angeles recently approved a requirement that all members of Neighborhood Council Planning and Plan Use Committees take a workshop on the basics of City planning processes before December in order to remain on the Committee. There will be another round of Bylaws updates by the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment to include recently approved changes, including the minimum age to vote and be a Board member and also the change in definition of a Community Interest stakeholder. Octaviano thanked those Board members and

stakeholders who participated in the September 26 online Congress of Neighborhoods. The September 2021 Congress planning committee welcomes volunteers.

Johanna Rodriguez, Harbor Representative from the Mayor's Office, said that there is an update on the re-opening of businesses. For abandoned vehicles call 1-800-222-6336. Vehicles being used as dwelling will not be removed. To date, there have been 1,038 COVID-19 cases in the Harbor Gateway and 16 deaths. COVID-19 can be a very serious illness and have long-term health consequences. The U.S. Supreme Court just ruled that the Census 2020 count can be ended before October 31. The census count in Los Angeles County is now at 65%, with the City of Los Angeles at 60% of residents. Please complete your Census survey now. There will be extra Census outreach in Watts.

**4) Appointment of a District 4 Representative:** Because of the passing of District 4 Representative Betty Hawkins on September 8, the Board now has a vacancy for that seat. The appointee must live within the District 4 boundaries: north side of Rosecrans Avenue on the south, Vermont Avenue on the west, south side of El Segundo Boulevard on the north, and Figueroa Street to the County of Los Angeles boundary on the east. Two District 4 stakeholders had expressed their interest in being appointed to the vacant seat, Arvie Powell and Piers Fairclough. Each read out their statement.

Arvie Powell said that she is a forty-year resident of District 4 and for the last eight years has been part of the 135th Street Neighborhood Watch working on their clean ups of the area. She worked closely with Betty Hawkins on projects. She is also a volunteer with the American Red Cross. She has lobbied the Los Angeles City Council and State legislature in Sacramento on community issues. If appointed, she would continue alley clean ups, educate apartment building managers about using 311 for removal of bulky items, work to identify more block captains, and work on traffic calming measures for 135th Street.

Piers Fairclough said that he has lived on Menlo Avenue for twenty-two years and has three children. He works for the Salvation Army as Assistant to the Chief Secretary, Western Area. He immigrated from the United Kingdom forty years ago and received his MBA from California State University Dominguez Hills.

Board members made comment on the two potential appointees and then stakeholders made comments.

(Angela Springs entered the meeting at 7:45 p.m.)

A roll call vote was made, with the result that Arvie Powell was appointed to fill the vacant District 4 Representative seat 9-2(Rodriguez, Ward)-0

## 5) Committees

**a) Creation of an Ad Hoc Election Committee and appointment of members:** It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Eva Pace, and passed 12-0-0 to create an Ad Hoc Election Committee with the duties to work with the Election Administrator from the City Clerk's office, Lanee Basulto, and to advertise the Board election, need for candidates for the seventeen Board seats, and register stakeholders as voters for the vote by mail. The Committee appointees are Joan Jacobs, David Matthews, Fred Nichols, Eva Pace, Rosalie Preston, and Micah Silver.

**b) Appointments to Standing Committees:** Bylaws Committee--It was moved by Franz Rodriguez, seconded by John Ward, and passed 12-0-0 to appoint David Matthews, Fred Nichols, and Micah Silver to the Bylaws Committee.

Finance Committee--It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Janet Mitchell, and passed 12-0-0 to appoint Piers Fairclough to the Finance Committee.

Homeless Issues Committee--It was moved by Llewyn Fowlkes, seconded by Joan Jacobs, and passed 12-0-0 to appoint Micah Silver to the Homeless Issues Committee.

Outreach/Communications Committee--It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Eva Pace, and passed 12-0-0 to appoint Arvie Powell to the Outreach/Communications Committee.

Public Safety/Emergency Preparedness Committee--It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Eva Pace, and passed 12-0-0 to appoint Micah Silver to the Public Safety/Emergency Preparedness Committee.

Youth Issues Committee--New appointments to this Standing Committee were tabled.

## 6) Consent Calendar (items 6a through 6b):

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 September 8, 2020, Board minutes**

**b) Approval of the September 2020 Monthly Expenditure Report**

It was moved by Joan Jacobs, seconded by Llewyn Fowlkes, and passed 7-0-0 to approve Consent Calendar items 6a and 6b.

**7) Treasurer's report**

**a) Approval of \$75 for The Mailroom to help pay for the website of the Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils:** It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Joan Jacobs, and passed 7-0-0 to approve the expenditure.

**b) Approval of payment Minuteman Press - \$512.89 for printing of 10,000 flyers for the October 10 Special General Membership meeting:** It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by La Juana Mitchell, and passed 7-0-0 to approve the expenditure.

**c) Approval of Payment ACI Media Group \$895 for delivery of 10,000 flyers for the October 10 Special General Membership meeting:** It was moved by Llewyn Fowlkes, seconded by Rosalie Preston, and passed 7-0-0 to approve the expenditure.

(David Matthews and Rosalie Preston recused themselves at 9:00 p.m.)

**8) Comment letters**

**a) Request by the HGNNC for a 90-day comment period on the draft EIR for the proposed Prologis warehouse, ENV-2017-1015-EIR, due to difficulty in holding necessary review meetings of the Neighborhood Council, length and complexity of the document, and adequate notification of stakeholders:** Planning and Land Use Chair John Ward presented the draft letter and Vice Chair Fran Rodriguez read it aloud. There was some discussion as to why it had not gone to the Planning and Land Use Committee first. John explained that the letter is coming from the Board to the Department of City Planning to ask for a longer period of review. The HGNNC Planning Committee did not meet in September or October. It was moved by Joan Jacobs, seconded by Janet Mitchell, and passed 7-2 (Johnson, Pace)-2 (Fowlkes, Powell) to approve sending the letter.

(David Matthews and Rosalie Preston returned to the meeting at 9:25)

**b) Opposition to Council File 20-1044 which would allow "high value" development projects to bypass review by the Planning and Land Use Management Committee of the City and be voted on by the City Council without PLUM Committee review:** It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by John Ward, and passed 9-2 (Johnson, Pace), 1 (Fowlkes) to approve the draft letter in opposition to Council File 20-1044 and file a Community Impact Statement.

**9) Announcements:** No General Membership meeting will be held on Tues. October 27 as the meeting was moved to October 10 so that the review of the twelve State ballot measures could be held early in the month.

**10) Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:41 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Secretary