

## Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 9, 2021

Held via Zoom webinar

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), Arvie Powell (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), and Janet Mitchell (Outreach/Communications Representative)

**1) Welcome/introductions/roll call of Board members:** Chair David Matthews called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. This was followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag and a moment of silence.

**3) StreetsLA report on the March 1 change in sweeping posted routes to every other week and how to sign up for notifications:** Elis Lee from StreetsLA said that the Department had started with every other week street sweeping on posted streets as of March 1, due to the City's hiring freeze and many retirements. A street map with notification system is posted on their website for residents to sign up for notifications to be received twenty-four to forty-eight hours before scheduled sweeping on their block. Residents can also call 311 to sign up for notifications or to find out when sweeping will occur. Their plan is to keep this in place and when they have more staff they will be able to begin regular sweeping of streets which are not posted. In the meantime, for unposted streets residents can call 311 and request a one-time sweeping.

(Angela Springs and John Ward entered the meeting at 6:48)

### 2) Reports

**a. LAPD:** Senior Lead Officer Robert Martinez was unable to attend due to illness.

**d. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment:** Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate Freddy Cupen-Ames wished everyone a Happy Women's History Month. He said that the Department is working on a draft seating policy which will be included in the Monthly Profile via a link; it will go into effect in April. Neighborhood Councils can seat their new Board per their Bylaws or as of July 1. The Board of Neighborhood Commissioners has adopted a new policy on civility. Each Neighborhood Council Board can provide two members to serve on the Regional Grievance Panels. Funding training is upcoming on March 18 and March 23 for Financial Officers but is open to anyone.

**b. Council District 8:** There was no representative present.

**c. Council District 15:** Field Deputy Caitlin Muldoon said that staff are still working remotely. The Los Angeles City and Los Angeles County plan for housing the homeless was adopted on March 9. Two Safe Parking sites for those living in their vehicles will open in CD 15—one in Harbor City on Hamilton, operated by Watts Labor Community Action Committee and the other in San Pedro on Beacon Street at 7th Street operated by Veterans of America. The 126<sup>th</sup> Street/Ainsworth roundabout which will address traffic issues in District 5 is still in the design phase. Comprehensive clean ups of homeless encampments are still now allowed, except for three in San Pedro that Harbor City that received special permission from the Los Angeles City Council. Chair David Matthews added that four different non-profit groups are helping

with clean ups in Districts 6, 7, and 8 under and near the freeways. District 6 stakeholder D. Thomas Israel has volunteered for clean ups in those areas and personally gathered up 1,000 bags of trash. Seventeen vehicles were removed from District 7.

(Vanessa Johnson entered the meeting at 7:00 p.m.)

Mayor's Office: Johanna Rodriguez reported that 200 teachers have been vaccinated as part of the re-opening plans for LAUSD by mid-April for elementary schools. Middle and High Schools will reopen at the end of April. The City has received 320,000 doses of Johnson and Johnson vaccine. USC opened as a vaccine site as of today. For those needing a ride to their vaccine site, there will be a coupon code for Uber during the sign up process. HCIDLA will be hosting weekly webinars on tenant protections during the CoVID-19 pandemic. Under the American Rescue Plan which Congress is passing, there will be funding to help with rental and mortgage payments and this will be administered via HCIDLA. Email [HCIDLA2@lacity.org](mailto:HCIDLA2@lacity.org) for more information. The Los Angeles Sheriff will host a Town Hall on March 22 from 24 on public safety issues. Chair David Matthews said that LAPD, Los Angeles County Sheriffs, and Gardena PD are all working together within the HGNNC area. He is advocating for a COVID-19 vaccine site within the HGNNC. -

**e. Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils:** Chair David Matthews chaired the March 3 HANC meeting.

**4) Report from the Ad Hoc Election Committee on candidate recruitment for the Board election and candidate information workshop on March 13:** Committee Chair Joan Jacobs reported that 20 candidates have filed and there are now several contested seats. The next Committee meeting will be held on March 10. The posts and ads on social media have created more followers of the HGNNC. The candidate recruitment flyer and robo-call have also helped to attract more candidates this year.

(Larry Morrison joined the meeting at 7:20 p.m.)

**5) Revised HGNNC position letter on the proposed 7-Eleven store/gas station, 110 W. Imperial Highway, (ZA-2020-3944-CU-CPIOA; ENV-2020-3945-EAF) in District 7 – hearing on March 25:** At the December 8, 2020, Board meeting, the position of support recommended by the HGNNC Planning and Land Use Committee was not approved by the Board. After discussion, it was moved by Vanessa Johnson and seconded by Rosalie Preston to submit a position letter in opposition to the proposed 7-Eleven at 110 W. Imperial Highway because of non-conformity with the goals of the Southeast LA Community Plan (auto-related uses, neighborhood serving uses, and impact of 24 hour operation) and with a listing of recommended conditions as drafted by the Planning and Land Use Committee. This motion failed 3-5(Lee, J. Mitchell, L. Mitchell, Rodriguez, Ward)- 4(Jacobs, Morrison, Powell, Springs). It was then moved by John Ward and seconded by Franz Rodriguez to support the original Planning and Land Use Committee recommendation of support. This motion failed 5-(Fowlkes, Jackson, Jacobs, Johnson, L. Mitchell, Powell, Preston)-1(Springs). Then it was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by La Juana Mitchell, and passed 7-3(Lee, J. Mitchell, Rodriguez)-3(Morrison, Springs, Ward) to submit the letter as a comment letter only, with a listing of the recommended conditions.

**6) Consent Calendar (items 6a):**

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 February 9, 2021, Board minutes**

It was moved by Joan Jacobs, seconded by Vanessa Johnson, and passed 13-0-0 to approve Consent Calendar item 6a.

**7) Treasurer's report**

**a) Approval of the February 2021 Monthly Expenditure Report:** Treasurer La Juana Mitchell said that \$24,185 is available in the 2020-2021 allocated budget of \$49,978. She noted that the 4,300 spent for the candidate recruitment postcard by the Ad Hoc election Committee had been successful in helping to recruit a lot of candidates to run for Board positions. Funding has finally credited the HGNNC \$700 on its ATT Calnet bill because the office telephone, fax line, and dsl service were never officially turned off after the July move out of the office at 802 W. Gardena Blvd. but were never used.

It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Janet Mitchell, and passed 9-0-0 to approve the February 2021 Monthly Expenditure Report.

**8) Appointment of a HGNNC representative to LAANC (Los Angeles Alliance of Neighborhood Councils):** It was moved by Franz Rodriguez, seconded by Richard Lee, and passed 13-0-0 to appoint Joan Jacobs as the HGNNC LAANC representative.

**9) General public comment on non-agenda items that are within the Board's jurisdiction:**

Patrick Frank of Scenic Los Angeles said that there is an updated proposal areas for digital billboard in the Citywide Sign Ordinance and urged the Board to consider the version B+ as recommended by the City Planning Commission. The Council File is 11-1705.

District 5 stakeholder Lu Watson expressed congratulations to the HGNNC for appointing a LAANC representative as attending those meetings will give the HGNNC a wider perspective on city-wide issues of relevance to Neighborhood Councils.

District 5 stakeholder Nakiesha Scott said that she works for the non-profit PCI (People for Community Improvement) and asked for suggestions to support the family of a woman killed at the South Bay Villa Apartment, 13111 S. San Pedro Street. She also said that PCI offers food giveaways on the second and fourth Fridays of the month at 13008 S. Figueroa Street.

**10) Announcements:** Chair David Matthews said that there are now a lot of appointments available for the CODIS-19 vaccine.

**11) Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Secretary