Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council Ad Hoc Election Committee – June 2, 2021 Held via Zoom webinar

Present: Joan Jacobs (Chair), Rosalie Preston (Secretary), Fred Nichols, and Eva Pace

- 1) Welcome/call to order: The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by Chair Joan Jacobs.
- 2) General Public comment on non-agenda items: There was no public comment.
- 3) Approval of the May 5, 2021, minutes: This item was tabled until later in the meeting.
- 4) Report from the City Clerk NC Elections: Joan Jacobs reported that she had been told 201 ballot requests have been received so far. Rosalie Preston said that she had called the City Clerk this afternoon and been told that they have been so busy with Region 11 ballot requests that Region 12 ballots will finally be mailed out on Thursday or Friday. Previously she was told by Lanee Basulto that although a closer drop box was used for the Watts Neighborhood Council election at the Alma Reeves Wood/Watts Branch Library, this location cannot be substituted for the one at Algin Sutton Recreation Center as the list of Region 12 drop boxes has already been set and sent out. Also, she was told that as long as ballots are postmarked by June 15 through the U.S. Postal Service or dropped in a drop box by 8 p.m. on June 15, they will be counted. The City Clerk will allow ballots to arrive via U.S. Mail until June 25.
- 5) Review of the election expenditures to date: The HGNNC Treasurer has moved the amounts originally allocated for the April 27 General Membership meeting flyer printing and delivery to the Election line item, so there is now a little over \$600 remining in the election budget. Everything has been paid and the only remaining election expenses should be for Facebook ads promoting ballot registration and return and final posting of election-related items to the HGNNC website. Joan will ask Wendy Moore to send the June invoice so that it can be paid by the HGNNC bank card by the June 20 cut off date. She will also discuss with Micah Silver when the Facebook ads can be stopped so that that final bill can be paid by June 20.
- 6) Review of suggestions to boost voter registration and ballot return, drop box location, and extension of time to receive ballots after June 15: Joan said that Micah has reported a significant drop in the reading of the Facebook posts; the peak was reached at the end of April when the two Candidate Forums were held. A robo-call will be scheduled for June 6 to remind stakeholders to register by June 7 to avoid a last minute rush to use the registration portal. The portal crashed on June 1 on the last day of voter registration for the Region 11 elections, which include the Venice Neighborhood Council. There will be a similar email reminder the morning of June 7. A robo-call will go out on June 14 to remind stakeholders to return their ballots by June 15 and also an email via Constant Contact on both June 13 and early June 15 with the same message.

(Eva Pace entered the meeting at 7:20 p.m.)

- 3) Approval of the May 5, 2021, minutes: It was moved by Eva Pace, seconded by Rosalie Preston, and passed 3-0-1 (Nichols) to approve the minutes as submitted.
- 7) Announcements: There were no announcements.
- **8)** Setting date of next Committee meeting/Adjournment: The next Committee meeting will be Wednesday June 30 at 6:30 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Secretary