

Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council
Youth Issues Committee – February 15, 2022
Held via Zoom

Present: Richard Lee (Chair), Angela Springs (Secretary), Frankie Mays, and Fred Nichols

- 1) **Welcome/call to order/roll call:** The meeting was called to order by Richard Lee, Chair at 7:20 p.m. As a quorum was not present, only reports were given.
- 2) **General public comment on non-agenda items that are within the Board's jurisdiction:**
None.
- 3) **Approval of January 18, 2022, Youth Issues Committee minutes:** Tabled due to lack of quorum.
- 4) **Presentation by Aksel Palacios, Director of Strategic Partnerships and Government on the new Youth Development Department – City of Los Angeles:** Aksel Palacios said that the new Department was established in July in last year, at the suggestion of youth advocacy organizations. The Department has eight staff members. Their first priority will be to develop a three-year strategic plan. They will spend four months getting input from Neighborhood Councils, other City Departments, youth-serving organizations, and youth themselves. They will determine how much the City currently spends on average per youth, which is defined as those ages 16-25. The Department will oversee the LA City Youth Council, which Aksel will personally oversee. There will be two youth (ages 16-25) who live within the City of Los Angeles from each of the 15 Council Districts, for a total of 30. There will be a curriculum which extends over a ten-month period. They will learn how each City Department works, how the City Budget is created, how the City Council operates, and the Mayor's Office. At the end, each will receive a certificate or college credit. They will also receive assistance in applying for city jobs, if they are interested. Recruitment for the Youth Council is in progress and Aksel will email the link for signing up. Applications are due by February 28. Review of applications and interviews will take place in March, with orientation in April. The Youth Council will help the Department create its Strategic Plan. In the fall they will help to create the curriculum. Aksel said he would like to hear from Neighborhood Councils what type of programs for youth should be funded. He suggested that the Committee put together a letter for the Neighborhood Council to send with official suggestions.
- 5) **Black History Month program on Sat. February 19:** Angela Springs asked for people to come out to support the event. There will be a COVID-19 vaccination mobile van present and you can also get a booster.
- 6) **Reports from Committee members:** There were none.
- 7) **Announcements:** Fred Nichols said that he and his brother have collected 300-400 books and donated them to Gardena Elementary School so that the Principal can give one or two to each student.
- 8) **Next meeting date/adjournment:** The next meeting will be Tues. March 15 at 7 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Minutes taken by Angela Springs, Secretary