

Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Board Meeting

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Held via Zoom webinar

Present: Miguel Vazquez (Chairperson), Rosalie Preston (Secretary), Piers Fairclough (Treasurer), Keith Pitts (District 1), Julia Esqueda-Arteaga (District 2), Arvie Powell (District 4), Jodette Spann (District 5), Lorenzo Johnson (District 6), William Yates (District 8), Richard Lee (Youth Advocate), Angela Springs (Outreach/Communication), and Craig Kusunoki (At-large Representative)

1) Call to order and roll call of Board members: Chair Miguel Vazquez called the Board meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. Roll call determined that a quorum of Board members was present.

2) General public comment on non-agenda items that are within the Board's jurisdiction: There was no public comment.

3) Reports

a) Council District 15: Field Deputy Caitlin Muldoon recommended reaching out to Los Angeles City Departments via email or telephone rather than in-person because most City Departments are not working in their offices. Council District 15 staff will be leaving as of December 7 when the newly elected Councilmember takes over. She thanked all those who attended the Betty Hawkins Square dedication on September 1. CD 15 can assist if there are other stakeholders that we would want honored. In regards to the Tiny Home Village at 600 E. 116th Place, the contract between the City and Caltrans was approved, but because the community near the site had so many concerns about the project, Council District 15 has put a hold on it until the new Councilmember is seated. At that time outreach to stakeholders will begin again. CARE and CARE+ clean ups are continuing twice a week. On September 20 Spring Street at 115th and also the 802 W. Gardena Blvd. area will be cleaned up. Use MyLA311 to request City services. For any questions of the Mayor's office, contact Jocelyn Dominguez.

b) Mayor's Office: There was no representative present.

c) Los Angeles County Supervisor, 2nd District: There was no representative present.

d) Department of Neighborhood Empowerment: Neighborhood Council Advocate Freddy Cupen-Ames reminded the Board of the Sat. September 24 Congress of Neighborhoods, which will be held virtually with an opportunity for networking after the workshops. The Pat Brown Institute's Civic U classes return on October 6, 13, and 27. The Board needs to vote on those who will attend before the September 23 deadline. The Board election timeline will be starting with Candidate filings beginning on December 2. HGNC is part of the Region 12 elections.

(William Yates arrived at 6:48 p.m.)

4) Approval of support for Council File 22-0560 (Municipal Lobbying Ordinance/Updates) as recommended by Jamie York – Reseda Neighborhood Council: The draft letter was screen-shared and read out. The Council File would strengthen the ordinance which has not been updated since 1994. It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Arvie Powell, and passed 11-0-0.

5) Approval of letter requesting Neighborhood Council use of the Harbor Gateway Community Center, 802 W. Gardena Blvd., when space is available: The draft letter was screen-shared and read out. There was discussion as to whether it was necessary to send such a

letter when there is currently no space available in the building and the Boys and Girls Club which leases the building from the City of Los Angeles is expanding its membership. However, others thought that it is important to go on the record to express interest in being able to use the building in the future, if circumstances change. CD 15 Field Deputy thought that the letter should be addressed to the lease of the building, the Boys and Girls Club, rather than to the City via Councilmember Joe Buscaino. Freddy Cupen-Ames said that Neighborhood Councils cannot take positions on non-governmental agencies. Therefore, Rosalie Preston suggested addressing the letter to the Department of General Services, which is the City Department which oversees the lease with the Boys and Girls Club. It was moved by Arvie Powell, seconded by Jodette Spann, and passed 9-3(Kusunoki, Pitts, Springs)-0 to approve the letter.

6) Outreach events

a) Neighborhood Team Program training via Zoom beginning October: South Bureau CERT Coordinator Chin Thammasaengsri has still not confirmed a starting date for the monthly online classes.

b) Other upcoming events: Outreach/Communications Representative Angela Springs said that the Committee is working to support the two HGNNC parkway beautification projects along San Pedro Street and Stanford Avenue under the 105 freeway.

7) Administrative motions

a) August 9, 2022 Board minutes: It was moved by Arvie Powell, seconded by Richard Lee, and passed 10-0-2(Johnson, Pitts) to approve the minutes.

b) August 2022 Monthly Expenditure Report: Treasurer Piers Fairclough commented on the screen-shared Monthly Expenditure Report and the four expenses during August. \$1,603.47 was spent during August, with no encumbrances, and therefore of the \$32,000 allocated at the beginning of July, \$29,773.53 is remaining. It is concerning that the lease for the new, cheaper office has not been finalized yet and so HGNNC has already paid three months of the higher rent and likely will have to pay another month at that rate. The building management finally sent their current insurance statement today, which is something that Funding had requested, and also a draft lease. Meanwhile, Funding has prepared the City's lease language, so the two will need to be merged. Rosalie Preston noted that a second appointment on September 19 with AT&T to install the needed cabling in office 205 will have to be cancelled. Building management will not allow HGNNC to move or have access to the new office until the lease is signed. It was moved by Richard Lee, seconded by Rosalie Preston, and passed 10-0-0 to approve the August 2022 MER.

8) Board business/announcements:

a) Reports from Committee Chairs: PLU Committee Chair Keith Pitts said that the Planning and Land Use Committee did not meet in August but will be meeting on September 22. There will be follow up on the request for Council District 15 to introduce a motion for interim controls for the over-sized duplexes. The new SoLA Impact application for 110 W. Imperial Highway will be reviewed at the October 27 meeting. The HGNNC has been notified of another application for an apartment building at 248 W. Imperial Highway and that applicant is willing to present to the Committee at a future meeting.

Youth Issues Committee Chair Richard Lee reported on the August 29 book distribution project to HGNNC elementary schools, which saw the distribution of over 1,000 books collected by Committee member Fred Nichols. Those distributing the books were Richard, Fred Nichols, Barbara Tyson, Angela Springs, and David Matthews.

Outreach/Communications Committee Chair Angela Springs said that October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and the Committee is looking for health organizations to partner with

at events within the HGNNC boundaries so the Neighborhood Council can table with them. Information will be posted to the HGNNC website. The HGNNC election will be held on April 1. Candidate filing begins December 2 for all 17 Board seats. A Special Outreach/Communications Committee meeting will be held on September 27 to approve an election budget.

b) Brief announcements from Board members: District 4 Representative Arvie Powell discussed the Betty Hawkins Square dedication on September 1 where Councilmember Joe Buscaino installed the new sign on the south side of 135th Street at Hoover Street. Betty was a long-time Board member and very outspoken in her advocacy for the neighborhood and the safety needs of the 135th Street School

Chair Miguel Vazquez reminded everyone of the Sat. September 24 Congress of Neighborhoods which will be held virtually.

9) Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Secretary