

Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Board Meeting

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Held via Zoom webinar

Present: Miguel Vazquez (Chairperson), Joan Jacobs (Vice Chairperson), Rosalie Preston (Secretary), Keith Pitts (District 1), Julia Esqueda-Arteaga (District 2), Arvie Powell (District 4), Jodette Spann (District 5), William Yates (District 8), Jackie Jackson (Community Organization Representative), Angela Springs (Outreach/Communications Representative), 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 6:37 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 none.

3) Reports

a) Council District 15: Newly elected Councilmember Tim McOsker introduced himself, saying that he was sworn in on December 15. He noted that Mayor Karen Bass has enacted an emergency order for the homeless crisis, which the City Council has approved. They must re-ratify this order every thirty days. Each Councilmember is working on implementing measures for the Mayor's Inside Safe initiative, with consultation with their communities. He has been appointed Chair of the City Council Personnel, Audits, and Housing Committee, is Vice Chair of the Trade, Travel, and Tourism Committee and also the Energy and Environment Committee (which oversees Sanitation and LADWP) and sits on the Budget Committee and the Public Safety Committee (which oversees the Police and Fire Departments).

b) Mayor's Office: Joycelyn Dominguez, the representative for the Watts and Harbor Areas, said that Mayor Karen Bass had declared a state of emergency regarding homelessness on her first day in office to help speed up creation of temporary and affordable housing. She launched Inside Safe, which changes how encampments are dealt with. LAHSA has bridge housing for those who have just left prison in the last 60 days or for the homeless to have temporary housing. The annual homeless count takes place later this month and volunteers are needed. Council file 21-0064 would prohibit the use of single-use foodware items and also the use of Styrofoam containers for restaurants and other food service providers with more than 26 employees. The Department of Sanitation has a reusable food container micro-grant program for small businesses.

c) Los Angeles County Supervisor, 2nd District: Ara An reported that at today's Board of Supervisor's meeting, the Supervisors declared the homeless situation an emergency. If you are aware of a veteran experiencing homelessness, contact the Greater Los Angeles VA system at 310-268-3350 Monday through Friday 7:30 am to 4 pm or 213-563-7979 after hours.

(Joan Jacobs entered the meeting at 6:48 p.m.)

Job seekers can find information on the Pandemic Relief Rapid Re-employment Program at bit.ly/getcareerready, while businesses can utilize bit.ly/hirelocaltalent to find employees and information on resources for small businesses at go.smallbizla/recovery. The Supervisors also passed the Fair Workweek Ordinance which will take effect in six months' time and grant 300 workers at businesses located in unincorporated Los Angeles County and with over 300 workers the right to proper break times, control over schedules, and anti-retaliation measures. There is a

map on Supervisor Mitchell's website showing the locations of low-cost internet. 700 laptops were given out to residents at the Willowbrook Library.

d) Department of Neighborhood Empowerment: Neighborhood Council Advocate Freddy Cupen-Ames said he had emailed his report to the Board, including the Candidate Information packet. Region 12 Candidate filing ends on January 17. HGNNC's election day is Saturday April 1. As of January 1 there are new State laws that govern public meetings and these will impact Neighborhood Council meetings, as well.

4) Appointment of Nita Stonehocker to the Homeless Issues Committee: Nita Stonehocker said that she lives in the neighborhood (District 2) and is particularly concerned about the homeless in the area. It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Keith Pitts, and passed to appoint Nita Stonehocker to the Homeless Issues Committee.

5) Approval of a comment letter on SoLA Impact 121 unit apartment building, with 60 parking spaces and 12 very low income units at 110-112 W. Imperial Highway, DIR-2022-4995-TOC-SPR-HCA in District 7, as recommended by the Planning and Land Use Committee: The draft letter was reviewed. Some concern was expressed about the limited number of parking spaces provided and it was explained that this is a State law allowing for fewer parking spaces so that more apartment units can be built. It was moved by Keith Pitts, seconded by Rosalie Preston, and passed 10-0-0 to approve the comment letter.

6) Approval of up to \$1,000 to fund a Black History Month program on February 25: The program is planned for Saturday February 25 from 11 a.m. at the Rosecrans Recreation Center and will be co-sponsored by the Rosecrans Recreation Center. The program will feature young people reciting poems, dancing, and singing, with other aspects of African-American cultural and history. Refreshments will be served. It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Joan Jacobs, and passed 11-0-0 to approve the expenditure for this program.

7) Outreach events

a) 2023 Board election candidate filing December 2 – January 17: There is a week left to file to run to be an HGNNC Board candidate.

b) CERT classes Tuesdays at 6:30 pm/Neighborhood Team Program online – February 2: Tonight is the second session for the CERT (Community Emergency Response Training) classes being held at 555 W. Redondo Beach Blvd. On Thursday February 2 the Neighborhood Team Program classes will begin online via Zoom on the first Thursday of each month.

c) Black History Month program on February 25 at Rosecrans Recreation Center: The program will take place later next month. Outreach/Communications Representative Angela Springs is asking each of the eight District Representatives to help advertise the program by giving our flyers in their neighborhood.

8) Administrative motions

a) December 13, 2022, Board minutes: It was moved by Keith Pitts, seconded by Jodette Spann, and passed 11-0-0 to approve the minutes.

b) December 2022 Monthly Expenditure Report: In the absence of Treasurer Piers Fairclough, Chair Miguel Vazquez reviewed the expenses during December. It was moved by Joan Jacobs, seconded by Jodette Spann, and passed 8-0-0 to approve the December 2022 MER.

c) Approval of \$120 to Konica Minolta for moving the HGNNC copy machine to office 205: Secretary Rosalie Preston explained that under the City's new contract with Konica Minolta, when the copy machine is moved, it must be moved by Konica Minolta. Therefore the moving charge will have to be paid to have it moved from the old office 241 to the new office

205. It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Joan Jacobs, and passed 8-0-0 to approve the expenditure.

8) Board business/announcements:

a) Reports from Committee Chairs: There were no reports.

b) Brief announcements from Board members: Chair Miguel Vazquez reminded attendees that the Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count will take place on Wed. January 25 at 8 p.m. for the areas covered by Districts 1 through 5 and on Thurs. January 26 at 8 p.m. for the areas covered by Districts 6, 7, and 8.

Chair Miguel Vazquez announced that the HGNNC was awarded a Beautify LA grant for Stanford Avenue and the planting will take place sometime in February.

Chair Miguel Vazquez said that thanks to the efforts of CD 15 Field Deputy Caitlin Muldoon and District 4 Representative Arvie Powell, LADOT will be implementing traffic calming measures in the Betty Hawkins Square area of 135th Street and Hoover in mid-2023.

The Tuesday January 24 General Membership meeting will feature reports by Councilmember Tim McOsker and a presentation by Assistant US Attorney Amanda Bettinelli on how to address environmental justice issues within the HGNNC area.

9) Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Secretary