

Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Board Meeting

Tuesday, February 14, 2023

Held via Zoom webinar

Present: Miguel Vazquez (Chairperson), Joan Jacobs (Vice Chairperson), Rosalie Preston (Secretary), Piers Fairclough (District 4), Keith Pitts (District 1), Arvie Powell (District 4), Jodette Spann (District 5), Lorenzo Johnson (District 6), William Yates (District 8), Jackie Jackson (Community Organization Representative), Richard Lee (Youth Advocate), 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 6:43 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: Harbor Gateway Field Deputy Nicholas Chavez said that Caltrans will do a clean up of 116th at Figueroa Street along the rail road tracks. Although it is outside the Harbor Gateway North area, CD 15 will work on getting a burned vehicle on Broadway at Alondra removed, with help from Supervisor Holly Mitchell. 118th Street School and Gardena Elementary Schools had LA Jazz perform at their schools. 118th Street School will hold a Coffee with the Principal. On Sat. March 11 Councilmember Tim McOsker will hold a Town Hall for Harbor Gateway North and Harbor Gateway South. LAPD Senior Lead Officers Martinez and Bravo will be present. The location is yet to be determined, but will be one of the LAUSD schools.

Council District 8: Laura Garcia, Field Deputy for the southeast area of Council District 8, said that it is difficult for her to attend the HGNNC meetings because Southeast Empowerment Neighborhood Council meets the same night. CD 8 collaborated with Mayor Karen Bass on an entertainment industry jobs fair for youth at the Weingart YMCA. They also worked with Mayor Bass on two Inside Safe operations for moving those in homeless encampments into motel housing. One encampment was at the 110 freeway/Century Blvd. off ramp area and the other was on Western Avenue at 87th Street, with 64 people being housed. Their office has worked with residents along 115th Street between Hoover and Figueroa Street on the RVs of the homeless, illegal dumping and speeding, with Senior Lead Officer Robert Martinez assisting. They have also been working on maintenance of signs in the area, including replacement of a damaged stop sign. Councilmember Harris Dawson will be supporting the Freedom Festival on Sat. February 25 at Leimert Park, which will include information on available City jobs, with City Personnel and other City Departments present. On March 25 StreetsLA will be holding an open house at Algin Sutton Recreation Center to discuss their initiative to implement traffic calming measures along Broadway from Manchester to Imperial Highway. The project will also include urban greening and stormwater capture.

b) Mayor's Office: Joycelyn Dominguez was not present.

c) Los Angeles County Supervisor, 2nd District: Ara An said that she will now be representing Gardena, Hawthorne, and other areas, with Robert Jackson assigned to the Harbor

Gateway North area. Los Angeles County Supervisors have voted to support the Federal bills which would place limits on assault weapons. There is \$54 million in economic opportunities grants under the American Rescue Plan for businesses and others:

<https://ceo.lacounty.gov/recovery/grant-opportunities/>

There are also links for job seekers and businesses seeking employees at

<https://economicdevelopment.lacounty.gov/local-worker-program/>

LA County is still offering mobile vaccination clinics. Arrange for them to be in the HGNNC area fourteen days in advance for flu, M pox, and COVID vaccinations. LA County is now covering the costs of doulas to assist with births.

(Jackie Jackson entered the meeting at 7:00 p.m.)

d) Department of Neighborhood Empowerment: Neighborhood Council Advocate Freddy Cupen-Ames said that as of March 1, Neighborhood Councils will again be meeting in person. He reminded Board members of the two online workshops to learn more about in-person meeting guidelines: February 23 from 6-7:30 p.m. and February 25 from 1-2:30 p.m. The February Monthly Profile Report also discusses some of the details of returning to in-person meetings.

(Lorenzo Johnson entered the meeting at 7:02 p.m.)

Council File 22-1070 would allow more flexibility for Neighborhood Councils to meet virtually. There is also SB411 (Portantino) which would modernize the Brown Act and allow Neighborhood Councils, boards, and Commissions to not be required to meet in person now that the Governor's Emergency Orders during COVID have been lifted.

4) Appointment of additional Community Impact Statement filer(s): Currently the HGNNC only has one authorized filer (Secretary Rosalie Preston) of Community Impact Statements on behalf of the Neighborhood Council and can have up to five. Chairperson Miguel Vazquez has expressed interest in being added as another filer. It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Richard Lee, and passed 12-0-0 to appoint Miguel Vazquez as a Community Impact Statement filer.

(Angela Springs entered the meeting at 7:10 p.m.)

5) Approval of creating an Ad Hoc Environmental Justice Committee: Chair Miguel Vazquez said that the Committee will be tasked with addressing the many environmental justice issues facing the HGNNC area, including illegal dumping and air pollution, and exploring ways to mitigate those issues. Committee appointments will be made at the March 14 Board meeting. The Committee will have up to nine members with no more than four Board members, per the HGNNC Bylaws. Email your interest in being appointed to hgnc@sbcglobal.net. It was moved by Keith Pitts, seconded by Arvie Powell and passed 13-0-0 to create the Committee.

6) Approval of an updated letter requesting a Council File to implement more effective measures and resources for illegal dumping in HGNNC and throughout the City of Los Angeles: Chair Miguel Vazquez screen-shared and also read out the draft letter. It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Keith Pitts, and passed 13-0-0 to approve sending the letter.

7) Approval of a letter to Amanda Bettinelli, Assistant US Attorney-Environmental Justice Coordinator, listing the worst illegal dumping sites within the HGNNC: Chair Miguel Vazquez screen-shared and also read out the draft letter. Some additional illegal dumping sites were suggested for inclusion in the letter. It was moved by Keith Pitts, seconded by Arvie Powell, and passed 13-0-0 to approve sending the letter with the additional locations.

8) Approval of a letter requesting posted street sweeping signs throughout HGNNC District 1, with a particular focus on Denver Avenue between Gardena Blvd. and 168th Street and Gardena Blvd. from Figueroa Street to Vermont Avenue: Chair Miguel Vazquez screen-shared and read out the letter. It was moved by Keith Pitts, seconded by Arvie Powell, and passed 13-0-0 to approve the letter.

9) Outreach events

a) 2023 Board election vote by mail request period – open now until March 13: There are three ways to register to receive a vote by mail ballot: create an Angelino account, submit the voter registration form and documentation of stakeholder status via email, or submit the voter registration form and documentation via U.S. mail. In-person election day is Saturday April 1 at the Home Assembly Church from 10 am to 4 pm. Outreach/Communications Committee Chair Angela Springs said that she and Committee member Janet Mitchell gave out voter registration forms at the 118th Street School as students were leaving on February 8. They gave out an instruction form in English but the Spanish translation for it is needed. They will be holding another voter registration event possibly at the 116th Street School on February 22.

b) Black History Month program on February 25 at Rosecrans Recreation Center: Outreach/Communications Representative Angela Springs said that the HGNNC will have flyers ready by the end of the week and she hopes that the District Representatives will help distribute them.

c) HGNNC Candidate Forum on Tues. March 7 via Zoom: The HGNNC will help advertise this via email and a robo-call. The recording will later be posted on the HGNNC website.

d) Neighborhood Team Program online – monthly classes began February 2: South Bureau CERT Coordinator Chin Thammasaengsri said that stakeholders are welcome to join at any time. The next class will be held online on March 2 at 6:30 p.m.

(Lorenzo Johnson left the meeting at 7:55 p.m.)

8) Administrative motions

a) January 10, 2023, Board minutes: It was moved by Joan Jacobs, seconded by Richard Lee, and passed 12-0-0 to approve the minutes.

b) January 24, 2023, General Membership minutes: It was moved by Jodette Spann, seconded by Arvie Powell, and passed 12-0-0 to approve the minutes.

c) January 31, 2023, Special Board minutes: It was moved by Joan Jacobs, seconded by Jodette Spann, and passed 12-0-0 to approve the minutes.

d) January 2023 Monthly Expenditure Report: Treasurer Piers Fairclough reviewed the expenses from January. It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Joan Jacobs, and passed 9-0-0 to approve the January 2023 MER.

(Angela Springs left the meeting at 8:10 p.m.)

e) Approval of \$595 for LAUSD permit to use the 135th Street School March – June 2023: Secretary Rosalie Preston explained It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Joan Jacobs, and passed 9-0-0 to approve the paying for a permit for use of the 135th Street School Auditorium for five meetings between March and June 2023, if there is not approval by the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment for use of Room 185 at 555 W. Redondo Beach Blvd. for Board meetings.

f) Approval of \$700 to cover possible use of meeting room 185 at 555 W. Redondo Beach Blvd. for larger Committee meetings at a cost of \$100 per meeting: It was moved by Keith Pitts, seconded by Joan Jacobs, and passed 9-0-0 to approve the use Room 185 at 555 W. Redondo Beach Blvd. for larger Committee meetings and Board meetings (if the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment has no objections to use of Room 185 for the Board meetings.)

8) Board business/announcements:

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

b) Brief announcements from Board members: Chair Miguel Vazquez reminded the Board and stakeholders that the next Board meeting will be held in person but may not be able to also be broadcast for stakeholders to participate remotely. Freddy Cupen-Ames said that there will need to be a Board vote on the teleconferencing option. Board members will be required to meet in person but stakeholders could have the option of joining in-person or via teleconference. Under current Brown Act guidelines, Board members could participate remotely up to three times per year.

9) Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Secretary

DRAFT