

Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Board Meeting

Tuesday, August 8, 2023

555 W. Redondo Beach Blvd., Room 185

Present: Miguel Vazquez (Chairperson), Joan Jacobs (Vice Chairperson), Rosalie Preston (Secretary), Keith Pitts (Treasurer), Laivern Frerichs (District 1), Nita Stonehocker (District 2), Dave Trejo (District 3), Arvie Powell (District 4), Eva Cooper Pace (District 5), Marvin Bell (District 6), Oscar Ruiz (District 8), Frankie Mays (Community Organization Representative), Elijah Thomas (Youth Representative), and Craig Kusunoki (At-large Representative)

1) Welcome/call to order/Board roll call: The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Miguel Vazquez at 7:10 p.m. A roll call determined that a quorum of the Board was present.

2) General public comment on non-agenda items that are within the Neighborhood Council's subject matter jurisdiction: Ara An, Constituent Engagement Deputy from 2nd Supervisorial District Holly Mitchell's office, said that Robert Jackson, the official Harbor Gateway Constituent Engagement Deputy, was still out on medical leave. She gave a report on recent Board votes, including the racial equity plan, and mentioned the mortgage relief program dcba.lacounty.gov/mortgagerelief/ as well as recreational activities in Los Angeles County Parks.

3) Reports

a) CD 8: Field Deputy Laura Garcia reported on the upcoming August 11 movie which will be held at Algin Sutton Recreation Center. 100 free backpacks will be given out that evening. Councilmember Marqueece Harris-Dawson is addressing copper wire theft in the area. Email her with any issues at laura.garcia@lacity.org

b) CD 15: Field Deputy Nicholas Chavez noted that SEIU Local 721 will was on strike today and normal City services will resume tomorrow. National Night Out was held at LAPD Southeast Division and the HGNNC had a table there. The Caltrans Dump Day on July 29 saw a lot of stakeholders bringing items to the Harbor Gateway Transit Center for disposal. Summer Night Lights at Rosecrans Recreation Center is continuing from 7-11 p.m. Joycelyn heads up the Clean 15 Teams. Report areas for cleaning via 311 but if there is an urgent clean up need, email Nicholas so that he can alert the Team. They cannot clean Caltrans areas, so report those directly to Caltrans.

c) LAPD: Senior Lead Officer Tyson Hamaoka said that the areas along the 105 freeway between San Pedro and Stanford were cleaned up on July 6. The homeless were relocated and the number of property crimes has dropped since then.

(Elijah Thomas arrived at 7:31 p.m.)

The street crimes happening near the C Line and Imperial Highway have really dropped. The arsonist who was setting a lot of the fires near the 105 and 110 freeways has been arrested. Coffee with a Cop will be held on Fri. August 18 at the McDonald's on Avalon at Century and on Thursday August 24 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at the McDonald's on Imperial Highway at Figueroa Street. He will send Chair Miguel Vazquez the contact for Parking Enforcement, if vehicles are not removed in a timely manner. Keep a record of who you speak to in Parking Enforcement for follow up. District 4 stakeholders raised the issue of no LAPD patrol at night when suspicious homeless people are walking through the neighborhood. Officer Hamaoka said that there is a Southeast LAPD Violent Crime Taskforce but it has to cover the whole of Southeast Division. In response to a question, he said that the RV parked along Main Street under the 105 freeway will be towed.

d) Department of Neighborhood Empowerment: Freddy Cupen-Ames noted that per DONE records, some of the HGNNC Board members have expired Code of Conduct training and

therefore are not allowed to vote on any agenda item. Bylaws changes can be made now and submitted to DONE up until April 1. Board members are reminded to check with the City Attorney on any possible conflict of interest when voting on Neighborhood Purposes Grants. Also, if a Board member is the Treasurer, second signer or alternate signer and had to recuse themselves on a vote on a financial issue, that person is not allowed to sign the Board Action Certificate (BAC) authorizing that funding item. The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment is hosting a Meet and Greet for Board members from around the City on August 31 from 6-8 p.m. at City Hall. Dinner will be provided. EmpowerLA Board training is being offered via Zoom on August 24, 29, and September 28. It will also be offered in Spanish only on September 13. Sat. September 23 is the Congress of Neighborhoods at City Hall. The HGNNC will try to arrange carpooling or use of the Silverline (J Line) to attend.

Mayor's Report: Jocelyn Dominguez said that the Mayor's website has been updated with a listing of Constituent Services available through the Mayor's Office. August 1 is the deadline for renters to pay back rent not paid during the COVID pandemic. Resources are being provided to those renters who are not able to do so, including referral to attorneys who can represent them. There is a tentative agreement with the Police Protective League.

4) Administrative motions

a) Approval of the July 11, 2023, Board minutes: It was moved by Keith Pitts, seconded by Arvie Powell, and passed 13-0-1 (Trejo) to approve the minutes.

b) Approval of the July 25, 2023, General Membership meeting minutes: It was moved by Keith Pitts, seconded by Frankie Mays, and passed 14-0-0 to approve the minutes.

c) Approval of the July 2023 Monthly Expenditure Report: Treasurer Keith Pitts reviewed the Report, which shows the annual budget as \$32,000 before any rollover money from the previous fiscal year is added. \$29,763.61 is currently available after July expenditures. It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Marvin Bell, and passed 10-0-0 to approve the Report.

5) Appointment of official HGNNC Representatives/Liaisons

Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate Freddy Cupen-Ames pointed out that the various Alliances and Budget Advocates are unofficial groups and not part of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment but provide a way for Neighborhood Councils to meet together and later advocate for certain issues.

a) Emergency Preparedness Alliance: It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Eva Cooper Pace, and passed 14-0-0 to appoint Frankie Mays as the HGNNC liaison to the Emergency Preparedness Alliance.

b) Sustainability Alliance: It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Eva Cooper Pace, and passed 14-0-0 to appoint Joan Jacobs to the Sustainability alliance.

c) Los Angeles Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (LAANC): It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Keith Pitts, and passed 14-0-0 to appoint Arvie Powell as the HGNNC LAANC Representative.

d) Two Budget Representatives: It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Eva Cooper Pace, and passed 14-0-0 to appoint Miguel Vazquez and Joan Jacobs as the two HGNNC Budget Representatives for Region 12.

(Keith Pitts and Elijah Thomas left the meeting at 8:30 p.m.)

6) Letter requesting trees to be planted in the north and south side medians on Rosecrans Avenue: It was moved by Arvie Kenan, seconded by Joan Jacobs, and passed 11-0-0 to approve sending a letter with the request. Some District 4 stakeholders expressed concern that there

would not be adequate upkeep of any new plantings, but the letter will ask for funding for watering during the establishment period for street trees and future upkeep of the medians.

7) Community Impact Statements

a) 20-1178-S3 Therapeutic Van Pilot Program: It was moved by Joan Jacobs, seconded by Marvin Bell, and passed 12-0-0 to support the Council File and submit a Community Impact Statement.

b) 22-1196-S1 Independent Redistricting Commission: It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Eva Cooper Pace, and passed 12-0-0 to support the Council File and submit a Community Impact Statement.

c) 23-0439 Nuisance abatement of vacant properties: It was moved by Joan Jacobs, seconded by Arvie Powell, and passed 12-0-0 to support the Council File and submit a Community Impact Statement.

d) 23-0750 Council District 15 office space in Harbor Gateway: It was moved by Arvie Powell, seconded by Marvin Bell, and passed 12-0-0 to support the Council File and submit a Community Impact Statement.

8) Board business/announcements

a) Reports from Committee Chairs: Chair Miguel Vazquez said that the Ad Hoc Environmental Justice Committee had met with Assistant Federal Attorney Amanda Bettinelli via Zoom at their August 11 Committee meeting to discuss the fugitive dust issues with California Waste Services and other environmental justice issues impacting the HGNNC.

Frankie Mays said the Public Safety/Emergency Preparedness Committee will meet on August 18.

The Outreach/Communications Committee will meet on August 14.

b) Brief announcements from Board members – report on National Night Out August 1: Community Organization Representative Frankie Mays reported on the HGNNC table at National Night Out, which also had a table with the Empowerment Southeast Area, entertainment by dance class members from Long Beach, Aztec dancers, LAPD Chief Michael Moore, Congressman Maxine Water, and Councilmember Tim McOsker, as well as LADWP and information for veterans.

Chair Miguel Vazquez said that he had been part of a community forum held in Leimert Park and led by LAPD Chief Michael Moore to discuss how to improve LAPD relations with the African American community.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.