

## Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Board Meeting

Tuesday, September 12, 2023

555 W. Redondo Beach Blvd., Room 185

Present: 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), Oscar Ruiz (District 8), Frankie Mays (Community Organization Representative), Jackie Jackson (Youth Advocate), and Craig Kusunoki (At-large Representative)

**1) Welcome/call to order/Board roll call:** In the absence of Chair Miguel Vazquez, Vice Chair Joan Jacobs welcomed those present at 7:04 p.m. A quorum was not yet present.

**2) General public comment on non-agenda items that are within the Neighborhood Council's subject matter jurisdiction:** There was none.

### 3) Reports

**b) LAPD:** Senior Lead Officer Tyson Hamaoka said that he covers the HGNNC Districts 7 and 8 areas and that currently things are good in that area. As colder weather sets in, he expects to see more reports of fires along the 105 freeway as the homeless in tents try to keep warm. He is currently focusing on homeless encampments and has been working with Caltrans to have them do clean ups along the 105 freeway. An RV Task Force will be removing the RVs along 135<sup>th</sup> street and also Avalon Blvd. The LAPD is working with CD 15 on this issue. In regards to the RVs on Central Avenue south of 118<sup>th</sup> Street, Officer Hamaoka has found that the residents are not committing any crimes and are keeping the area around the RVs relatively clean so he will not try to move them at this time. Keep him informed on all issues.

**1) Welcome/call to order/Board roll call:** At 7:15 p.m. quorum was achieved and a roll call was taken to verify the quorum.

### 3) Reports

**a) CD 15:** Field Deputy Nicholas Chavez said that Caltrans works well with Council District 15. He thanked all those who participated in the clean up of Stanford Avenue on August 26. Council District 15 arranged for dumpsters. The next clean up is scheduled for September 23. The area of 117<sup>th</sup> and Athens Way is always in need of clean up from major illegal dumping. The lights under the 105 Freeway overpass at San Pedro Street were repaired. More crossing guards are needed at area schools, including 118<sup>th</sup> Street. LADOT is hiring the crossing guards, who are paid for four hours per school day but actually only work for an hour in the morning and an hour after school. The signal at El Segundo and Figueroa Street will have left-turn phasing installed in October. Left-turn phasing will be added to the Figueroa Street and Rosecrans signal in February 2024 and eventually to the signal at 120<sup>th</sup> Street and Vermont Avenue, with no date determined yet.

(Arvie Powell entered the meeting at 7:20 p.m.)

The traffic signal at Rosecrans and Menlo Avenue has been approved but not yet funded. There is still no date set for installing the traffic calming round about at the intersection of Hoover Street and 135<sup>th</sup> Street. Repaving of 120<sup>th</sup>/San Pedro will begin September 15, 116<sup>th</sup> at Towne and Link on September 19, and Athens Blvd. from Denver Avenue will be coming soon. Cameras may be installed in the area of 117<sup>th</sup> Street and Athens Way to discourage illegal dumping. There is still no date for residential area speed hump applications to be considered. Redondo Beach Blvd. between Figueroa Street to Vermont Avenue will be repaved before the

end of the year. It was pointed out that Vermont Avenue from 168<sup>th</sup> Street to Gardena Blvd. is badly in need of repaving. More street sweeping routes need to be added, but Nicholas said that funding and vacancies are the issues blocking that from happening, with a 20% vacancy rate across all City Departments. District 3 Representative Dave Trejo asked for a priority list of routes once funding and staff are found. The Main Street underpass at the 105 freeway still needs to have the lights repaired. Possibly “no illegal dumping” signs there would help, but Senior Lead Officer Tyson Hamaoka said he had cited a few illegal dumpers but even citations are not effective at discouraging the activity.

**c) Mayor’s Office:** No report.

**d) Los Angeles County Supervisor 2<sup>nd</sup> District:** Ar An said she was covering for Robert Jackson who is still out on leave. She noted that the effort of the County’s Pathway Home initiative recently removed 48 RVs in the east Gardena area and housed over 50 people. There will be a free food distribution event at Ainsworth Center in Hawthorne on September 13 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Pre-registration is required. Email her at [aan@bos.lacounty.gov](mailto:aan@bos.lacounty.gov) regarding Los Angeles County concerns such as property taxes and health information. Use la-hop to report homeless issues.

**e) Department of Neighborhood Empowerment:** Freddy Cupen-Ames reminded the Board to register to attend the Congress of Neighborhoods which will be held at City Hall on Sat. September 23 and include breakfast and lunch, plus free parking, for attendees. Many workshops on Neighborhood Council issues will be offered. Bylaws amendments can be sent in now and up to April 1. Spanish only onboarding training will be offered on September 13. SB 411, the Brown Act amendment impacting Neighborhood Council meetings, has been sent to the Governor. If he signs it, it will take effect immediately and allow Neighborhood Councils to conduct most of their Board and Committee meetings virtually. The City Council also has to vote to approve the change. Then two-thirds of the Neighborhood Council Board must vote to adopt. One meeting a year would have to be conducted in person. Board members and Committee members attending virtually must be calling in/viewing from locations within the Neighborhood Council boundaries. DONE will be providing guidance once everything is approved by the Governor and City Council.

(Eva Cooper Pace left the meeting at 7:58 p.m.)

#### **4) Administrative motions**

**a) Approval of the August 8, 2023, Board minutes:** It was moved by Keith Pitts, seconded by Nita Stonehocker, and passed 10-0-0 to approve the minutes.

**b) Approval of the August 26, 2023, Special Board minutes:** It was moved by Nita Stonehocker, seconded by Arvie Powell, and passed 10-0-0 to approve the minutes.

(Eva Cooper Pace returned to the meeting at 8:03 p.m.)

**c) Approval of the August 2023 Monthly Expenditure Report:** Treasurer Keith Pitts reviewed the Report, which shows the annual budget as \$37,901, with the inclusion of the rollover money. \$34,016.97 is currently available after the August expenditures. It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Keith Pitts, and passed 9-0-0 to approve the Report.

**d) Approval of up to \$500 to support Halloween Trunk or Treat at Rosecrans Recreation Center on Sat. October 28:** It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Dave Trejo, and passed 9-0-0 to provide the financial support.

**e) Approval of \$358.86 to Minuteman Press for 10 sets of Board business cards:** It was moved by Keith Pitts, seconded by Frankie Mays, and passed 9-0-0 to approve the payment.

**f) Approval of up to \$600 for 30 branded polo shirts/t-shirts for outreach events:** It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Laivern Ferichs, and passed 9-0-0 to approve the expenditure.

**5) Appointment of a Youth Advocate to fill the Board seat vacancy:** Jackie Jackson was the only stakeholder to express interest in the appointment. She stated that she has lived in the community for 25 years and has mentored 4,000 child care providers while also running her own child care business. As a provider she has mentored many youth, including the Youth Representative Elijah Thomas. She also previously served on the Board as the District 6 Representative and also as the Community Organization Representative. It was moved by Laivern Frerichs, seconded by Arvie Powell, and passed 11-0-0 to appoint Jackie Jackson to the vacant position of Youth Advocate.

**6) Approval of a revised 2023-2024 budget, which includes \$5,901 in rollover funds:** Treasurer Keith Pitts reviewed the revised budget with the rollover funds included. It was moved by Keith Pitts, seconded by Arvie Powell, and passed 9-0-0 to approve the revised budget.

**7) Letter of support for Council File 23-0914 (oversize vehicle parking restrictions):** The Council File supports a study with recommendations on a Citywide program that would restrict oversize vehicle dwelling in residential areas, commercial corridors, and other sensitive uses, while designating streets where oversize vehicles can park with access to services, including housing navigation, portable restroom facilities, automotive repair and septic tank waste disposal. It was moved by Keith Pitts, seconded by Nita Stonehocker, and passed 11-0-0 to approve support for the Council File.

**8) Board business/announcements**

**a) Reports from Committee Chairs:** The Public Safety/Emergency Preparedness Committee will meet September 22. The Planning and Land Use Committee will meet on Thurs. September 28. The Ad Hoc Environmental Justice Committee will present its recommendations at the October 10 Board meeting.

**b) Brief announcements from Board members – Priorities/Goals from August 26, 2023, Board Retreat:** Secretary Rosalie Preston said that the key goals for 2023-2024 are included in the minutes of the August 26, 2023 Special Board meeting.

**District 3 Representative and Principal of Environmental Charter Middle School** said that the school will hold the “Leaders Like Me” career fair on Fri. October 13 and is seeking Latino/Hispanic members of the community to speak about their jobs. In February they will focus on African Americans to speak about their careers.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Secretary