

Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Board Meeting

Tuesday, October 10, 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), Marvin Bell (District 6), Oscar Ruiz (District 8), Frankie Mays (Community Organization Representative), Will Yates (Outreach Representative), and Craig Kusunoki (At-large Representative)

1) Welcome/call to order/Board roll call: In the absence of Chair Miguel Vazquez and Vice Chair Joan Jacobs, Treasurer Keith Pitts welcomed those present at 7:11 p.m. Roll call determined that a quorum was present.

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

3) Reports

- a) **CD 15:** Field Deputy Nicholas Chavez was not able to be present.
- b) **LAPD:** None of the Senior Lead Officers were present.
- c) **Mayor's Office:** Jocelyn Dominguez was not present.
- d) **Los Angeles County Supervisor 2nd District:** No representative was present.
- e) **Department of Neighborhood Empowerment:** Neighborhood Empowerment Advocated Freddy Cupen-Ames was on vacation.

4) Administrative motions

- a) **Approval of the September 12, 2023, Board minutes:** It was moved by Arvie Powell, seconded by Marvin Bell, and passed 11-0-0 to approve the minutes.
- b) **Approval of the September 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. \$32,424.88 is currently available after the September expenditures and outstanding payments. It was moved by Marvin Bell, seconded by Frankie Mays, and passed 10-0-0 to approve the Report.
- c) **Approval of renewal of the lease for office 205 in Plaza Redondo, at new monthly cost of \$670 per month:** It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Marvin Bell, and passed 10-0-0 to approve renewal of the lease at the new monthly amount of \$670 per month.
(Joan Jacobs entered the meeting at 7:17 p.m. and took over the roll of Chairperson)

5) Approval of eight recommendations from the Ad Hoc Environmental Justice

Committee: After a number of months of meeting, the Ad Hoc Environmental Justice Committee presented the following recommendations, with clarification on the details of each to be found in the minutes of Ad Hoc Environmental Justice Committee, which are posted to the HGNNC website. 1) Compatible/Non-Compatible Developments, 2) Educate/Engage Tools, 3) Invite Environmental Presenters/Speakers to General Membership meetings, 4) Amend Bylaws to include Environmental Justice Committee as a Standing Committee, 5) Virtual Toxic Tour of Harbor Gateway North locations, 6) Write letter to Councilmember Tim McOsker requesting support on environmental issues adversely impacting stakeholders of Districts 2 and 3, 7) Create a flyer for the website highlighting environmental justice issues impacting HGNNC, and 8)

Extend/continue the Ad Hoc Environmental Justice Committee after the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment has approved the revised HGNNC Bylaws n 2024; mandate to include engagement/education of stakeholders via outreach, partnerships, and recruitment on environmental justice issues of concern and authority to engage/network with resources in furtherance of the mission, such as environmental justice agencies, Planning Director for Council District 15, Amanda Bettinelli in the Department of Justice, the State Attorney General, South Coast Air Quality Management District, California Air Resources Board, and others with environmental justice expertise. It was moved by Keith Pitts, seconded by Rosalie Preston, and passed 11-0-1 (Trejo) to approve the recommendations.

6) Approval of letter of support for using native plants in City plantings: The greater use of native plants in medians, parkways, on the grounds of public buildings, etc. will help to support local birds, butterflies, and other pollinators, as well as provide trees and shrubs suited to the climate and low water use. It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Nita Stonehocker, and passed 12-0-0 to approve the letter.

7) Letter of support for Council File 23-0919 (Establishing a Comprehensive Capital Improvement Plan for the City of Los Angeles): The Council File seeks to encourage the City Council and City Departments to adopt long-range planning such as Santa Monica and other cities do, in order to more adequately to plan and budget for building repairs, sidewalk repair, major street improvements, bike lanes, etc. than the current year-to-year budgeting that is currently done. It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Nita Stonehocker, and passed to approve the letter and file a Community Impact Statement.

8) Authorization for Miguel Vazquez to obtain the 2023 Election records: It was moved by Keith Pitts, seconded by Marvin Bell, and passed 12-0-0 to authorize Miguel Vazquez to obtain the 2023 HGNNC Board election results from the City Clerk's office.

9) Board business/announcements

a) Reports from Committee Chairs: The Planning and Land Use Committee will meet on October 26.

The Environmental Justice Committee will meet in October.

b) Brief announcements from Board members – Congress of Neighborhoods and recordings of sessions: Secretary Rosalie Preston noted that four Board members attended at City Hall and that the link for the recordings of the sessions had been sent to Boardmembers.

SB 411, which amends the Brown Act on open meetings, specifically for the Neighborhood Councils of the City of Los Angeles, has passed the legislature and was signed by the Governor yesterday. The next step will be approval by the Los Angeles City Council, followed by the creation of guidelines by the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment. Our understanding is that Neighborhood Councils will then be able to resume meetings via Zoom and only need to hold one in-person meeting per year. However, Boards will need to vote as to officially vote on what they plan to do for both Board meetings and Committee meetings.

2) General public comment on non-agenda items that are within the Neighborhood Council's subject matter jurisdiction: April Johnson, Assistant Director for Community Engagement for 2nd District Supervisor Holly Mitchell, introduced herself. A new Deputy for the Harbor Gateway area has been hired and will start to attend the meetings. The County's Pathway Home project has recently seen 50 RVs taken off the County streets to the east of the

HGNNC with many being placed in housing. Another effort will be made to remove more. On Monday October 16 the County of Los Angeles will hold its Budget Town Hall virtually from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Sign up for the Supervisor's newsletters at Mitchell.lacounty.gov

Michelle Chambers introduced herself. She is running for Senate District 35 and said that she has the endorsement of the current State Senator Steven Bradford, who is termed out and cannot run again. She was previously a Councilmember in the City of Compton and has worked on the staffs of a number of elected officials, including Janice Hahn. She has also been endorsed by 2nd District Supervisor Holly Mitchell.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Secretary