

## **Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Board Meeting**

Tuesday, February 13, 2024

Held via Zoom webinar

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), Marvin Bell (District 6), Barbara Tyson-Frazier (District 7), Oscar Ruiz (District 8), Frankie Mays (Community Organization), Jackie Jackson (Youth Advocate), and Will Yates (Outreach/Communications Representative)

**1) Welcome/call to order/Board roll call:** In the absence of Chairperson Miguel Vazquez and Vice Chairperson Joan Jacobs, Treasurer Keith Pitts called the meeting to order at 7:16 p.m. The roll call determined that a quorum was present.

(Vice Chairperson Joan Jacobs entered the meeting at 7:19 p.m. and began chairing the meeting)

**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:** No one was present.

**b) LAPD:** Senior Lead Officer Tyson Hamaoka reported that there has been an uptick in robberies in his basic car area (HGNNC Districts 7 and 8). LAPD will be focusing on the Imperial Highway to 120<sup>th</sup> Street, Broadway to Central Avenue area. Chairperson Miguel Vazquez had reported a number of box trucks parked at Imperial Highway and Clovis but now all RVs and box trucks have been removed and Council District 15 has gotten the trash removed. He said he will continue to address the homeless encampments around the 105 freeway, but needs the HGNNC to write Caltrans to remind them of their role with this, especially for Broadway south of the 105 (two encampments), Main Street south of the 105, Hoover Street and 116<sup>th</sup> Place, and 116<sup>th</sup> Place west of San Pedro Street.

Senior Lead Officer Robert Martinez, Basic Car Area 18A97, said that there have been a lot of stolen vehicles in his area, with thirteen stolen from Athens on the Hill, along 149<sup>th</sup> Street, and in the Alondra Blvd. area. Kias are being stolen for their catalytic converters. There have been robberies along Figueroa Street. He has removed a truck from Estrella Avenue near the Gardena Elementary School. The fencing is being replaced along the south side of Rosecrans Recreation Center, where the homeless who camp along the railroad tracks have cut through the fencing to have faster access to the public bathrooms. He has also worked to remove the homeless man who was living on Alondra Blvd. under the 110 freeway and the RV parked north of 135<sup>th</sup> Street in HGNNC District 4. The 117<sup>th</sup> Street and Denver cul de sac was cleaned up by Council District 15's Clean Team. He is aware of the issue of John Ross in the Merit Tract area and suggests that whenever he is sighted, LAPD should be called to document the issue. He has investigated the RVs parked along 132<sup>nd</sup> Street, west of Figueroa; gates may have to be put up on the cul de sacs to prevent this, but he is consulting with the businesses about the issue. There will be a Thurs. February 29 Coffee with a Cop at U-Haul, 11020 S. Vermont Avenue. From 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. He also noted that to remove a vehicle with expired registration that has not moved requires first a warning, even if the registration has been expired for over six months. He was made aware of the continuing issue of G13 graffiti near 165<sup>th</sup> Street and Ainsworth.

**c) Mayor's Office:** No one was present.

**d) Los Angeles County Supervisor 2<sup>nd</sup> District:** No one was present.

e) **Phillips 66-Marine Terminal and Wharf Improvement Project – Berths 148-151:** The Phillips 66 representative did not have the presentation ready and asked to report at the March 12 Board meeting.

#### 4) Administrative motions

a) **Approval of the January 9, 2024, Board minutes:** It was moved by Keith Pitts, seconded by Nita Stonehocker, and passed 11-0-1 (Frerichs) to approve the minutes.

b) **Approval of the January 23, 2024, General Membership meeting minutes:** It was moved by Barbara Tyson-Frazier, seconded by Marvin Bell, and passed 10-0-2 (Frerichs, Powell) to approve the minutes.

c) **Approval of the December 2023 Monthly Expenditure Report:** Treasurer Keith Pitts shared his screen and reviewed all expenditures. The amount available at the end of December was \$24,167.30. It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Joan Jacobs, and passed 6-0-2 (Frerichs, Tyson-Frazier) to approve the Monthly Expenditure Report.

d) **Approval of the January 2024 Monthly Expenditure Report:** Treasurer Keith Pitts shared his screen and reviewed the expenditures. The ending amount available at the end of January was \$20,913.40. It was moved by Nita Stonehocker, seconded by Keith Pitts, and passed 7-0-1 (Tyson-Frazier) to approve the Monthly Expenditure Report.

e) **Approval of granting \$2,000 as a Neighborhood Purposes Grant to Reading Partners literacy tutoring program at Figueroa Street Elementary School:** District 6 Representative Marvin Bell and Secretary Rosalie Preston met Shelley Agostino of Reading Partners and one of the Assistant Principals of Figueroa Street Elementary School and were able to view the students utilizing the Reading Partners program. The tutoring sessions are 45 minutes each, twice a week. They were able to see that most of the students are tutored via a laptop by trained volunteers, many of whom are college students. Some are tutored in person if that option works better for them. Reading Partners has developed its own curriculum based on California state standards and that results in some of the overhead costs. The Assistant Principal said that they would like to continue the program in the next fiscal year, if enough funding can be identified in their LAUSD budget. The school does contribute some of the funding for the program. It was moved by Marvin Bell, seconded by Barbara Tyson-Frazier, and passed 8-0-0 to support the grant to Reading Partners.

f) **Approval of up to \$500 to support the Spring Egg Hunt at Rosecrans Recreation Center on Saturday March 23:** The Recreation Center will be hosting a program similar to March 2023, with an egg hunt, arts and crafts, games, and refreshments, the latter of which the HGNNC would pay for. It was moved by Nita Stonehocker, seconded by Marvin Bell, and passed 8-0-0 to approve the funding for the event.

(Frankie Mays and Oscar Ruiz entered the meeting at 8:02 p.m.)

5) **Approval of revised HGNNC Bylaws, as recommended by the Bylaws Committee:** Vice Chairperson Joan Jacobs shared the screen and read out the proposed changes to the HGNNC Bylaws. For Article V Section 10 Resignation, Keith Pitts suggested either keeping “executive officer in both line one and line four or changing the wording to “Chairperson or vice Chairperson” to be consistent.

(Will Yates left the meeting at 8:27 p.m. due to loss of wi fi connection)

For Article VIII Meetings Section 1: Meeting Times and Place, the Secretary will consult with the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment to determine if language relating to the location of HGNNC Board and Committee meetings needs to have reference to virtual meetings held via Zoom or other teleconferencing platform. It was moved by Keith Pitts, seconded by Rosalie Preston, and passed 12-0-1 (Tyson-Frazier) to approve the submitted revised Bylaws including the two suggested edits.

**6) Approval of letter of appreciation to Armonia Investments for use of Room 185 at 555 W. Redondo Beach Blvd. for in-person meetings since April 2023 through January 2024:**

The Board would like to acknowledge their appreciation for Armonia Investments allowing the HGNNC use of meeting room 185 in their building for so many months and for twenty Board, General Membership, and Committee meetings, at no additional charge. Additionally, Armonia Investments helped set up the tables and chair in the room and provided bottled water for stakeholders and now that room 185 is leased out, will provide room 150, if needed, for future in-person meetings. It was moved by Keith Pitts, seconded by Nita Stonehocker, and passed 13-0-0 to approve sending the letter.

**7) Board business/announcements**

**a) Reports from Committee Chairs:** Rosalie Preston reported that she attended the City Planning Commission meeting on February 8 and spoke in support of the proposed update to the Harbor Gateway Community Plan, as the Vice Chair of the HGNNC Planning and Land Use Committee. The Commission unanimously voted to support the proposal, which will next go to the City Council's PLUM Committee possibly in June. Rosalie also attended the February 6 PLUM Committee meeting which approved Council File 23-1323 to provide more City resources to investigate oil well impacts on 129<sup>th</sup> Street. She noted that Councilmember Tim McOsker supported both the Council File and the update to the Harbor Gateway Community Plan, which has a number of zoning changes from Industrial to Hybrid Industrial to mitigate impacts to nearby residential and other sensitive uses.

**b) Brief announcements from Board members:** District 7 Representative Barbara Tyson-Frazier said that she would like to see the HGNNC partner with True Love Baptist Church in District 7 for an Easter Basket giveaway on March 30. She also would like support for an April clean up day in District 7. Vice Chairperson Joan Jacobs said that perhaps the HGNNC could schedule a Special Board meeting to vote on the proposal, since it was not on the agenda. Secretary Rosalie Preston said she would send Barbara the information that is needed to prepare an Event approval Request form, which Funding wants submitted at least 30 days before any event.

District 1 Representative Laivern Frerichs read from the letter which LADOT had sent the HGNNC regarding the rescission of their November 5, 2014, approval for installing a traffic signal at Figueroa and 168<sup>th</sup> Street. The City of Carson recently reviewed their approval to cooperate on the new signal and realized that property would have to be acquired on the southeast corner of the intersection. As they are not willing to spend the money for that purpose and as a recent traffic study has determined that there are not enough vehicle crashes per year to warrant a signal, Carson's support has been withdrawn.

**3) Reports**

**f) Department of Neighborhood Empowerment:** Octaviano Rios, Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate, apologized for being late, but said he had some problems connecting earlier. He thanked the HGNNC for attending the City Planning Commission meeting on February 8 and speaking in support of its proposals on behalf of the stakeholders. Virtual Brown Act training will be held on February 29 for the Chair or an alternate to attend. He will send further information about that.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Secretary