

Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Board Meeting

Tuesday, September 10, 2024

Held via Zoom webinar

Present: Joan Jacobs (Vice Chairperson), Rosalie Preston (Secretary), 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), Jackie Jackson (Youth Advocate), and Craig Kusunoki (At Large Representative)

1) Welcome/call to order/Board roll call: In the absence of Chairperson Miguel Vazquez, Vice Chairperson Joan Jacobs called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. The 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) LAPD: Senior Lead Officer Robert Martinez, who represents the 18A97 basic car area which covers Artesia to Imperial Highway and Vermont Avenue to Figueroa Street, said that violent crime is down by 14% in the Southeast Division area. Computer programs for crime analysis are used so that LAPD can put resources where the needs are greatest, which is why it is important to report all crimes. There is still a lot of theft of copper wiring from street lights and railroad control equipment. A clean up will take place in the next few weeks for the RVs along Figueroa Street near 121st Street, which are near the currently closed and vacant Edge O'Town Motel. He has noticed that the RVs have a lot of bicycles, generators, and power tools in and around them, which may have been stolen from nearby residences. LAPD is working with CD 15 on the clean up, with housing offered to the RV dwellers first. There are still issues with the homeless living along the Union Pacific railroad tracks south of Rosecrans Recreation Center. On Wednesdays, the Southeast LAPD Senior Lead Officers help each other out with task forces focused on various issues. In regards to the flower and taco vendors on the sidewalk in front of the ATT building at 17200 S. Vermont Avenue, he has been checking on their permits and the health certificate for the taco vendor. Customer vehicles which use the ATT parking lot have sometimes blocked access to ATT vehicles. There will be a fundraiser for the LAPD Southeast torch run on September 12 at El Pescador, 9535 Long Beach Blvd.

Senior Lead Officer Tyson Hamaoka, who represents the 18A63 basic care area which covers the Harbor Gateway North area from Imperial Highway to 120th Street and Figueroa to Central Avenue. He has been targeting vacant residential and commercial properties in the area so that they do not end up vandalized or lived in by squatters. These include 12023 S. Central Avenue, 11715 S. Avalon, 11719 Main Street, and 1126 E. Imperial Highway and Officer Hamaoka has contacted the owners of these properties and is working with Nicholas Chavez to address the issues and bring them under control. There have been a lot of fires set along the sides of the 105 freeway. Officer Hamaoka has been in communication with Caltrans about their landscaping maintenance. He walks the freeway area and the Union Pacific tracks, including the tunnel, to check on issues. He recently arrested a male near Broadway and the 105 and since then the number of arsons fires has been reduced. The homeless encampment along the flood channel near Imperial Highway and Central Avenue will be removed September 24-27.

b) CD 15: Field Deputy Nicholas Chavez thanked the Board for inviting him to the Board Retreat on August 24. He took note of the issues raised and priorities. He has noticed an increase in the Harbor Gateway North use of 311, which helps City Departments know how to prioritize their services. He noted a number of recent arson fires around 115th Street and Hoover

and also the 91/110 freeway interchange and has met with Caltrans on the issue. The Edge O'Town Motel is still closed due to a nuisance abatement order. CD 15 may ask DOT to paint red curbs along that stretch of Figueroa Street or post "no parking" signs. Speed humps were installed in front of the 118th Street School for safety. Sidewalk repair and curb cuts were made at San Pedro Street and 118th Place. The Bureau of Engineering will be giving CD 15 a list of sidewalks that will be repaired soon based on certain criteria, such as having been on the waiting list for repair a certain length of time or near a transit zone. District 6 Representative Marvin Bell brought up the need for alley repair north of the 800 block of 115th Street due to the many semi-trucks using it to cut through to parking next to the 105 freeway and also the streets lights that are out at 117th Street and Hoover. Nicholas said that he is working on those issues. He also said that a community meeting about the California Waste Services permit renewal process will be held next week in the gym of the Rosecrans Recreation Center, with the Board notified of the exact date.

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

d) Los Angeles County Supervisor 2nd District: Deputy for Constituent Engagement Ara An noted that it is Hispanic Heritage Month. The Board of Supervisors will be presenting awards to Hispanic leaders/organizations who have made meaningful contributions to the Second District; nominations are due by Friday September 13. She urged stakeholders to sign up for alert notifications for extreme heat, heavy rain storms, earthquakes, and other issues. Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation is holding their annual park community meetings for stakeholders to assess services. September 8 was 988 Day, highlighting the National Suicide and Crisis Lifeline. It can be accessed 24/7.

e) Department of Neighborhood Empowerment: In the absence of Helena Doub, Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate for Harbor Gateway North, Vince Autiero reminded the Board that Sat. September 28 is the Congress of Neighborhoods at City Hall. He said that 400 are expected to attend. There will be updates from LAWA on how they are preparing for the 2028 Olympics and Charles Allen Miller discussing conservation and preserving biodiversity. The 311 app will be re-launched in February 2025. 311 staff are available to come to outreach events. There has been a lot of discussion among Neighborhood Councils of 24-0867, the Council File introduced by Councilmember Monica Rodriguez which would require that every Neighborhood Council have a Youth Representative and that every Neighborhood Council have term limits for Board members. He noted that because the City Clerk is providing only vote-by-mail voting for the upcoming 2025 Board election and no in-person voting, Neighborhood Councils can amend their Bylaws for Article X Section 4 to allow for "self affirmation" of voters, if they currently have "documentation" required for registration. The deadline for doing so is September 30. The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment has a "Board Member Monday" which features Board members and the ways in which they are serving their communities.

f) Updates on 2024-2025 Board goals/priorities: Rosecrans Avenue medians planting with trees (Joan Jacobs and Dave Trejo)-no updates. Coffee with a Cop (Frankie Mays and Nita Stonehocker)-no updates. Increasing stakeholder engagement via van tour of HGNNC (Jackie Jackson and Dave Trejo)—no update, but Marvin Bell said he could offer the use of his van. Table at Venice Family Clinic on Gardena Blvd. (Majenni Nixon and Janeshia Robinson)—no update, though the dates are the second and fourth Tuesday mornings of each month from 8:30-10:30 a.m. This can also be placed on the Outreach/Communications Committee agenda. Updating website—Rosalie Preston has been working with Aaron DeVandry on updates.

4) Retention of stakeholder verification method in the HGNNC Bylaws Article X Section 4 as "documentation" for the 2025 Board election, as recommended by the Bylaws Committee: The Bylaws Committee met to discuss the pros and cons of changing the

requirement for stakeholder registration to vote by mail in the upcoming 2025 Board election from the existing “documentation” to “self-verification,” which does not require providing a photo ID or other verification of stakeholder status and decided to keep “documentation” due to concerns about special interest groups being more able to manipulate the election outcome if documentation is not required. Some Board members expressed concern that the documentation requirement would reduce the number of stakeholders who then participate in voting. It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Marvin Bell, and passed 9-2(Trejo, Tyson-Frazier)-0 to follow the recommendation of the Bylaws Committee to keep the wording in the HGNNC Bylaws Article X Section 4 as “documentation.”

5) Approval of revisions to the HGNNC Standing Rules, as recommended by the Bylaws Committee: Rosalie Preston screen-shared the proposed changes that the Bylaws Committee voted on but noted some minor additions to wording in two of the Rules and that another Rule should be edited or eliminated relating to requiring that the Board agenda have a Consent Calendar. After discussion, it was decided to refer the proposed changes back to the Bylaws Committee and it was moved by Eva Cooper Pace, seconded by Rosalie Preston, and passed 11-0-0 to table the item and send back to the Bylaws Committee.

6) Administrative motions

a) Approval of the August 13, 2024, Board minutes: It was moved by Marvin Bell, seconded by Majenni Nixon, and passed 12-0-0 to approve the minutes as presented.

b) Approval of the August 24, 2024, Special Board minutes: It was moved by Majenni Nixon, seconded by Arvie Powell, and passed 12-0-0 to approve the minutes as presented.

c) Approval of the August 2024 Monthly Expenditure Report: In the absence of Treasurer Majenni Nixon, Secretary Rosalie Preston screen-shared and reviewed the expenditures for July. The net available is \$28,986.33. She also mentioned that the exact amount of roll over funds has been sent to the HGNNC and that \$10,065.94 will be added into a revised 2024-2025 budget. It was moved by Rosalie Preston Nixon, seconded by Arvie Powell, and passed 12-0-0 to approve the Monthly Expenditure Report.

d) Approval of a revised 2024-2025 fiscal year budget of \$42,065: This budget includes the rollover funds of \$10,066 and allocates more funds for outreach and the 2025 Board election. It was moved by Eva Cooper Pace, seconded by Rosalie Preston, and passed 11-0-0 to adopt the revised budget.

e) Approval of allocating \$600 for the October 26 Trunk or Treat at Rosecrans Recreation Center: The HGNNC would support the refreshments and candy for the program. It was moved by Eva Cooper Pace, seconded by Rosalie Preston, and passed 11-0-0 to approve the expenditure.

f) Approval of an election budget of \$6,500: This amount is what the Outreach/Communications Committee recommended. However, because the exact amounts for the voter registration event and other possible voter registration events in various HGNNC Districts were not adequately detailed, it was moved by Eva Cooper Pace, seconded by Marvin Bell, and passed 11-0-0 to approve a Board election budget of \$5,041, with the understanding that adjustments can be voted on at future Board meetings.

7) Board business/announcements

a) Reports from Committee Chairs: The Planning and Land Use Committee will meet on September 26. The Outreach/Communications Committee will meet on September 19 to further discuss 2025 Board election outreach. Candidate filing begins November 22.

b) Brief announcements from Board members: The Congress of Neighborhoods will be held at City Hall on Sat. September 28 with free breakfast and lunch, workshops, and tables for many City Departments.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Secretary