

Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Board Meeting

Tuesday, February 11, 2025

Held via Zoom webinar

Present: Joan Jacobs (Vice Chair), Rosalie Preston (Secretary), Majenni Nixon (Treasurer), 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), Finesse Simmons (Youth Representative), and Craig Kusunoki (At Large Representative)

Absent: Laivern Frerichs (District 1), Jackie Jackson (Youth Advocate)

1) Welcome/call to order/Board roll call: Vice Chairperson Joan Jacobs called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. She announced that Miguel Vazquez, formerly the Chairperson, was no longer a Board member due to excessive absences from Board meetings. 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: Jose Ochoa, Field Representative for Laura Richardson, said that the State Senator is an advocate for small business and housing services. Contact him for assistance with state of California issues.

Kenneth Carson of the Willowbrook Community Action for Peace, said that on behalf of the nearby community, he has been working on the issue of the abandoned buildings at 1134 E. 120th Street (120th and Central Avenue), which have not been demolished and are creating a public nuisance. He has been working with CD 15 Field Deputy Nicholas Chavez and will also be working with the County of Los Angeles and the HGNNC to resolve the issues.

(Marvin Bell entered the meeting at 7:10 p.m.)

Youth Representative and District 6 stakeholder Finesse Simmons announced that 3 in 1 Enterprises is putting on "The Porch" at the Starlight Cinemas in Bellflower on Sat. March 29.

(Eva Cooper Pace entered the meeting at 7:14 p.m.)

3) Reports

a) LAPD: No Senior Lead Officer was able to attend.

b) Council District 15: No one was present

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

d) Los Angeles County Supervisor 2nd District: Kasie Hervey, Deputy for Constituent Engagement, said that the Office of Immigrant Affairs has a "Know Your Rights" page. The County of Los Angeles is holding public hearings on the 2025-2026 County budget, per Measure G which voters passed in November. The Kingdom Day Parade will be held on Mon. February 17 along M.L. King Blvd. from Western Avenue to Crenshaw Blvd.

(Barbara Tyson-Frazier entered the meeting at 7:20 p.m.)

e) Department of Neighborhood Empowerment: Helena Doub, Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate for Harbor Gateway North, thanked Majenni Nixon and Rosalie Preston for working with the Department to resolve the Zoom account access issues. She also thanked the Board for organizing a Candidate Forum and their other work attracting candidates and getting stakeholders signed up to vote in the Board election. For the EmpowerLA Youth Conference, there were 100 slots and 200 youth applied. March 6 the Budget Advocates will hold a Zoom workshop on the City budget process. All Neighborhood Councils have access to CANVA Pro to create flyers and graphics for social media. Free CERT classes are available for groups of 25 or more and the HGNNC could consider setting up as hosts. Many Neighborhood Councils are focusing on preparedness events after the Palisades and Eaton fires.

(Nita Stonehocker entered the meeting at 7:33 p.m.)

f) HGNNC Board election-vote-by-mail; Candidate Forum later in February: The HGNNC held its voter registration event on Sat. February 1 at 555 W. Redondo Beach Blvd. with a shred van and 23

stakeholders completed the registration process. City Clerk representative Lanee Basulto has reported that so far a total of 33 stakeholders are now registered to receive vote-by-mail ballots. The League of Women Voters of Torrance Area will moderate a Candidate Forum on Tues. February 25 via Zoom at 7 p.m.

g) Updates on 2024-2025 Board goals/priorities: Rosecrans Avenue medians planting with trees—no update from Nicholas Chavez; Joan Jacobs said she would contact California State University Dominguez Hills directly. Coffee with a Cop—Frankie Mays said that there is still no date set. Increasing stakeholder engagement via van tour of HGNNC—Jackie Jackson said there is no update. Cultural event involving youth—Finesse Simmons said that CD 15 has said that Athens on the Hill will take the lead for the Juneteenth event. Farmers' Markets—Majenni Nixon said that the Venice Family Clinic is still hosting food giveaways twice a month, though they are not sending notices to the HGNNC to help promote. Updating website—Rosalie Preston said that the website is being updated but no re-design work has started yet.

4) Approval of revisions to the HGNNC Standing Rules, as recommended by the Bylaws

Committee: The HGNNC Standing Rules with the four proposed changes highlighted in yellow were screen-shared. The Bylaws Committee had agreed to three but in regards to having a Consent Calendar (Standing Rule 3), the Committee was divided. Advice had been asked of Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate Helena Doub, who had advised the use of “may” as opposed to the current word “shall” as most agendas do not have items that are suitable for a Consent Calendar. For example, the City Clerk has indicated that funding items cannot be put under a Consent Calendar, as was formerly the practice of the HGNNC. Using “may” allows for the use when appropriate, such as for meetings when there are more than one set of minutes to approve. District 5 stakeholder and Bylaws Committee member Luetta Watson argued that a Consent Calendar should appear on every agenda, as a matter of course, and if no items are relevant then none would be listed under it. She said that using a Consent Calendar saves the time of Board members because they should already have reviewed proposed issues that they will vote on and should not need to discuss them further. After much further discussion, it was moved by Nita Stonehocker, seconded by Eva Cooper Pace, and passed 8(Bell, Cooper Pace, Jacobs, Kusunoki, Mays, Powell, Stonehocker, Tyson-Frazier)-2(Preston, Trejo)-3(Nixon, Ruiz, Simmons) to table this item until March 11 so Helena Doub could send her advice and analysis to every Board member before that meeting.

5) Consideration of support for Council File 25-0065 (State Fireworks Law or Regulations/Illegal

Fireworks): CD 15 Councilmember Tim McOsker has introduced this motion as part of a package of motions related to the Palisades fires and their impact. This Council File proposes greater enforcement of existing ordinances, an increase in fines for those possessing or setting off fireworks, and civil fines for property owners where fireworks are used, sold, or stored so as to reduce danger to community health and safety. It was moved by Rosalie Preston, seconded by Majenni Nixon, and passed 13 (Bell, Cooper Pace, Jacobs, Kusunoki, Mays, Nixon, Powell, Preston, Ruiz, Simmons, Stonehocker, Trejo, Tyson-Frazier)-0-0 to support the Council File and file a Community Impact Statement.

6) Approval of position letter on impact of ED1 apartment projects: The draft position letter, which was recommended by the Planning and Land Use Committee, was screen-shared. The letter lists five ED1 projects that have been approved or noticed via the Department of Building and Safety within the HGNNC boundaries and notes the issues with lack of adequate notification to the Neighborhood Council and stakeholders. This limits the ability to meet with applicants and provide constructive input for the projects. All five projects have no or very minimal parking for 47-111 units and no or very minimal open space/green space. It was moved by Barbara Tyson-Frazier, seconded by Eva Cooper Pace, and passed 13((Bell, Cooper Pace, Jacobs, Kusunoki, Mays, Nixon, Powell, Preston, Ruiz, Simmons, Stonehocker, Trejo, Tyson-Frazier)-0-0 to approve the letter.

7) Initial discussion of the HGNNC 2025-2026 City budget priorities letter: The draft letter was presented, which is based on the previous year's budget letter. Suggestions for additions or corrections are needed before the March 11 Board meeting. Nita Stonehocker mentioned the badly lifted sidewalks on

Menlo Avenue south of Gardena Blvd. where those lining up for the Venice Family Clinic food giveaways have to line up and avoid tripping.

8) Administrative motions

a) Approval of the January 14, 2025, Board minutes: It was moved by Majenni Nixon, seconded by Barbara Tyson-Frazier, and passed 13(Bell, Cooper Pace, Jacobs, Kusunoki, Mays, Nixon, Powell, Preston, Ruiz, Simmons, Stonehocker, Trejo, Tyson-Frazier)-0-0 to approve the minutes as submitted.

b) Approval of the January 28, 2025, General Membership minutes: It was moved by Eva Cooper Pace, seconded by Marvin Bell, and passed 13(Bell, Cooper Pace, Jacobs, Kusunoki, Mays, Nixon, Powell, Preston, Ruiz, Simmons, Stonehocker, Trejo, Tyson-Frazier)-0-0 to approve the minutes as submitted.

c) Approval of the January 2025 Monthly Expenditure Report: Treasurer Majenni Nixon screen-shared and summarized the expenditures for January. \$20,031.90 remains in the HGNNC Funding account. \$250.00 was added back to the available funds as an adjustment. This was a reimbursement by City Clerk Funding for translation services that were paid for in the second quarter. It was moved by Barbara Tyson-Frazier, seconded by Rosalie Preston, and passed 10(Bell, Cooper Pace, Jacobs, Kusunoki, Mays, Nixon, Preston, Ruiz, Trejo, Tyson-Frazier)-0-1(Stonehocker), with Powell ineligible due to lapsed trainings and Simmons ineligible due to age, to approve the Monthly Expenditure Report.

d) Approval of up to \$500 for the April 19 Spring Egg Hunt at Rosecrans Recreation Center: The Recreation Center will hold a Spring Egg Hunt with crafts, candy and refreshments similar to last year on April 19. It was moved by Eva Cooper Pace, seconded by Frankie Mays, and passed 11(Bell, Cooper Pace, Jacobs, Kusunoki, Mays, Nixon, Preston, Ruiz, Stonehocker, Trejo, Tyson-Frazier)-0-0, with Powell ineligible due to lapsed trainings and Simmons ineligible due to age, to approve the expenditure.

9) Board business/announcements

a) Reports from Committees: The Planning and Land Use Committee will be meeting on February 27 to finalize a comment letter on the California Waste Services 2025 permit review.

b) Brief announcements from Board members: Majenni Nixon said that links will be added to the HGNNC website for “Know Your Rights” information for immigrants as a way to address stakeholder concerns related to potential ICE detentions.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Minutes taken by Rosalie Preston, Secretary