

Harbor City Neighborhood Council Governing Board Meeting
 Narbonne High School Library
 Wednesday 3-23-11
 6:00pm

Official Minutes

Board Members	Roll Call/Attendance
Esther Cepeda	Present
Jennifer Corral	Present
Greg Donnan	Present
Joyce Fredericks	Present
Tom Houston	Present
Janet Mercer	Present
Raymond R. Moser	Present
Anto Nakkashian	Excused
Wu-Ping Own	Excused
Grant Reed	Present
Olive Reed	Present
Craig S. Rutherford	Present
Christopher Sapien	Present

Call to Order:

Vice President Olive Reed called the meeting to order at 6:12pm.

Roll Call: See Above.

Approval of Minutes Greg Donnan made a motion to approve the February 23, 2011 Governing Board Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Grant Reed and approved by the Board with 7 yes votes, 0 no, 2 abstentions.

Treasurer's Report: Steven Rutherford gave an update on the Financial Report. He explained why the Board will need to vote again on the itemized expenses from Feb 20 and new amounts on the budget. Recent expenditures were reviewed. DONE representative, Lisette Covarrubias, gave update on deadlines and explained the Neighborhood Purposes Grant process. The last day to submit demand warrants is April 15th. There was a motion made by Greg Donnan to approve the budget as presented. The motion was seconded by Grant Reed and approved with 9 yes votes, 0 no votes.

Public Comment:

Joanne Valle from the Harbor City/Harbor Gateway Chamber of Commerce talked about an upcoming Harbor City Cleanup event. The Chamber is working with Team Panda, a service group comprised of students from Narbonne High School. Team Panda is sponsored by the Lions Club. The event currently involves the Lions Club and the Chamber. They are hoping that the Harbor City Neighborhood Council can also participate. Harbor City Rec Park will be

used as a staging area for the clean ups. She suggested each Board member take a section of Harbor City and report where clean ups are necessary. The next scheduled clean up is May 14th in conjunction with the Mayor's Day of Service and Sharefest. There was a short discussion on problem areas in the community that need cleaning up.

Followup from Stakeholder Meeting: None

Agenda for April: Olive announced that she is scheduling presentations by Damon Sanders of GAP (Gang Alternative Program) and also Orasee Russell of the Harbor City/Harbor Gateway Chamber of Commerce.

Boys and Girls Club: At the last stakeholder meeting Steve Rutherford provided copies of the NPG (Neighborhood Purposes Grant) for the Boys and Girls Club computer lab funding. DONE representative Lisette gave clarification on the process and gave a short review of the issues that needed to be clarified. Lisette has been with DONE for 5 years and is currently assigned to the Harbor Area neighborhood councils. Tom Houston commented that when the Board first voted on the funding there was no Neighborhood Purposes Grant program. Lisette explained that there has been miscommunication on the purpose of the grant and that the board needed to make clarification. In order to clarify the previous motion made related to the Boys and Girls Club funding of a computer lab the following motion was made:

Olive Reed made a motion that the Harbor City Neighborhood Council provide funding for computers and associated equipment for the computer lab at the Boys and Girls Club in the amount of \$10,000. The motion was seconded by Esther Cepeda-Hatch and passed with 9 yes votes and 1 no vote.

Flags and Banners: Tom Houston reported back on the banner issue that was discussed at the last Governing Board meeting. The flag company is willing to keep the cost of preparing and installing the banners at under \$5,000 (up to 85 banners). The Board needs to make a decision on where the banners are going to be placed. With regard to the American flags that have been approved, the Board agreed that they want them installed as soon as possible.

George Becker Tribute: Grant Reed reported that he has received a price of \$1500 on the proposed hearing impaired equipment that is being considered for the library. He will investigate further.

LA FIRE STATIONS 85 request for funding: There was a short discussion on the various requests being considered for Station 85. Greg Donnan made a motion that the HCNC Board allocated not more than \$500 to replace the carpeting in the hallway outside the crew quarters at Station 85. The motion was seconded by Joyce Fredericks and approved with 10 yes votes and 0 no votes.

Narbonne High School Request for Funding: There was an update related to funding the items requested by Narbonne. Olive Reed asked Lisette from DONE about proof of insurance that needs to be provided to the school as it relates to using the school library for Board meetings. The principal is willing to waive the normal fee for the use of the room.

Harbor City Gateway Public Library: No report available.

GAP: No report available.

LAPD Lock It or Lose Program: Janet Mercer gave an update on the printing expenses for the Lock It or Lose It Program which would cost approximately \$1800 for banners, flyers and bumper stickers. Greg Donnan made a motion that the Harbor City Neighborhood Council fund the LAPD Lock It or Lose It Program for Harbor City in an amount not to exceed \$2,000. The motion was seconded by Janet Mercer and approved with 10 yes votes and 0 no votes.

LAUSD Paper Drive: Raymond Moser talked about assisting the local schools by purchasing cases of paper which will allow the schools to use their funding for other necessary items. He suggested an amount of \$400 for each elementary school. Greg Donnan asked that the paper be purchased within the local neighborhood council area if as possible. Raymond Moser made a motion that the Harbor City Neighborhood Council show its support of local school by purchasing up to \$500 of paper for each of three elementary schools in the Harbor City area which are President Elementary School, Normont Elementary and Harbor City Elementary School for a total of \$1500. The motion was seconded by Esther Cepeda Hatch and passed with 10 yes vote and 0 no votes.

Voice Recorder for Meeting: Tom Houston talked about a request by Kristina Smith for a voice recorder that would hook into the sound system at the library to record the meetings and help the administrative assistant keep accurate minutes of the Harbor City Neighborhood Council meetings. A motion was made by Greg Donnan to allocate an amount not to exceed \$250 to purchase a voice recorder for use at the Harbor City Neighborhood Council meetings. The motion was seconded by Joyce Fredericks and passed with 7 yes votes and 0 no votes.

Tree Trimming/Cleanup: Celina Luna will be contacted for more specific information on which area needs trimming.

Don't Trash Harbor City Signs: Chris Sapien made a motion that the Harbor City Neighborhood Council allocate up to \$2,000 to purchase lawn signs for use in a neighborhood council program that promotes keeping Harbor City Clean and Trash Free. The motion was seconded by Grant Reed and passed with 7 yes votes, 1 no votes and 1 abstention.

Bylaws:

- Tom Houston has updated the Bylaws to fit within the DONE Template and will provide a copy to each Board member for review.
- Esther Cepeda Hatch talked about forming a Bylaws Committee that could meet and review the bylaws and then provide recommendations to the Board.
- After a short discussion, a motion was made by Esther Cepeda Hatch that the Harbor City Neighborhood Council appoint a Bylaws committee to deliberate on the bylaws and come back with possible recommendations. The motion was seconded by Janet Mercer.

- Olive Reed commented that she worked hard on the current bylaws and is not happy that they are being changed.
- Chris Sapien felt that it is “more convoluted than it needs to be.”
- Greg Donnan commented on the importance and felt that every Board member should review the Bylaws and give their individual input.
- **After discussion the motion was passed with 5 yes votes and 2 no votes.**
- Esther Cepeda Hatch and Janet Mercer volunteered to be on the committee. Lisette from DONE reviewed the current bylaws which stated that a Chair to the committee and all member to the committee need to be appointed by a simple majority of the Board. **Joyce Fredericks made a motion to appoint Esther Cepeda Hatch and Janet Mercer to the Bylaws Committee with Esther as Chair. There was no second to the motion and the motion was lost.**
- Greg Donnan commented that he felt Esther has a conflict of interest in being involved with the Bylaws Committee due to her position on the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners.

Ethics Training:

- Tom Houston announced that several board members are up for renewal of their ethics training which is required every two years.
- Lisette from DONE commented that Ethics Training is being offered by DONE in April. April 9th at the Plaza Del Sol, 1300 Pueblo del Sol in Boyle Heights at 8am, and also April 16 at the Constituents Service Center at 9am. Training includes parliamentary procedures.
- Greg Donnan asked about elections. Lisette stated that she has heard that elections may be pushed to 2013 or 2014 because there is a budget crisis.
- Greg also asked about board members in neighborhood councils in general as to whether they will be allowed to continue on a board if they have not completed their Ethics Training . Esther Cepeda Hatch responded that BONC is in the process of setting policy with regard to this issue.
- Olive Reed thinks that the Ethics Training should be more simple, especially considering that neighborhood council board members are all volunteers.

Committee Reports:

BONC: Esther reported that BONC met with the Elections Task Force with regards to the elections. She will forward more information to the board members. She also commented that there may be a 20% reduction in NC funding next year.

Treasurer: Steven Rutherford reported that the Quarterly Reports have been submitted but are not yet listed on the DONE website. Lisette offered to check into it. Steven thanked Lisette for attending tonight’s meeting.

Public Safety: Chris Sapien commented that he support the LAPD’s Lock It or Lose It Program.

Education: Raymond Moser provided a hand out with information on how the LAUSD's financial situation is affecting the school's magnet programs. He urged everyone to write to their legislators. He also announced the Open House at Dodson tomorrow, March 24th from 6-8pm.

Harbor Regional Park: Greg Donnan reported that the park is currently in bad shape and needs a lot of trash cleanup etc. He announced the upcoming Park Walk on April 2nd.

Planning/Zoning/Land Use: Jennifer Corral reported on the training she attended this past Saturday at Harbor College. She learned information that could assist the community in closing down the strip club on PCH. The main objective is to be creative. The community would need to write letters stating that they oppose having the strip club in the neighborhood. They would need to get records of the arrests and fights from the Senior Lead Officer and also find ways to attack the club's liquor license. In addition, any problems at the club should be reported and publicized in the media. In response to Greg Donnan's question as to whether she had heard anything about the expansion of Harbor College in Park property, Jennifer responded that she had not.

Program Planning: Olive is hoping to get LAPD Police Deputy Chief Gannon to a future meeting.

PCAC: Grant Reed reported that there was no quorum at the past PCAC meeting.

Public Comments:

Janet Mercer commented that she did not like the way that the developers making the land swap proposal handled themselves at the meeting. Olive Reed had spoken with the developer and gave a brief explanation.

Greg Donnan asked to be on record concerning his comments as follows: He thanked Esther Cepeda-Hatch for choosing to attend the Governing Board Meeting instead of her special BONC meeting downtown. He also thanked her for staying late at this meeting and brought up the fact that she regularly leaves the meetings early. Esther responded that she stays at the meetings until her business is done and then has to leave to take care of her child.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristina Smith
Administrative Asst to HCNC