

Harbor City Neighborhood Council Stakeholders Meeting
 Harbor City Gateway Library
 Wednesday, 5-19-10
 6:30pm

Official Minutes

Board Members	Roll Call/Attendance
Sherri Bliss	Excused
Esther Cepeda	Present
Greg Donnan	Present
Joyce Fredericks	Present
Tom Houston	Present
Chris Huie	Excused
Eric Magee	Excused
Anto Nakkashian	Present
Wu-Ping Own	Present
Grant Reed	Present
Olive Reed	Present
Christopher Sapien	Present
Rick Schuler	Present

Call to Order:

Tom Houston called the meeting to order at 6:37pm.

Roll Call: See Above. Approximately 22 stakeholders present.

Approval of Minutes: Grant Reed made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 21, 2010 Stakeholder Meeting. The motion was seconded by Wu Ping Own Fredericks and unanimously approved by the Board.

Public Comment:

Marcy Winograd: Democratic candidate running in the Primaries against Jane Harman. Talked about her platform.

LAPD Report: Officer Andre Wilkins wanted to emphasize that the community needs to stay vigilant because there is an increase in burglaries. If you see a burglary in progress call 911, even if you see something wrong that doesn't seem right, call 911. Let the police decide what is going on. Don't be afraid to call. Don't allow people in your home.

A stakeholder had a question about the LAPD fund calling by phone for donations. This began a short discussion on telephone scams. Officer Andre suggested that if anyone wants to donate to the LAPD, they should visit the station and ask for a legitimate LAPD fundraising organization. Officer Andre concluded by explaining the crime report to stakeholders.

Council Office: Celina Luna reported on the following:

Reggie and Cajun Kate

- Our friend Reggie has been paired with a new friend at the LA Zoo, Cajun Kate.
- His new home is now in the front of the zoo, near the entrance

ATSAC “Wilmington/ Harbor City”

- The ATSAC Wilmington/ Harbor City will begin in the next few months
- Upgrades in technology will be seen at all signalized intersections in the area

Sepulveda and Western Traffic Signal Timing

- The Department of Transportation is in the process of conducting a traffic study on this request.

Ken Malloy Lewd Activities

- We are working with Recreation and Parks and LAPD to place parking restrictions on that area to reduce the occurrences of those activities in the park.
- LAPD Vice will also continue to monitor the area and cite offenders.

Neighborhood Council Budget and Elections

- Neighborhood Councils will still continue to receive \$45,000 annually.
- They are also exploring no longer having the City Clerk facilitate elections
- Harbor City Neighborhood Council Elections will be held on Tuesday, June 8, 2010

Rent Stabilization

- Los Angeles City Council voted to issue a 4 month moratorium on rent increases to properties subject to rent control.
- The moratorium includes a clause for two 30-day extensions and excludes “mom and pop” landlords, those who own less than 4 units total, and one single family residence.
- The entire rent stabilization ordinance will be revisited in October or November of this year.

City Budget Highlights

- City Council approved 761 layoffs, if certain revenue criteria are not met.
- Will no longer have licensed Child Care Centers (will still have after school care)
- Free Standing City-owned Golf Courses, looking into privatizing parking lots
- Secured funding to continue to operate Day Laborer Center in Harbor City
- 50/50 Special Event Funding is still funded.
- Elimination of the Charter Bus Program
- Reduced Library Hours
- Reduction in Public Works employees (tree trimming, potholes, etc)
- Pipeline Funds not Council District specific next fiscal year (big loss for CD 15)
- Greg Donnan asked for an update on the Arizona situation.

**Questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact: Celina Luna
Community Advocate, (310) 732-4515. celina.luna@lacity.org**

Candidate Forum: President Tom encouraged all stakeholders to come out to Harbor City Recreational Center at the park on Frampton and Lomita. June 8th. 1pm-7pm. The following candidates gave statements:

Esther Cepeda-Hatch: She has enjoyed her time as a board member. This is her 7th year on the board. In addition to the HCNC she serves as a commissioner on BONC which oversees 91 neighborhood councils. She has also served on the NC Review Commission. She enjoys giving something back to her own community. (Esther left the meeting after her statement due to another obligation).

Chris Sapien: Current board member of the HCNC. He has chosen to run again. He believes that NC's are exactly what communities need. He read a written statement.

Steve Rutherford: Not present.

Joyce Fredericks: Has been on the board for a long time. Serving has been a great experience. She cares about her community and what happens to it. Also serves on other boards around the community and feels that it helps her keep a pulse on what is going on. She would like to be re-elected and continue her council work.

Grant Reed: Serving board member and involved in other organizations. He would like to continue working hard for Harbor City stakeholders.

Anto Nakkashian: One of the newer members on the board (2-1/2 yrs) and currently serving as the HCNC Treasurer. He is a property owner and a business owner in Harbor City. He has seen the ups and downs of Harbor City and wants to give back to his community. He would like to serve another term.

Greg Donnan: Newest member on the board but has always been involved in what goes on in Harbor City. He is involved with the Police advisory board, the Park advisory board, the community roundtable, and lands commission. He is a business owner and contractor and has lived in Harbor City for over 30 years. He enjoyed involved, and always tries to do his best for the stakeholders

Ray Moser: Has lived in Harbor City for 10 year and is an LAUSD middle school teacher. He currently lives between PCH and Anaheim, an area that is undergoing a lot of change. The area is still light industrial with many businesses there and it needs help. He wants to get more involved in improving the area he lives in. He asks that stakeholders please vote for him on June 8th.

Nancy Liberty Thyme: About 3 years ago she started a newspaper and she got accustomed to dealing with the board and she enjoyed it. She enjoyed her working relationship with them. She is now working with the City of LA Business Assistance Program. She has worked in Harbor City for a long time and would like to bring another level of assistance in marketing and outreach for the board.

Jennifer Corral: She has been in Harbor City for 35 years. She attended Harbor City schools. She has seen the city go through so many phases. It has grown and she really wants to help the city become more beautiful, safe and get more community involvement. She wants the memories for her children to be the same as her memories. Harbor City was safer in those days. She enjoyed helping the Board with the Grand Prix Event. She is also involved with Tri City Sports. She loves giving back to the community.

Karlheinz Halter: Has lives in HC for 20 years. He has been trying to get on the board since 2006 and is hoping to get elected so that he can bring his experience to this neighborhood council.

Olive Reed: Has been on the Board since 2007. She commented, “It has been challenging, sometimes as a board we don’t agree but we always try to think about what the community needs.” Her goal is to get some signs around Harbor City so people know when they are in this town. She has lived here for 40 years and is a “legal” immigrant! She was active in Narbonne when her son attended. She has strong feelings about what is going on right now and would like to be involved in getting things sorted out. As a nurse, she has a connection with management at the local hospitals.

Janet Mercer: Grew up in Harbor City and attended the local schools. She has worked for the courts in the area for 22 years and is currently in Long Beach. What they do at the court affects the community. She served on the round table and is working on getting a PAB Board at Harbor City Park.

Wu Ping Own: He has been a business owner for 23 years in Harbor City and has a very deep tie to the community. He gets upset that the property values in Harbor City are less than surrounding cities. He no longer has a business here but is a landlord. He wants to continue to fight to serve the community. He wants people to know that this town is a better town than it used to be. We have to take charge of our own communities and work together to bring the image up. In 2002 he created a Harbor City Business Coalition to get the businesses to help improve the image of Harbor City. He was instrumental in getting the Board to put flags on PCH to give the community a sense of pride. He would like to be re-elected to continue his work in improving this community.

Tom Houston: He has been on the board since the original inception and has been President for four years. He lives in Green Meadows and commented that if you like what he has done, vote for him!

Joeann Valle: Not in attendance.

Emma Castillo: She was born in Harbor City, raised in Wilmington, went to school in SP and Wilmington and now works in Harbor City. She believes working together with neighboring cities is the way to get things done. She is running for the Board because she cares about the community. Her company is working with Clean truck programs. She wants to get connected with the community to know their needs.

Public Comment:

Grant Reed: Is the Board going to make a statement related to Arizona. Grant does not feel we should politicize ourselves. He feels that if we are upset about these types of issues we should write a personal letter.

Liberty commented that if the Board gets backing from the stakeholders then it would be good to pass a message along.

Ping Own feels that the City of LA has no business to tell Arizona what to do.

Karlheinz Halter agrees and feels we should send a letter to Hahn.

Grant Reed made a Motion that the Harbor City Neighborhood Council draft a letter to all members of the City Council expressing displeasure with the City Council for getting involved in something they should not be involved in. The specific wording of the letter to be decided at the Governing Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Chris Sapien.

During discussion it was commented that the letter should stress the need for the City Council to focus on city work because that is what we elected the City Council for. There was also a comment that we express our interest in that which is mostly near and dear to us, specifically those conditions in the area of Los Angeles called Harbor City.

The discussion continued in length and one stakeholder commented that we should keep our focus during the meetings on correcting those conditions in Harbor City that need addressing.

Greg Donnan talked about what we get from Arizona, electricity and water, and they have the right to shut some of these off. It is a Federal Law. **Once the discussion ended, the Board voted unanimously in favor of passing the motion.**

Grant Reed asked that the following article be included in the minutes as part of the record:

***Help for the world: Harbor City.** Samantha Dizon and Alise Murray, seniors at Narbonne High School, in March organized a campus music and dance benefit for disaster victims. Performers included the Carnegie Middle School Drill Team, hip-hop dance troupe Future Shock Los Angeles, Polynesian dancers Tupulaga and local bands The Shepherd's Son and Robot Pirate Island. The program raised more than \$2,000.*

Committee Reports:

Communications: Olive talked about the community members who do a lot of work making sure our kids in the community are safe coming home from school.

Friends of the Library: There was a comment that due to budget cuts, the library has shorter hours and less books.

Treasurer: Flags were approved again.

City Services: No report.

Community Safety: Complaint about some young Narbonne area residents who were riding their quads and dirt bikes through the neighborhood at 1:30am and again at 2:30am. LAPD could not respond because it was a busy night. The Harbor LAPD station advised Chris Sapien to call 911. Stakeholder also talked about fight clubs in the alleys after school involving students and asked what we as a community can do about it. The area behind “Rallys” was said to be a specific problem area. It was suggested that someone take pictures of the students and turn them in to the school.

Emergency Preparedness: Ping emphasized that a large earthquake is eminent in the future and we should all be prepared. There is a fault line right under Harbor City. Ping also provided the number to the LAPD operator at the communications center 213-928-8223.

HANC (Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils): No report.

Harbor Regional Park: It was reported that there was another fire on Friday but not as bad as the previous two. Arson is suspected. The park personnel and volunteers are also working on the people in SE corner of park. It was commented that they may be losing the park director due to budget cuts but they are still working on events such as Heal The Bay.

PCAC (Port Community Advisory Committee): The PCAC is trying to get more support from the Port and is cleaning up old PCAC business such as motions etc.

Planning/Zoning/Land Use: 7-11 going in on PCH and 110 Freeway. It will be a combination 7-11 and gas station. Western and Sepulveda has a new one too.

Neighborhood Cleanups: Tom Houston reported that there are no more neighborhood clean ups but community members can call as often as every week for big item pickup.

Thank You's: A stakeholder thanked the Board members for their hard work. Ping thanked Darrell and Dorothy Jenkins & the other stakeholders for their consistent help with the safety of school kids.

Meeting adjourned at 8:43pm. Next month the meeting will continue to be at the Kaiser Conference Center.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristina Smith
Admin Asst to HCNC