

Harbor City Neighborhood Council Stakeholders Meeting
 Kaiser Conference Center
 Wednesday, 7-21-10
 6:30pm

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	Present
Wu-Ping Own	Present
Grant Reed	Present
Olive Reed	Present
Craig S. Rutherford	Present
Christopher Sapien	Present

Call to Order:

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

Roll Call: All newly elected board members were present (see above). Approximately 45-50 stakeholders present.

LAPD Report: Sr. Lead Officer Andrey Wilkins gave a crime report for 6/23/10 through 7/19/10. He explained the legend on the report so that stakeholders could understand the symbols used to represent what type of crimes occurred in specific areas. He mentioned three suspects who were arrested in connection with crimes in Harbor City but with no witnesses able to identify them actually committing the crimes, they were subsequently released. However, since their arrest crime is down in the area. Officer Wilkins also explained that reported crimes are the only crimes shown on the report. He explained why crimes do not sometimes show up on the report and also explained why there are often delays in responding to citizens' calls. The crime report will be placed on our HCNC website. Board member Joyce Fredericks asked about obtaining Neighborhood Watch signs.

Report from Councilwoman Hahn's Office:

INTRODUCTION:

Janice Hahn expressed how happy she was to be invited to attend the meeting and swear in the new Board. She commented that her representative from the Council Office, Celina Luna, enjoys working with the Harbor City NC. Ms. Hahn enjoys hearing through Celina about the

concerns and issues of this community and hopes that the Board and stakeholders will continue to communicate with her office.

Councilwoman Hahn commented on several of the projects and events that the HCNC has sponsored or participated in. She appreciates working with the stakeholders to improve their community and stated that she loves the neighborhood council system. In fact, she was one of the ones who championed the idea of Neighborhood Councils when she was on the charter reform commission in 1997. She strongly believes that Neighborhood Councils are critical and important. It is not “an experiment that is going to fail.” She thinks that it is one of the greatest movements in democracy that she has ever seen in her life.

THE COUNCILWOMAN’S COMMENTS ON D.O.N.E.:

Ms. Hahn stated that in her position on the city government she is always trying to cut the red tape for Neighborhood Councils. She did not like the Mayor’s proposal to combine the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) with the CDD. DONE was created solely to empower Neighborhood Councils. They are looking at keeping DONE as a stand-alone department and have approved five more positions. DONE initially had a staff of 43 which during budget cuts was cut to 18. There is now a staff of 23 to serve 90 Neighborhood Councils. She feels that the first priority of DONE is education and training, and the second is outreach and marketing.

PAST AND UPCOMING PROJECTS:

The Councilwoman commented on the recent work slurry sealing the roads in Old Town Harbor City and the new playground equipment installed at Ken Malloy, as well as the upgrades in the restrooms at the park. Prop O money will be coming into the Park and will be used to improve water quality, as well as camp grounds. There are plans for new upgrades at the Harbor City Recreational Center. \$143,000 has been allocated for improvements to that facility, as well as improvement to the outdoor park area and landscaping. There will be upgrading of the gymnasium, child care center, the sports field lighting and of the irrigation. The Dodger Dream Foundation has agreed to make upgrades to the baseball fields. She stated that as a community we want to invest in the right kinds of projects. Janice will continue to depend on us to work with those who propose projects. Our challenge is to have the best possible project to reflect the character of the neighborhood. It appears that the economy is picking up and a good indicator is that cargo in the Port is up 36%. (The highest June in history). This is a great sign! It is a great indicator that things are picking up. Hopefully we can attract more dollars to Los Angeles.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

During the Question and Answer period, stakeholders and board members commented on several issues and Councilwoman Hahn responded. Some of those issues included:

- Negative feedback from city officials related to the Harbor City Regional Park and questions asked about Quimby funds. (Janice responded that community members should be able to access City Departments, City Personnel, Department Managers etc. to get information. She hates hearing stories where city officials treat the community members disrespectfully. She states that city employees should respond to the citizens just as they respond to the Councilwoman. They should be thankful that the community

wants to get involved. They need to be reminded that they are in public service and are here to serve the public.)

- Trash pickup problems
- Illegal Dumping (Janice commented that there is a reward program for the reporting offenders.)
- Trailer Park problems
- USS Iowa. (Janice is a great supporter of the ship coming here. It would be a tourist attraction.)
- Boycott of Arizona (Janice responded that many cities, not just LA, has taken a stand feeling that this is a violation of people's civil rights. She also stated that the Federal Government needs immigration reform. She does not think NC's should limit themselves and can send resolutions to the President, to Congress etc. if they feel strongly about an issue.)
- Welcome to Harbor City signs. (Janice was pleased with the idea of signs and will assist the neighborhood council with this issue).
- Pilot Program on Recreational Vehicles (oversized vehicle and overnight parking). (Janice commented that the boundaries are being increased and the program is going well. Many people want it city wide. The sooner the better.)

Installation of 2010/2011 Harbor City Neighborhood Council Governing Board:

Councilwoman Janice Hahn was in attendance to install the 2010/2011 Governing Board of the Harbor City Neighborhood Council. The board members were asked to stand and repeat the oath of office. Councilwoman Hahn then congratulated the newly installed Board Members and thanked them for volunteering and participating in their local Neighborhood Council.

Election of 2010-2011 Exective Officers:

President Tom explained the need for the Board to vote in the Executive Officers due to an invalid election at the last Governing Board meeting.

PRESIDENT: Wu Ping Own nominated Tom Houston and Grant Reed nominated Olive Reed. Tom Houston received the majority of votes and was re-elected President.

VICE PRESIDENT: Greg Donnan nominated Olive Reed. There were no other nominations. The Board voted unanimously in favor of Olive Reed as Vice President.

SECRETARY: Greg Donnan nominated Joyce Fredericks as Secretary. There were no other nominations. The Board voted unanimously in favor of Joyce Fredericks as Secretary.

TREASURER: Greg nominated Steven Rutherford: There were no other nominations. The Board voted unanimously in favor of Steven Rutherford as Treasurer.

PARLIAMENTARIAN: Greg Donnan nominated Grant Reed. Chris Sapien was also nominated. Grant Reed received the majority of votes and was elected Parliamentarian.

Approval of Minutes: There was a motion by Grant Reed to approve the minutes of the June 16, 2010 Stakeholder Meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Anto Nakkasian and passed by unanimous vote of the Board.

Public Comment:

LADWP: Jeffrey Childers introduced himself as the DWP representative to the neighborhood councils. A handout of the latest budget was provided. He explained his role as the DWP

representative stating that he also works with the council office. Wu Ping Own asked about a Tour the Owen Valley which has been made available in the past. Mr. Childers commented that they hope that the tour is reinstated because it gives everyone the bigger picture of our water system. He also commented that our water rates with the DWP are the second lowest rates in the state. There were several questions from Board Members and stakeholder and Mr. Childers provided answers.

Greg Donnan commented on problems between Panda Express and the adjacent topless bar. Grant Reed suggested that we write a letter. This will be listed as an Action Item on the Governing Board Meeting Agenda. Greg also announced the upcoming Highway One Block Party scheduled for August 21st. His third issue was about board members leaving early or not showing up and would like to have a discussion on this problem at the Governing Board Meeting.

Committee Reports:

BONC (Board of Neighborhood Commissioners): Esther Cepeda explained the purpose of the BONC to the stakeholders. She has been reappointed by the mayor to serve on that Board for another two years. The BONC Commissioners serve in an advisory capacity to DONE. There are approximately 7 “unincorporated” areas remaining in the City of LA that could be served by NCs. Some of which have petitioned to be certified. The BONC sets policy for the NCs and is currently undergoing several town hall meetings to discuss possible standardization of Bylaws. Dealing with grievances will be part of this process. DONE handles Board orientation and training and please see the upcoming schedule. There are over 1600 NC board members across the city and all are required to take the mandated ethics training.

Budget/Finance: Steven Rutherford reported that he has met with Anto and will be taking the Treasurer training soon.

City Services: Helping Businesses on PCH

Public Safety: No report.

Education: Summer school at Narbonne will create traffic issues.

Emergency Preparedness: No report.

Friends of the Library: Leonard provided a flyer with the new hours of the library. The flyer also showed the upgrades to the landscaping.

Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils: Tom Houston commented that HANC is not for standardizing the bylaws.

Harbor City Recreation Park Advisory Board: Janet Mercer reported that the PAB is still in the process of being formed. She announced that the park is putting on a Movie Night on August 20th at 7pm.

Harbor Regional Park: Greg Donnan reported that Joyce Fredericks was voted the vice president of the PAB. Joanne Valle is President. Greg also mentioned that they have a new director, Bryan Lam. He commented on changes in the Prop O Project. They were going to drain lake but now they are going to do the dredging while its full.

Outreach/Communications: No report.

Planning/Zoning/Land Use: No report

Program Planning: There are plans to have a presentation by an LAPD Helicopter pilot next month. A presentation on Quimby funds will be considered for a future date, as well as a presentation on the USS Iowa. Olive talked about the USS Iowa proposed project and what a great asset this would be for the community. She also commented that the School District would like to do a presentation in August or September.

Port Community Advisory Committee: Grant reported that there are quite a few things on the table and he will provide a full report at the next meeting.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:01pm

Respectfully submitted,

Kristina Smith
Admin Asst to HCNC