

Harbor City Neighborhood Council Stakeholders Meeting  
 Kaiser Conference Center  
 Wednesday, 11-17-10  
 6:30pm

### Official Minutes

<b>Board Members</b>	<b>Roll Call/Attendance</b>
Jennifer Corral	Present
Esther Cepeda	Present (left 8:07pm)
Joyce Fredericks	Present
Greg Donnan	Excused
Tom Houston	Present
Janet Mercer	Present
Raymond Moser	Present
Anto Nakkashian	Excused
Wu-Ping Own	Excused
Grant Reed	Present
Olive Reed	Present
Christopher Sapien	Present
Steven Rutherford	Present

#### **Call to Order:**

Tom Houston called the meeting to order at 6:37pm. There were over 100 stakeholders in attendance.

**Roll Call:** See Above.

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Grant Reed to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2010 Meeting. The motion was seconded by Joyce Fredericks and unanimously approved by the Board.

**LAPD Report:** Officer Wilkins was not available to provide a report.

**District 15 Report:** Celina Luna from Councilwoman Janice Hahn's office thanked those who were attending the neighborhood council meeting for the first time and invited them to return to future meetings. Celina also reported on the following:

#### **Harbor City Pines Community Renaming:**

- After the presentation this evening, the Council File will be forwarded to the Los Angeles City Council's Education and Neighborhoods Committee for consideration.
- If approved by that committee, it will be placed on the agenda item for full City Council approval.

#### **Idling Trucks Near Normont Elementary School**

- The Council Office has been receiving complains that there are idling trucks near

Normont Elementary School. DOT, LAUSD and the Council office will be meeting to discuss signage and ways to better enforce that area.

#### **Meeting Location**

- Although the Harbor City Library closes early on Wednesdays, the HCNC can elect to pay for the security service to utilize the meeting room for the Neighborhood Council Meetings.

#### **Storm Watch and Flooding Concerns**

- The Council office met with the Bureau of Sanitation Wastewater Collection to talk about preventative measures to avoid area flooding.
- There are no designated storm watch areas in Harbor City, but every storm drain is cleaned proactively at least twice a year.

#### **Ballot Measures**

- Celina discussed some of the proposals for measures which might be considered on the March 2011 ballot. They include taxing medical marijuana; an oil extraction tax; and a Library Ballot Measure (which would give libraries a larger share of the city's property tax revenue.)
- Announcement of Councilwoman Hahn's Holiday Party and Tree lighting ceremony scheduled for December 2, 2010 at the San Pedro Municipal Building.

**Presentation on Harbor City Pines Neighborhood Petition for name change:** Michael Cooley, a resident of Harbor Pines, was the spokesperson for the group and gave some background information on the petition. The group met with the City of Los Angeles (Celina from the Councilwoman's office) and was given instructions on how to proceed with a proposed name change. In response to a question as to why the group was seeking a name change, Mr. Cooley commented that the tree lined streets in the Pines area drove the name change. Other cities which successfully changed their names were mentioned and included Athens on the Hill and Toluca Lake. For such a name change, over 500 signatures are needed. The Harbor Pines group secured 540. A lot of people support it. Mr. Cooley answered questions from the board members and stakeholders. Questions and comments included:

- Would the residents be able to use the name Harbor Pines, CA as the mailing address? Response: Yes, because the zip code would remain the same.
- Does such a name change take anything away from the City of LA? Response: No, the area would still be governed by the City.
- What are the benefits? Response: The new name would distinguish the area which has over 90% single family residences. That percentage makes the area a good target for a designation of this type.
- What are the borders of the area in question? Response: Street borders are North of PV North Drive, South of Anaheim, down to the Five Points area, the East side of Western not including the Lomita Pines portion. The area includes the PV Mobile Home Park.
- Who would pay for the Harbor Pines signs? Cooley responded that they would pay for the signs. They are only seeking approval of the name change from the Harbor City Neighborhood Council.
- Board member Olive Reed commented that this issue has brought a lot of people

out to the Neighborhood Council meeting to get involved and that is good. The Neighborhood Council is here to serve the people.

After the presentation and discussion, a motion was made by Janet Mercer to accept the petition to name the area Harbor Pines. The motion was seconded by Grant Reed and passed with 6 yes votes, 1 no votes and 1 abstention.

**Public Comment:**

**Carmen Trutanich:** Los Angeles City Attorney Carmen Trutanich, also a resident of Harbor Pines, commented that he is proud to be a resident of Harbor City, a city which has been overlooked for a long time. He is supportive of the name change because he feels that this creates an individual distinction and adds to the cultural flavor of the area. He also commented that so much is going on in terms of quality of life that affects the South Bay and he assured the stakeholders that he is vigilant to be sure Harbor City gets the protection it needs. Nuisance property owners and gang issues will be abated.

Trutanich talked about how budget cuts have affected his office. There are no more neighborhood prosecutors and they are down to 490 lawyer from the original 640 when he took office. He has not hired one person, not even a secretary or receptionist in the 16 months he has been there because his budget doesn't warrant him replacing people who leave. His predecessor had a 117 million dollar budget, his budget is down to 78 million and payroll alone is \$94 million. He talked about law suits against the city and how his predecessor had spent 37 million a year in outside counsel. Last year they spent only 12 million dollars on outside counsel and have created a new program utilizing Reserve Deputy City Attorneys. These are law school graduates who work for free in order to gain work experience. They work for 6 months and then follow up by working 12 days a year. The program has been very successful with the Reserve Attorney's winning 80% of their cases. His office has a number one priority of public safety.

Trutanich also made comments on various other issues including medical marijuana and billboard taxing.

**Other public comments included:**

- Traffic problem at Five Points. West on Anaheim. Celina will look into it.
- An issue at Lomita and Frampton where an individual is fixing and selling cars. The streets are dirty.
- An increase of shoes hanging over electric/telephone wires. Two on Anaheim, one near Senator and one by Belle Porte.
- A thank you to the Board for all their hard work to improve the community.
- Olive Reed publicly thanked Leonard Duncan for his commitment and work to keep the neighborhood clean.
- There was a request for a possible plaque in honor of George Becker. This item will be put on the agenda for the governing board meeting.

**Committee Reports:** The following committees gave brief reports:

**Friends of the Library:** Leonard Duncan passed out a schedule of activities at the library. Activities are financed by the book sales.

**Harbor Regional Park:** Joyce said they are preparing to build condominiums behind Five Points. These park side view units are in the planning stages.

**Program Planning:** There will not be a Stakeholder meeting in December. In January Dr. Vladovic, LAUSD board member, will give an update.

**PCAC (Port Community Advisory Committee):** Grant Reed attended the November 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. He commented on the action item in support of the USS IOWA and its placement at Beth 87 which was passed by unanimous vote by the PCAC. PCAC is dark in December.

**Holiday Lights Contest:** Holiday lights contest. Tom Houston announced the contest and encouraged all residents to participate. The board has tentatively scheduled the date of Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> for judging.

**Public Announcement:** Joann Valle talked about the upcoming Santa Parade and made other comments related to the Chamber of Commerce. The recent Free Health Screening was very successful. 87 people receive eye exams.

**Adjournment:** Chris Sapien made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Joyce Fredericks and approved unanimously by the Board. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristina Smith  
Admin Asst to HCNC