

Harbor City Neighborhood Council Stakeholder Meeting Minutes  
 Harbor City Library  
 Wednesday, 09-21-11  
 6:00pm

### Official Minutes

<b>Board Members</b>	<b>Roll Call/Attendance</b>
Jennifer Corral	Present
Esther Cepeda	Present
Joyce Fredericks	Present
Greg Donnan	Excused
Tom Houston	Present
Janet Mercer	Excused
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:

President Olive Reed called the meeting to order at 6:06pm.

**Roll Call:** See Above. A quorum was reached. Approximately 40 stakeholders present.

**Approval of Minutes:** Grant Reed moved that the Board approve the minutes of the August 17, 2011 meeting, seconded by Joyce Fredericks. The motion was passed with 8 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 2 abstentions.

**Report from LAPD:** Officer Andre Wilkins reported on the following:

- Problems with burglaries from motor vehicles continue. Most vehicles are unlocked and property is in view on the front seats. The community is urged to remind neighbors to lock up their valuables and keep them out of sight.
- GTA's (Grand Theft Auto) have also been a problem in the Harbor City area. It was mentioned that many of the cars were left unlocked by the vehicle owners.
- Chris Sapien commented that he has seen an increase in "junk collecting" trucks in the area. He also asked for clarification on which LAPD number should be used to report theft from trash cans. 1-800-ASK-LAPD
- Officer Wilkins reminded stakeholders when it was appropriate to call 9-1-1.
- There was a stakeholder comment on racial tensions within Harbor Village .
- Grant Reed commented on a rowdy car club group last weekend at Harbor Regional Park that was utilizing the park without a permit.
- A stakeholder commented on drug activity in his neighborhood.
- Officer Wilkins provided his cell phone number 310-869-2106.

**Council District 15 Report:** Celina Luna reported on the following:

- Those who attended the Prop O Update Meeting were thanked.
- A timeline on the Wilmington Drain Project and Machado Lake Project was provided.
- Homeless Task Force has been successful in Ken M alloy Harbor Regional Park.
- Mosquito abatement spraying has been completed.
- HCNC Funding items: The Boys and Girls Club has received the necessary papers to complete and then the check should be issued. The Narbonne Band uniforms request is still being processed.
- Golf cart funding: Narbonne has not received their check and DONE will work on getting a new one issued. The check will be personally delivered to Celina.
- Harbor City Recreation Center Upgrades: Final details are being worked on for restroom modifications at the “Senior Room”.
- In the absence of a Councilperson for CD15, stakeholders are urged to advocate for agenda items to be placed on the City Council agenda.
- Council District 15 Candidate Forum is planned for October 22<sup>nd</sup> at Harbor College.
- Chris Sapien and Cathy Houston were thanked for participating in the community drive around with Celina.
- Oversized parking signs on Frampton Avenue will be installed in the next 60 days.
- Signs are not currently scheduled for Belle Porte Avenue. The HCNC is requested to send a letter of support to Crystal Killian at the Department of Transportation.
- A Harbor Village resident thanked Celina for her assistance in issues at that location.
- There was a stakeholder request for the city to consider putting in a handicapped ramp at the Southwest corner of 242<sup>nd</sup> Street by the school.

**Public Comment:**

**Esther Cepeda-Hatch:** Commented on her resignation as Commissioner on the Board of Harbor Commissioners. Thanked the Board for their support during her service on that Board.

**Ken Melendez:** Introduced himself as President of the Shadowbrook HOA, as well as President of the Port Community Advisory Committee. He is no longer running for the office of CD15, and announced his support of Jayme Wilson as candidate for that position.

**Jayme Wilson:** Gave a brief statement about his platform stating that he is not using any public funds to run his campaign. He has been a community volunteer most of his adult life. He is strongly involved in serving the community and works with many organizations, such as the CRA, to improve the Harbor Area.

**Joe Buscaino:** Introduced himself and talked about his family ties to the Harbor Area. He is also running for City Council and his goal, if elected, is to make sure the Harbor Area gets its fair share of city services. With his experience as a police officer, he

stressed the importance of creating programs for parolees to keep them from continuing criminal behavior. He also supports small businesses and green tech jobs. He is a strong supporter of keeping families in our community healthy and safe.

**Assemblyman Warren Furutani:** Talked about recent assembly bills being presented to the Governor. Furutani is also running for the LA City Council because he wants to work on quality of life issues for the CD15 communities.

**Gordon Teuber:** Introduced himself as a candidate for City Council. He is a Harbor Area resident and his family has lived in the San Pedro area for 100 years. He has worked with a lot of businesses in the Harbor Area. The Ponte Vista project is also an issue he hopes to keep under control.

**Irving Pacheco:** Introduced himself as the representative for the Harbor area from State Senator Ted Leiu's office. He can be reached at 310-318-6994.

### **Presentation:**

**Found Animals Foundation:** Jennifer Brent gave a presentation on the Found Animals Foundation, a privately funded nonprofit organization. Highlights from her presentation follow:

- The mission of the foundation is to reduce animal care center euthanasia in Los Angeles through sustainable programs ([www.foundanimals.org](http://www.foundanimals.org)).
- Between 3-4 million animals are euthanized each year in the United States.
- Animal care has a huge fiscal impact.
- The organization funds places like Clinico, which provides high quality low cost sterilization for cats, dogs and rabbits.
- They also fund "FixNation", a program dedicated to cats with a focus on feral felines, as well as Spay-4-LA which provides free sterilization to specific animals.
- Through Michelson Prize & Grants they have received \$50 million in grants and are offering a \$25 million prize to find a non-surgical "sterilant" for cats and dogs.
- They provide Micro-chipping for pet identification and provide microchip clinics for the public.
- They also have adoption events and a cat adoption center in Downey.
- One fundraiser is a calendar which can be purchased on line called "6 Packs 9 Lives". The calendar features men who own cats.

**Promises Neighborhood Planning Grant Proposal (LA Harbor College):** Grant Reed reported on the event he attended at the college. Susan McMurray, Academic Senate President at Harbor College was also in attendance to provided additional information which included:

- The college is in competition with Wilmington for the limited grants available.
- The Promises Neighborhood Planning Program would look at the various feeder schools in the area because students begin to have problems during the transition from elementary to middle school.
- The students need to be shown a positive future and the college teams up with the schools to start positive programs.

- Being awarded the grant would help the college to sustain the programs.

**Additional Public Comments:**

- Ken Melendez talked about his neighborhood cleanup efforts.
- Jackie (stakeholder) commented on weeds growing on the median on Western in the Torrance area. Tom Houston commented that the City of LA is in charge of the median.
- Chris Sapien talked about a business owner who voluntarily landscaped a portion of the street where his business is to provide some beautification to the area. Chris will be making a motion in the future to recognize this business owner with a certificate of appreciation.
- A stakeholder commented on a sidewalk on Western (in front of Narbonne High) that has buckled between 247<sup>th</sup> Street and 242<sup>nd</sup> Place. It was suggested that this might fall under the Safe School Act and get quick attention from the city if reported.

**Committee Reports:**

No specific reports were presented. Raymond Moser commented that school is back in session and that John Vladovich, the son of LAUSD Board Member Richard Vladovic, is the new principal at Dodson.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:34pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristina Smith  
Admin Asst to HCNC