

Harbor City Neighborhood Council Stakeholder Meeting Minutes
 Harbor City Harbor Gateway Public Library
 Wednesday, January 21, 2015; 6:00pm

Official Minutes

Board Members	Roll Call
Eric Deklotz	Present
Kayla Domingo	Present
Greg Donnan	Present
Joyce Fredericks	Present
Brandii Grace	Present
John T. Gonzalez	Present
Wayne McGee	Present
Raymond Moser	Present
Grant Reed	Present
Olive Reed	Present
Rohan Sourjah	Present
Hayes E. Thrower	Present
Joeann Valle	Present

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 6:02 pm by President Ray Moser. Quorum of 11 board members present during roll call, 2 board members arrived after 6:20pm. Total quorum of 13. Approximately 35+ stakeholders in attendance.
2. **Swearing in of board members:** Board Members Olive Reed, Kayla Domingo and Wayne McGee were sworn by City of Los Angeles Neighborhood Prosecutor Lauren Halligan.

Reports from First Responders

3. **LAPD:** Senior Lead Office Art Ashcraft reported on the following:
 - a. There were 47 total crimes reported for the month of December.
 - b. A new unit will be deployed by Harbor Division targeting quality of life issues with the homeless.
 - c. The Los Angeles Homeless Services Agency (LAHSA) will be holding a Homeless Count Event next Wednesday and volunteers are needed.
 - d. Wayne McGee reported that there is an increased presence of motorhomes parked in the areas of 253rd, 252nd, and Petroleum.
 - e. John Gonzalez reported on areas where homeless individuals are sleeping in the bushes. He also reported on illegally parked boats.
 - f. Officer Ashcraft's Contact Information: Cell 310-869-2106 email 34536@lapd.lacity.org

Reports from Government Officials:

4. **Council District 15: Gabby Medina reported on the following:**
 - a. **Homeless Population update.** The Council Office is working with the LAPD, The City Attorney, LAHSA and other organizations to address the homeless problem which has been neglected for many years. Monthly meetings, led by Harbor Interfaith, will be held to address the needs of the homeless.
 - b. **Prop O Update:** Tours of the Prop O Project are available to show those interested in the status of construction at Harbor Regional Park.
 - c. **ILWU:** Joe Buscaino supports the ILWU. There will be a march tomorrow at 5pm at Catalina Terminal right under the Vincent Thomas Bridge.

- d. **Public Access Funding Policy meetings held by the Port of LA:** Tomorrow is a meeting in Wilmington and next Tuesday there will be a meeting in San Pedro at the Warner Grand to provide information to the community on the Port's Public Access Funding Policy.
 - e. Additional information from CD15 was provided in a written report handed out to board members and stakeholders. This included legislative Updates and Upcoming Events. This report will be made available on the HCNC website (www.harborcitync.com).
- 5. State Assembly office:** Chris Wilson, representative from the office of newly elected State Assembly Member Mike Gipson, was introduced. He previously worked for Bonnie Lowenthal. They represent the portion of Harbor City near the 110 freeway between Vermont and Figueroa. The Assembly Office wants to be a resource to the community. Gipson was elected last year and served for almost 10 years on the Carson City Council. He is representing the 64th Assembly District. They can be reached at office number 310-223-1201 (ask for Chris Wilson).
- 6. Harbor College:**
- a. Susan McMurray from Harbor College reported that the Accreditation Midterm Report has been submitted. The college now has a new Chancellor and really exciting things are happening in the district.
 - b. Susan announced that Vice President Joe Biden will be at West LA College on Friday. This is the one community college that got their proposal for a bachelor's degree program approved.
 - c. Harbor College is struggling with bond issues. They have to make hard decisions in the next few months. Enrollment is going well, they don't anticipate making any cuts.
- 7. Presentation: Lauren Halligan; Neighborhood Prosecutor.**
- a. Halligan announced two events being sponsored by the City Attorney's Office.
 - i. On January 27, 8:30-4pm there will be a Senior Cyber Safety symposium at the California Endowment Center.
 - ii. On Saturday, January 31st, there will be a community forum on immigration at Mt. Saint Mary's University. The subject will be how to protect yourself from being defrauded if you are an immigrant.
 - b. Halligan announced that Christian Conlin from the City Attorney's office is working on medical marijuana issues in the south area. She reported that there are 3 current cases pending in the area: Herbal Solutions on Western, Sunrise Caregivers on PCH and Piece of Green on Vermont. These are not amongst the legitimate facilities that were approved by Prop D. Lauren's email is: lauren.halligan@lacity.org.
- 8. Presentation:** There was a presentation scheduled on the agenda related to approval of a Request for Extension in Hours by the Coffee Bean (Storm Shopping Center), however, there was no representative in attendance at the meeting.
- 9. Budget/Finance Committee Report** – Olive Reed, Treasurer gave an overview of the HCNC finances. She will be visiting the DONE offices next week to get the paperwork sorted out.

Reports from Meeting Representatives:

- 10. HANC (Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils):** Greg Donnan attended the HANC meeting and reported that the main topic at the meeting was a presentation by the Department of Transportation's General Manager Seleta Reynolds on their strategic plan. Other items discussed included changes to the NC Funding Program being made by DONE (Department of Neighborhood Empowerment) such as shorter forms to fill out and an increase in the daily bank limit to \$1,000. Greg also commented on the Homeless Count event next week where volunteers will be walking the Harbor City neighborhoods to count the amount of homeless individuals.
- 11. NCPAC:** No Report.

12. Harbor Regional Park PAB (Park Advisory Board)

- a. Greg Donnan reported that the park is closed and fenced off but there continues to be a problem with homeless individuals cutting the locks and entering the gates. There is also a problem with homeless individuals under the bridge. Greg will be helping with the homeless count at the park next Wednesday.
- b. Board members went on a tour of the park to view the progress of the Prop O project.
- c. Susan McMurray from Harbor College commented that the company doing the construction has been wonderful.

13. Friends of the Library – Grant Reed reported that the Friends of the Library Group will soon be requesting funding support from the HCNC for their library programs.

Reports from Committee Chairs:

14. Education/Youth – Hayes Thrower reported they are in the process of sponsoring, along with the Lions Club, the Student Speakers Contest. This year's theme is "Water Conversation, How Can we Reduce, Recycle and Reclaim." The contest is scheduled for February 7, 2-4pm, at the Boys and Girls Club on Normandie and 256th. Four high schools are being drawn from to get kids to participate. Hayes also commented on the library books that the HCNC funded for Narbonne.

15. DONE Report. Tom Soong, representative from the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, updated the stakeholders on the role of this department:

- a. The Role of DONE is to help oversee board development and provide assistance and help with funding. The department's staff has been cut. Tom addressed the stakeholders about participating in the Neighborhood Council process.
- b. BONC (Board of Neighborhood Commissioners): The Mayor appoints the seven commissioners based on the seven planning areas. Victor Medina is the rep for our area. Tom reminded everyone to visit the empowerla.org website to see the information that is available.
- c. Changes were made to the NC funding documents. Purchase card has been increased to \$1,000 per day. NPG's will now be a two page document. The funding request form will also be shorter. This should be implemented soon. The City Attorney will be asked to do a legal roundtable for the board members. Hopefully in the next couple of months.
- d. Deadline to submit bylaws amendments is May 1, 2015.
- e. BONC created a policy regarding a Code of Conduct and all board members are being asked to sign that Code of Conduct. The deadline to comply has been extended to April.

16. Outreach – Brandi Grace reported:

- a. The committee is working to get increased participation by stakeholders and to keep stakeholders informed.
- b. Holiday Lights event was a great outreach for the HCNC.
- c. A list of proposed future events will be submitted to the Board for review.
- d. The Homeless Count event next week is important to get more resources to solve the problem in our community.

17. Public Safety

- a. Greg Donnan read a list of comments related to Public Safety.
- b. LAPD Harbor Division has been working on better response times and improved front desk help. Violent crimes in our area are up. Auto thefts are also up but people are still not locking their cars.
- c. Olive Reed talked about the Jail at Harbor Division and the letters that the Board wrote about getting the jail opened and also about having officers moved out of the Harbor Area.

18. Planning/Zoning/Land Use – Joeann Valle reported that the Storm Shopping Center wanted to bring in Coffee Bean but there is a problem on the CUP for the hours of operation. They want to extend the

CUP Hours. The Board is being asked to support them.

19. By Laws: No report. A meeting will be held in the near future.

20. Old Business:

- a. Christmas Lights Contest Winners: Brandii Grace talked about the contest. The winners will be posted on the website.
- b. Minimum Wage Meetings: The Chamber is collecting surveys from businesses as to the affect the Minimum wage will be having on them. After April there should be more information. If it doesn't go before the City Council, then it might be on a future ballot.
- c. Discuss Monthly Paper Allotment at local schools. \$100/month x 5 (possible action): No action taken. This will be addressed at the Governing Board Meeting.
- d. Discuss proposed program of murals on Electric Boxes in Harbor City. This will be addressed at the Governing Board Meeting.

21. New Business:

- a. Harbor Environmental Summit - 1/30/15 - 9:00am - Bannings Landing
- b. Two community meetings are being held by the Port of LA to address the Port's Public Access Funding Policy. The details can be found on the Port's website.
- c. Pocket Parks in Harbor City: There are two very good locations on 259th Street and Bellporte/Anaheim corner. This will be addressed further at a future meeting.

22. Approval of Minutes of November 2014 Stakeholder Meeting: Motion by Greg Donnan to approve the November 2014 Stakeholder Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion seconded by Hayes Thrower and approved with 11 yes votes (Deklotz, Domingo, Donnan, Fredericks, Grace, Gonzalez, McGee, Sourjan, Thrower, Valley, G. Reed), 0 no votes, 2 abstentions (O. Reed & R. Moser).

23. Public Comment on Non-Agenda item:

- a. **Luis Valentan, Day Labor Center rep:** Showed a picture board with photos of cleanup where workers from the Harbor City Community Job Center participated. Several day laborers have also been helping seniors with landscaping work. They would like to see a community garden at that location. Success stories from the center were also distributed to board members.
- b. **Lydia Gutierrez, Candidate for LAUSD School Board** gave some background on her teaching credentials and career. She provided statistics on the drop out rate in LAUSD. She believes she has the background to make a change. Her website is: LydiaForEducation.com.

24. Announcements:

- a. Narbonne High School Safety Meeting 8:30 in the library tomorrow.
- b. Olive Reed announced that the Storm people are willing to fund a "Welcome to Harbor City Sign" at Sepulveda. A committee is being formed to work with them and finally get a sign.

25. President's Report: Ray Moser gave an update on the Board of Education's new policies on lowering suspensions for students. They have a new system of punishment procedures for students in local schools who exhibit bad behavior. He feels that the punishment is not adequate because the students know there are basically no consequences for their actions. He suggests that parents find out about these new school policies that affect their children.

26. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
 Kristina Smith
 for the HCNC Board