



GOT ISSUES – GET INVOLVED

www.harborcitync.com

PUBLIC MEETING

Harbor City Neighborhood Council
Stakeholder’s Meeting

Harbor City/Harbor Gateway Public Library
24000 Western Avenue, Harbor City.
Wednesday, February 17, 2016, 6:00 pm



Official Minutes

| Board Members | Roll Call |
|----------------------|-----------|
| Eric Deklotz | Present |
| Greg Donnan | Present |
| Joyce Fredericks | Present |
| John T. Gonzales | Present |
| Brandii Grace | Present |
| Wayne McGee | Present |
| Raymond Moser | Present |
| Grant Reed | Present |
| C. Steven Rutherford | Present |
| Rohan Sourjah | Present |
| Hayes E. Thrower | Present |
| Joeann Valle | Present |

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by President Raymond Moser. A quorum of 12 board members was present (see list above). Approximately 20 stakeholders in attendance.
2. **Reports from First Responders:**
 - a. **LAFD Station 85. Captain Tim Werle reported:**
 - i. In the month of January, they had approximately 418 calls. They average 400 to 450 calls per month, which is approximately 13 calls per day.
 - ii. With regards to upcoming El Nino weather, sand bags are available at the Station and sand is available at the Harbor City Recreation Center.
 - iii. The Captain reminded people to clear excess brush from their properties.
 - iv. He also reported that the Station is getting a new ambulance.
 - b. **LAPD Senior Lead Officer Lopez (acting SLO for Harbor Gateway) filling in for SLO Andrew Gonzalez:**
 - i. Last week they arrested a male suspected in several robberies in Harbor City.
 - ii. They arrested a female transient that was breaking into homes in the area. The area neighborhood watch was instrumental in the arrest of this individual.
 - iii. On Tuesday, February 23, 2016, the County will be conducting a homeless sweep to clean up the area at the north east corner of Lomita and Vermont. Accordingly, the displaced occupants will likely go into the surrounding neighborhoods.
 - iv. Speeding on Anaheim, between Western and Normandie, has prompted a study to be conducted to consider raising the speed limit from 35 to 45 mph.
 - v. Some of the concerns of Board members and stakeholders included:
 - I. Damage, graffiti and homeless activity in the Greenway.
 - II. People smoking marijuana on the street.
 - III. Crime and homeless activity in the area.
3. **Reports from Government Officials:** None present.

4. **Budget/Finance Committee Report:** Steven Rutherford, Treasurer, reported:
 - a. Approval of Financial Reports.
 - i. January MER & Bank Statement. **Motion by John Gonzales to approve the January MER and Bank Statement as presented, seconded by Hayes Thrower, and passed with 8 Yes (Deklotz, Donnan, Fredericks, Gonzales, McGee, Rutherford, Thrower, and Valle), 0 No, 4 abstention(s) (Moser, Grace, Reed and Sourjah).**
 - ii. San Pedro Art Association Neighborhood Purpose Grant. **Motion by Brandii Grace to approve the San Pedro Art Association Neighborhood Purpose Grant request for \$1500, seconded by Grant Reed. The motion failed with 5 Yes (Fredericks, Grace, Reed, Rutherford, Thrower, and), 6 No (Deklotz, Donnan, Gonzales, McGee, Sourjah, and Valle), 1 abstention(s) (Moser).**
5. **Presentation:** Marsha Jackson, Senior Street Services Investigator, Los Angeles – Not present.
6. **Reports from Meeting Representatives:**
 - a. **Friends of the Library**, Grant Reed
 - i. They are doing well. Book sales are ongoing.
 - b. **Harbor City/Harbor Gateway Chamber of Commerce**, Joeann Valle
 - i. Tomorrow morning is the regular monthly breakfast connection. The guest speaker is from the Pacific Gateway Work Force.
 - ii. Last month they had a delegation from Belarus. They visited and met with representatives at USC and with Noribachi and will have exchange programs with both.
 - c. **Public Safety** – Greg Donnan
 - i. He provided printed material on various safety issues.
 - ii. Update on LAPD crime forum.
 - i. It was announced that they intend to open the Harbor Division Jail in three years, though Councilman Buscaino says two years.
 - ii. They have provided a booking van to Harbor Station to transport detainees to 77th Street Station for booking to relieve officers of the task.
 - iii. There was a rally held at Harbor Division in support of police.
 - d. **HANC** – Greg Donnan
 - i. The Mayor's Junior Council is doing very well.
 - ii. Nation Builders has information on registered voters that can be used for outreach purposes. National Builders services for NC's are currently paid for by the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment.
 - iii. Report on Plan Check LA: If you have an inhabited small building in your back yard you may be cited if the structure has not gone through plan check and permitting.
 - iv. On Saturday, April 23, 2016, HANC is having a retreat with Councilman Buscaino. It will be open to all NC people and probably to the public also. Greg is on the planning committee.
 - v. There is a push for Ham radio stations.
 - e. **Port of Los Angeles Community Outreach NC Presidents** meeting report – Raymond Moser
 - i. The Ben Franklin, the largest ship ever to call at the Port, came in on February 16, 2016, and is docked at the outer harbor.
 - ii. Fleet Week will be over the Labor Day Weekend. The entire seventh fleet will be visiting San Pedro.
 - f. **Budget Advocates report** – Hayes Thrower
 - i. The March meeting was the final preparation for the upcoming whitepaper. The whitepaper centered around 25 points the Budget Advocates feel should be addressed. The primary point being building trust in City Hall.
 - ii. One of the loudest responses they received from the survey is that people do not feel they are getting the services they pay for.
 - iii. Hayes listed some of the detailed points that will be addressed in the whitepaper.

7. Reports from Committee Chairs:

- a. **Education/Youth** - Hayes Thrower and John Gonzales
 - i. The Narbonne Academic Decathlon team qualified for the state competition in Sacramento.
 - ii. Hayes spoke about a violent incident involving parents and students on campus at Narbonne High School that has led to an updating of security procedures at the campus.
 - iii. Four schools in Harbor City are being recognized as follows:
 - i. The Narbonne football team is being recognized for their achievement as State CIF champions. They were invited to City Hall and met with the Mayor.
 - ii. President Elementary School has the first approved pilot dual language program. The class will be a mix of English learning students and English speaking students. Next year Fleming Middle School and Narbonne High School will be getting similar programs.
 - iii. A Harbor Elementary School teacher is going to Sacramento in the running for teacher of the year.
 - iv. Normont Elementary School is in need of volunteers and fundraising.
- b. **Outreach**, Brandii Grace and Joyce Fredericks
 - i. The outreach committee is working with the selection committee to try to merge their efforts.
 - ii. The next committee meeting is February 24, 2016, at 4:00 pm.
- c. **Planning/Zoning/Land Use**, Eric Deklotz
 - i. Eric spoke about a Consumer Alert related to approximately 300,000 homes in America being at risk for unfixable security alarm hacks. Wireless home security devices can be easily hacked.
 - ii. California has a new law that requires implementation of a mileage tax pilot program. It was enacted last October 3, 2015. We need to let them know that this is not a good program.
 - iii. The last Plan Check meeting topic was the Neighborhood Integrity Initiative. It is a grassroots effort to force City Hall to draft new up to date zoning code. The measure would impose a two-year moratorium on all development that goes against existing zoning.
- d. **Ad Hoc - Homeless Committee**, Brandii Grace
 - i. They are trying to setup a resource services fair. The goal of the fair would be to get everything people need in one place at one time completed so they can be eligible for services.
 - ii. Sometime this month they are having a workshop through the City Attorney's office. It's a homeless court meant to eliminate warrants, fines, and fees. These are impediments to being eligible for services.
 - iii. They are working to outreach to property owners to be educated about the advantages of section 8.
 - iv. LASHA has been doing a lot of outreach to families who are unable to get help and services through other means.
 - v. The next committee meeting is Thursday, February 18, 2016, at 2:00 pm.
- e. **Ad Hoc – 2016 Selection Committee** – Joeann Valle
 - i. Kristina Smith is the Independent Election Administrator for the Harbor Area.
 - i. Ms. Smith showed a video for potential candidates explaining what it means to be a neighborhood council board member.
 - ii. Candidate registration begins on February 27, 2016.
 - iii. Ms. Valle encouraged people to become board members.
 - iv. The May stakeholder and board meeting will be a candidate forum.
 - v. Ms. Smith is willing to give a presentation on running to be a board member to any neighborhood watch group that is interested.

8. Old Business:

- a. Update on painting of Utility Boxes in Harbor City. President Moser will be presenting more information related to allocating funds, and other parameters for the project, at next week's Governing Board meeting.
- b. Officer Robert Sanchez Memorial Pocket Park update: There is currently a homeless encampment at the location.
- c. Options for Western Avenue Cleanup: Assembly member Hadley's office continues to work on this issue. Board member Rohan Sourjah commented that he is working on getting individuals doing community service to assist in the cleanup.
- d. ROC (Recognition of Outstanding Citizen) Awards. Board member Joyce Fredericks displayed an example of the award.

9. New Business:

- a. Open Seat Candidates: Self-Introduction
 - i. Candidate JR, a Narbonne High School student and an intern with Assembly Member David Hadley gave a brief introduction.
 - ii. Caney Arnold who has been working with the ad hoc homeless committee and volunteers in helping the homeless gave a brief introduction. He is retired, and a 2011 Holiday Lights winner.
 - iii. Sydney Yarbrough-Baune, a teacher at Normont Elementary also gave a brief introduction. She is interested in being more involved and is currently working with the Selection Committee.

10. President's Report: Raymond Moser reported:

- a. There will be a presentation of the waterfront development plans at Ports O' Call on March 3, 2016, at 6:00 pm, at the Warner Grand Theatre in San Pedro.

11. Approval of Minutes: Motion by **Joeann Valle to approve the January 20, 2016 Board and Stakeholder meeting minutes, seconded by **Hayes Thrower**, and passed with 10 Yes (Deklotz, Fredericks, Grace, Gonzales, McGee, Reed, Rutherford, Sourjah, Thrower, and Valle), 0 No, 2 abstention(s) (Moser and Donnan).**

12. Public Comment on Non-Agenda item:

- a. Greg Donnan commented about one of the commissioners on the Board of Harbor Commissioners having an outburst at the December meeting. Mr. Donnan has made a request to have the commissioner dismissed.

13. Announcements:

- a. Brandii Grace commented that there is a bill in the State Legislature related to any electronic device that contains data would require manufacturers to include, what is often referred to as, back door access to data. There is also a bill pending at the Federal level basically saying you can't do that.

15. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm. The next Stakeholder meeting is March 16, 2016.

Respectfully submitted, Sheryl Akerblom
for the Harbor City Neighborhood Council