



PUBLIC MEETING

Harbor City Neighborhood Council Stakeholder’s Meeting

Harbor City/Harbor Gateway Public Library
24000 Western Avenue, Harbor City.
Wednesday, November 18, 2015, 6:00pm

Official Minutes

Board Members	Roll Call
Eric Deklotz	Present
Greg Donnan	Present left at 6:45pm
Joyce Fredericks	Present
John T. Gonzales	Present
Brandii Grace	Present
Wayne McGee	Present
Raymond Moser	Present
Grant Reed	Absent
C. Steven Rutherford	Present
Rohan Sourjah	Present
Hayes E. Thrower	Present
Joeann Valle	Excused

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by President Raymond Moser. A quorum of 10 board members was present (see list above). Approximately 18 stakeholders in attendance.
2. **Reports from First Responders:** None
3. **Reports from Government Officials:** None
 - a. **Mayor Garcetti’s** field representative Manny Lopez repoted:
 - i. The City is taking precautions and measures to be sure we are prepared for El Nino. He brought some handouts for stakeholders.
 - ii. The Mayor has launched phase two of Save the Drop.
 - iii. President Moser asked Mr. Lopez for the Mayor’s support for the Officer Sanchez Memorial Pocket Park.
4. **Presentation:** Focusing on Homelessness
 - a. **General Jeff**, unofficially known as the Mayor of Skid Row, and resident of skid row reported:
 - i. The \$100 million pledged by the City, is just that, only a pledge, no funds actually exist. There are only about \$13 million in actual funds available. The other \$87 million still needs to be found.
 - ii. The CAO has found another possible \$15 million, but those funds have not yet been re-designated to the homeless pledge.
 - iii. In the 2015/2016 budget, LAPD receives \$1.5 billion of the total budget. LAPD also received additional funds for homelessness issues.
 - iv. The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors has also allocated \$100 million toward homelessness issues and is considering another \$100 million.
 - v. General Jeff has recently been appointed as an official to the Los Angeles County Health Agency’s Integration Advisory Board. They are going to consolidate the Department of Mental Health, the Department of Public Health and the Department of

Health Services all under one banner again, as the Los Angeles County Health Agency.

5. Budget/Finance Committee Report: Steven Rutherford, Treasurer

- a. Approval of Financial Reports.
 - i. October MER & Bank Statement. Motion by **Eric Deklotz** to approve the October MER and Bank Statement, seconded by **Hayes Thrower**, and passed with 8 Yes (Deklotz, Donnan, Fredericks, Gonzales, McGee, Rutherford, Sourjah, and Thrower), 0 No, 1 ineligible (Grace), and 1 abstention(s) (Moser).
 - ii. Reimburse Ray Moser \$9.08 for purchase of water for community clean up. Motion by **Greg Donnan** to approve reimbursement of \$9.08 to Raymond Moser for purchase of water for community clean up, seconded by **Wayne McGee**, and passed with 8 Yes (Deklotz, Donnan, Fredericks, Gonzales, McGee, Rutherford, Sourjah, and Thrower), 0 No, 1 ineligible (Grace), and 1 abstention(s) (Moser).
 - iii. Revised budget to include additional \$5000. Motion by **Eric Deklotz** to approve the revised budget to include the additional \$5000 that the Mayor has designated for neighborhood councils. Motion seconded by **John Gonzales**, and passed with 8 Yes (Deklotz, Donnan, Fredericks, Gonzales, McGee, Rutherford, Sourjah, and Thrower), 0 No, 1 ineligible (Grace), and 1 abstention(s) (Moser).
 - iv. President Ray Moser commented that he gave Councilman Joe Buscaino a copy of the letter to Octaviano Rios at the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment from the Council requesting reinstatement of the \$5000 from last fiscal year's budget.

6. Reports from Meeting Representatives:

- a. **Friends of the Library**, Grant Reed – not present
- b. **Harbor City/Harbor Gateway Chamber of Commerce**, Joeann Valle – not present
- c. **Public Safety** – Greg Donnan
 - i. Greg provided various flyers to those in attendance at the meeting.
- d. **HANC** – Greg Donnan
 - i. The new Commissioner of the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (BONC), Josh La Farga, came and gave a brief introduction.
 - ii. The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment wants every Neighborhood Council to have Department of Public Works liaison. President Ray Moser is HCNC's liaison.
 - iii. On Tuesday, November 17th there is an elections workshop/training at Peck Park in San Pedro, from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm.
 - iv. The Homeless Task Force members were introduced. The homeless issue was discussed at length and what information people want from the Homeless Task Force.
 - v. The China Shipping EIR mitigation was discussed. A motion was passed to write a letter to the Port of Los Angeles requesting that they respond in writing to NC motions and resolutions.
 - vi. They discussed and considered a motion on the Planning Commission's sign ordinance.
 - vii. Budget advocate update: Budget advocate Joan Jacobs has resigned. HCNC Board member Wayne McGee was recommended, though they only want one from each NC and Hayes is already one of the Harbor Area Advocates.
 - viii. The upcoming Homeless Count will now be conducted annually, instead of every two years. To register go to <http://www.theycountwillyou.org>. There were also registration forms available at the meeting.
 - ix. The next HANC meeting is December 2nd at Kaiser at 6:30pm.
- e. **Port of Los Angeles Community Outreach with NC Presidents.** Raymond Moser reported:
 - i. The Port is doing phase two of the Gaffey Street beautification project, as well as the Front Street beautification project.

- ii. The Port is taking bids for the Ports O' Call revitalization project.
- iii. President Moser is asking that the Port help fund a full time park ranger at Machado Lake.

7. Reports from Committee Chairs:

- a. **Education/Youth**, Hayes Thrower and John Gonzales
 - i. Board member Hayes Thrower made general comments on the state of LAUSD schools where he has recently taught as a substitute teacher.
 - ii. Board member John Gonzales commented that elementary school parents and the community are taking a real interest in their children because they don't want their children to end up in middle school unprepared.
 - iii. The Boys & Girls Club has been doing a great job helping students with homework.
 - iv. Board member Rohan Sourjah commented that the Narbonne High School International Trade and Education program has received a grant and started with nine students.
- b. **Outreach**, Brandii Grace and Joyce Fredericks
 - i. Board member and committee chair Brandii Grace attended an election workshop. The HCNC is having a selection. However, HCNC is required to conform to the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment's (DONE) schedule. Accordingly, candidate registration will open at the end of February. She is waiting for DONE to confirm if the HCNC selection can be in September as usual or if it will have to be in June like every other NC. She is also awaiting notification from DONE as to whether selection candidates will need to be confirmed by the City Clerk's office, as election candidates do. DONE is encouraging NC's to do a great deal of outreach for the selection with a suggested budget of \$15,000. The Council has been given access to an account on Nation Builder.
 - ii. Judging for the annual Holiday Lights event will be Thursday, December 10th. There will be seven areas/neighborhoods considered. This year's HCNC Holiday Lights event will be held in conjunction with the Chamber's Santa is Coming to Town event.
- c. **Planning/Zoning/Land Use**, Eric Deklotz
 - i. Board member Eric Deklotz attends the monthly plan check meeting.
 - ii. One of the items discussed was Quimby fees. Quimby fees are supposed to be collected from developers to go toward improving parks in the area of the development. The Quimby fees ordinance is up for review. One of the things they are considering is removing the radius restriction around the project site within which the collected fees must be spent. In other words, the collected fees would no longer be required to be spent in the same community as the development project. Sometimes the fees are not collected and sometimes they aren't spent.
 - iii. The County is putting out a county wide parks needs assessment. For all parks in all cities. The assessment will result in a visionary list of projects and cost estimates in order of priority for each studied area. For more information and a schedule of community meetings for input, go to lacountyparkneeds.org.
- d. **Ad Hoc Committee for a Signal at 255th and Western**, John Gonzales
 - i. Principal Hastings at Fleming Middle School is sitting back and waiting to see how the new procedures in place are working. Things are going well with all the monitoring local district Superintendent Chris Downing has gotten in place.
- e. **Ad Hoc - Homeless Committee**, Brandii Grace
 - i. The next meeting is Thursday November 19th, at 2:00 pm at the Chamber.
 - ii. She cited some statistics from Los Angeles Housing Services Authority (LAHSA) for Service Planning Area 8 (SPA 8), the south bay and harbor area. She encouraged people to volunteer for the upcoming Homeless Count which will now be conducted annually, instead of every two years. The count is important as funding for area homeless services is based on the results of the count.
 - iii. She attended a meeting of the South Bay Homeless Coalition, at which LAHSA

presented information. She commented on some of the many problems facing homeless people in the area. There were also some Redondo Beach Police officers at the meeting discussing the things their department is trying to do for and with homeless people.

- iv. There is an increase in problems of people turning out of all of the area shelters and then having no where else to go.
 - v. There is an attempt to create a coalition to assess all homeless services in the area.
 - vi. Last Thursday she and others did a walking tour of skid row. She saw that the community has some good things and some other things that are not so good.
- f. **Ad Hoc – Holiday Events** – Joeann Valle/Brandii Grace
- i. Judging for the annual Holiday Lights event will be Thursday, December 10th. There will be seven areas/neighborhoods visited. This year's HCNC Holiday Lights event will be held in conjunction with the Chamber's Santa is Coming to Town event.

8. Old Business:

- a. **Vacant Board Seat Presentation** – Candidate: Kourosh Hangfarin, not present.
- b. **Update on painting of Utility Boxes in Harbor City.**
 - i. The program will be starting in January. President Moser will be getting material ready to be distributed to local schools in January.
- c. **Officer Robert Sanchez Memorial Pocket Park**
 - i. President Moser is putting together a Facebook page. He has spoken to Elliot King with LAPD who is working with the Sanchez family. They are trying to get a letter writing campaign going.
- d. **Options for Western Avenue Cleanup**; there has been no response from Assembly member Hadley's office.
- e. **ROC** (Recognition of Outstanding Citizen) Awards; no nominations have been received yet.

9. New Business:

- a. The next Governing Board Meeting will be December 2, 2015.
- b. Selection/Election Stipulation Sheets; Board member Brandii Grace addressed this above. President Moser emailed the sheets to all board members. They will be completed at the next meeting.

10. President's Report: Preparing for El Nino; President Moser spoke to Buscaino's office and if there is a drain that is blocked they will take care of it if you call their office. (310-732-4515)

11. Approval of Minutes: Motion by **Brandii Grace** to approve the October 2015 Stakeholder meeting minutes, seconded by **Eric Deklotz**, and passed with 7 Yes (Deklotz, Fredericks, Gonzales, McGee, Rutherford, Sourjah, and Thrower), 0 No, 1 ineligible (Grace), and 1 abstention(s) (Moser)

12. Public Comment on Non-Agenda item: None

13. Announcements: None

15. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm. The next Stakeholder meeting is January 20, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,
Sheryl Akerblom
for the Harbor City Neighborhood Council