

Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council Meeting Minutes Thursday, February 17, 2011

Written by Janet Dodson with notes by Chris Smith, and Teri Bonsell

AGENDA Order is changed

E. Guest Speaker: CD-14 Councilman Candidate Jose Huizar 15 min, followed by Public Forum 30 min.

Councilmember Huizar answered questions from the Board, and stakeholders including questions about City Services in Highland Park. He promised to work to retain graffiti services, and said HP received equal funding to other areas in his district. He cited street paving in HP, and his beautification project on York Blvd. and the soon to be open bike corral at Ave 50. He said he thought redistricting in HP should create a single district for HP instead of 2, but would abide by results of the process. He addressed the loss of the gang unit in the LAPD NE Division by saying it would have to find another form and stressed the importance of the continuity of knowledge of the gang-oriented officers. He talked about the gang problem at Luther Burbank Middle School. He addressed the problem of LAFD brown-outs, and how he will work to eliminate them. He described his frustration with the MTA Board's insistence on building the 710 tunnel, and the futility of paying for and Environmental Report on a project which has not been described or properly budgeted.

C. Roll Call Present were: Chris Smith, Lisa Brewer, Teri Bonsell, Janet Dodson, Mark Reback, Erik Duarte, Luis Antezana, Mauro Garcia, Steve Crouch, Rick Marquez, David Kekone, Ofelia Zuniga. Absent were: Andrei Anson, David Baird, Kristen Flores, Stan Moore, Miriam Escobar. Also present was Bjorn Baldvinsson

D. Public Comments: Raymond Yu is going to run the LA Marathon, Dora Suarez, Librarian at Arroyo Seco Library stressed the importance of Measure L to return funding to the Library system at the March 8 City election. Marlene Olivares described the upcoming Aldama Elementary School PTA Community Art Fair Friday Feb 18, Janet Dodson repeated date of the opening of the bike corral, and reminded everyone to vote March 8, and conveyed a message from Stan Moore, that the meeting we were hoping to have with Yolie Flores, due to difficulties in scheduling, could now take place only on March 3 in order to happen before the election. Nancy Wyatt described the series of meetings scheduled by MTA to discuss the 710 tunnel, and that none was scheduled for Highland Park, and encouraged attendance at the other meetings.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Adoption of Agenda: Moved by Dodson, second by Bonsell passed unanimously
 2. Discussion and Motion: Approve Minutes for 01/20/2011 Moved by Bonsell, second by Duarte, passed unanimously
 3. Discussion and Motion: Approve Minutes for 02/03/2011 Moved by Bonsell, second by Duarte, passed with 1 abstention
- G. Treasurer's Report – *Reback* Remaining Neighborhood Council budget is approximately \$30,000 not including rollover funds already allocated.
- H. Outreach Committee Report: email list, streamline funding – *Bonsell* Outreach committee needs Board member's email lists sent to Lisa Brewer for consolidation, and will consult Budget and Finance Committee on how to acquire funding for routine purchase in a more streamlined way.
- I. Land Use Committee Report: - *Dodson* Tabled
- J. Legal Liaison Report: Cameras – *Dodson* Tabled
- K. City Services Committee Report: Library clean-up and replanting follow up report- *Gossett* Tabled

4. Discussion and Possible Motion: Presentation by Peter Mehrian of Cowboy and Company, asking for an HHPNC letter of support for their current development at 6301 N. Figueroa. Possible

Motion to approve the drafted letter. – *Dodson*

Peter Mehrian answered questions about the development at the Union Bank building at 6301 N. Figueroa, its current legal status, and asked for a letter of community support. The proposed letter was read. Motion to approve the letter moved by Bonsell, seconded by Zuniga, passed unanimously. Chris Smith signed the letter.

5. Discussion and Motion: Approve appointing Joan Potter to the Board. – *Dodson*

Moved by Bonsell, seconded by Kekone, passed unanimously

6. Discussion: Possible installation of the copier at the Sr. Center. – *Dodson*

Janet asked Kelci Tang of the Sr. Center if we may move our copier into the storeroom for easier access. When the copier is set up at Teri's house the advantage will be that items may be emailed to Teri who will print and copy them. At the Sr. Center there is no internet access in the storeroom, however, Board could all have access to the copier during Sr. Center regular hours, and during meetings, and supplies could be kept there instead of the Bonsell living room. Janet will check back with Kelci, and DONE about whether or not this is possible.

7. Discussion and Motion: Approve a letter for CVS Pharmacy Store #9665 located at 5944 N.

Figueroa Ave. to renew their Conditional Use Permit for the sale of alcohol. – *Dodson*

Tabled

8. Discussion and Motion: Approve ordering business cards for Mauro Garcia, Kristen Flores, and David Kekone, pending approval by Budget & Finance Committee, amount not to exceed \$70.00. – *Garcia, Flores, Kekone*

Tabled

9. Motion to add matching funds of \$10,000 to the existing \$15,000 rollover funds for the Northeast LAPD camera system to be located at York Blvd. and Figueroa pending approval by Budget & Finance Committee. – *Marquez*

Moved by Bonsell, seconded by Kekone passed unanimously

10. Motion to write a letter to CD 14 and CD 1 asking for approved HHPNC matching funds for Northeast LAPD Camera system to be installed at York Blvd. and Figueroa.

Tabled until Item #9 comes back from Budget and Finance Committee

F. Presentation of Highland Park York Vision Plan Steve Rasmussen-Cancion, and Zenay Loera

described the project on York Blvd funded by CD 14, and offering public workshops to determine what beautification projects would work on York Blvd. There has been consensus to build a sidewalk patio, and the next meeting to choose designs will be on March 2 at a location TBD.

11. Motion to purchase park benches with matching funds for \$8,000 – *Moore*

Tabled

12. Discussion and possible Motion: To podcast live Board meetings for community – *Gossett*

It will not be possible to podcast a Neighborhood Council meeting without internet in the meeting hall, which we do not currently have. Kekone will investigate further possibilities.

13. Motion and Discussion: Approve funding request application form for funding not to exceed \$4,000 for "I Art Highland Park" - NELA promotional project, submitted by Andrei Anson/Brian Mallman, and send to HHPNC board for final approval. - *Anson*

Tabled

17. Motion and Discussion: To approve a Neighborhood Purposes Grant, \$1000, as approved by the Budget & Finance Committee, to the Highland Park Heritage Trust, a 501(c)(3) organization which fiscally administers The Friends of the Southwest Museum Coalition, to pay for design, printing and distribution of educational materials about the Southwest Museum and Casa de Adobe. – *Moore*

Ms. Walnum spoke on behalf of the Friends of the Southwest Museum describing the outdated information brochure, and the need to have a new one.

Motion moved by Bonsell, seconded by Kekone, passed unanimously

14. Motion and Discussion: To approve an increase of \$200 in the amount already agreed upon at the Nov. 4th, 2010 HHPNC board meeting, and approved by the Budget & Finance Committee, for the Franklin High School Neighborhood Purposes Grant for the Sacramento Legislative Trip, on March 6 - 8, 2011, with the understanding the 9 participating students will return to the HHPNC June 2 to report to the Board about their experience- *Moore*

Ms. Tam from Franklin High School commented on the value of this trip, and will supervise the reports. Motion moved by Bonsell, seconded by Zuniga, passed unanimously

15. I do have one agenda item the committee for the Franklin High Community Festival is requesting funds in the amount of \$3000.00 Purpose Grant, and with the understanding the amount may be reduced by the Board The event will be on April 9th, 2011 - *Bonsell*

Motion to send the proposal to the Budget & Finance Committee for approval moved by Bonsell, seconded by Zuniga, passed.

16. Motion and Discussion: Motion altered: Approve that the HHPNC fund one boy and one girl to attend Boys & Girls States in Sacramento, summer 2011, in programs presented by the American Legion, District 17, up to but not to exceed \$1190 as approved by Budget and Finance. with the understanding the participating students will return to the HHPNC after the trip to report to the Board about their experience – *Moore*

Mr. Ledesma spoke of the value of the program and answered Board questions. There will be two boys and one girl sent from Franklin High School. This program is sponsored by many other organizations for many years, and our Board member Erik Duarte was one student who participated. Janet Dodson commented that while this is surely a fine program, and as it is a 501(c)(3) organization and submitted a Neighborhood Purposes grant, DONE agrees the Board may fund the program, however, DONE has pointed out the spirit of Board funding is to benefit as much of the community as possible. Dodson asked if funding 3 children is fulfilling that spirit. Lisa Brewer concurred. Mr. Ledesma offered the program itself touches many children, and we are being asked to participate in a larger effort. He described the trip as planting a seed with an unpredictable effect. Rick Marquez said that we should consider that we ask organizations to go through a process when asking for funding. The discussion went on the consider the amount of funding going to Franklin HS, which while it is the only High School in HP, very large, and worthy of support, the other schools in HP should also be considered. It was pointed out we have not done much outreach to other schools.

Motion was altered and moved by Bonsell, seconded by Zuniga, and passed

18. Motion: To change police museum posting location – *Garcia*

In order to so this, the Agenda Policies and Procedures would have to be changed, and new location found. Tabled

19. Discussion and Motion: Neighborhood Purpose Grant to the 501c3 organization "BLEND" for the Police Athletic League Boxing Program at the Northeast Division Police Station in an amount not to exceed \$2500 pending approval of the Budget & Finance Committee – *Kekone*

Motion moved by Marquez, seconded by Reback, passed unanimously

20. Discussion and Motion: Write a letter to the Highland Park Police Museum (cc CD 14) asking for help with Police Athletic League Boxing Program – Marquez

Lisa Brewer will write the letter. There was discussion about what kind of help to ask for, Nancy Wyatt suggested the letter be addressed to the Police Historical Society. Motion moved by Bonsell, seconded by Kekone, passed unanimously.

21. Discussion: Review disagreement at the end of the 02/03 HHPNC meeting. Discuss proper protocol and resolve. – Marquez

The discussion centered on how to do this. Should we wait for Andrei to return? Chris asked for a mediator, It was suggested we could focus more on how to resolve emotional conflicts in general rather than focusing on this specific one as the moment has passed. The 5-minute cooling off period was brought up, and Chris pointed out the conflict was at the end of the meeting, and that was why he adjourned the discussion. Joan Potter pointed out we are capable of behaving coolly and can resolve conflict without heat.

22. Motion: To hire secretary to do HHPNC meeting minutes - Garcia

The motion to retain Stan Moore as Acting Secretary was passed in a previous meeting, this Motion, therefore cannot be addressed.

23. New Business

24. Adjournment