

HHPNC MINUTES JULY 21, 2011

Stan Moore, Acting Secretary

- A. Call to Order, president Chris Smith
- B. Welcome

Joe Carmona, PEACE INC. We come here regarding a letter we gave the HHPNC a month ago, and prior to that, to Jose Huizar, 6 months ago. We will answer any questions you have. (Joe introduced Wayne Turner as one of the four with him.) Just this weekend 2 kids were killed by gang violence. Why are we waiting? Kids are dying. We want public support and entrance to the LAUSD schools with a program that will work.

Stan Moore: Announced that Councilmember Jose Huizar had nominated one of the members of the HHPNC as “Pioneer Woman of the Year.” And in competition with the other City Council nominees, she had won. Dr. Moore then announced that Teri Bonsell was to be honored on Friday, July 22, as the City’s “Pioneer Woman of the Year,” and that she and Paul would have breakfast with the Mayor and with the City Controller, Wendy Greul, on Friday morning and then go to the City Council to be honored. Moore stood and clapped, as did several other members of the HHPNC.

Moore then announced the fund raiser for the Friends of the Southwest Museum Coalition at Galco’s on Sunday, July 24, from 5 to 8 p.m. The cost is \$12 now and \$15 at the door. The internet group Yelp would be there, having sent out the information regarding the event to its 300,000 internet users to sign up people who wanted to be notified about special events occurring around So. California There will be tasting of soda pops of all types from around the world, as well as an auction and music. Pilar Martinez, our translator, has given an oil painting to be auctioned.

Roll Call: Present— Luis Antezana, Theresa Bonsell, Lisa Brewer, Steve Crouch, Janet Dodson, Erik Duarte, Miriam Escobar (arrived at 8:00 p.m. from work), Mauro Garcia (arrived at 7:42 p.m.), Trish Gossett, Tina Gulotta-Miller, Terri Lloyd, Cathi Milligan, Stan Moore, Mark Reback, Chris Smith and Ofelia Zuniga. Absent: David Kekone (in Great Britain on business), Rick Marquez (on vacation), David Baird (ill; called Janet Dodson), and Joan Potter (vacation) Quorum Established.

- C. Teri Bonsell gave an Outreach Committee report of its last meeting. The members met at Ramona Hall and saw 3 or 4 designs of the proposed new logo for the HHPNC and would at its next meeting in August probably make a choice of two to be presented to the entire Council.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Adoption of Agenda. Moved, Gossett Second, Bonsell
Steve Crouch asked that the Agenda be amended and item 3 be placed at the very end. With that agreed to change the Motion was MSA Unanimous
2. Approval of the Minutes for JULY 7, 2011: Moved, Bonsell, Second, Erik Duarte. MSA Unanimous
3. Item 3 moved to the last item of the Agenda.

4. Discussion by invited guest, Jennifer Brent, External Relations Manager of Found Animals Foundation. Each year 3 to 4 million animals are “euthanized.” 64% of all animals found by L.A. City’s Animal Control Agency are killed. Animal care in L.A. does not come cheap—it costs \$50 million a year. It is expensive. Found Animals Foundation has facilities in 3 locations in the L.A. area. It costs \$15 to neuter a cat. Fix Nation estimates 17,000 cats were spayed last year. It is estimated that there are one (1) million feral cats in L.A. Found Animals Foundation is working in ZIP code areas 90001 and 90011 which have the worst problems. In those two ZIP Code areas Found Animals’ Mobile Clinic has sterilization program has neutered 5500 cats so far this year. The Mobile Clinic can also microchip animals for animal owners—making them more than 4x as likely to be recovered when lost. At 16 locations Found Animals has had 3000 animals adopted. In Downy, at the Animal Control facility 94% of animals are killed each year. Found Animals Foundation is trying to help and has found homes for 400 animals so far this year. They plan to publish a 2012 Calendar of “Men Who Love Cats.” They also work with Angel Dog in Lancaster.

Announcements from City Council Districts 1 and 14.

Mr. Nate Hayward for Councilman Huizar emphasized four items; (1) the Mural at Meridian and Ave. 56 has been finished and there will be a celebration, but it has not yet been covered with graffiti protective layers; (2) the York Business Watch was held July 20 and discussed Enterprise Zones and tax savings and the next one will be Wednesday, August 17, 12 noon to 1 p.m., place TBA; (3) Thursday, July 28 is the SLO Summit at Dodger Stadium and members of the HHPNC and stakeholders should call their respective SLO and reserve a spot and attend, and (4) Rite Aid at Ave. 63 and York has been trying to clean up its parking area, trim brush to make it less attractive for dumping and for homeless people living there, but no lights have been added.

Ms. Lynnelle Scaduto, field deputy for Councilman Reyes, announced that murals approved by and paid for by the L.A. City can be repaired by the City. A list of these murals is available and Scaduto will make it available to Terri Lloyd. For murals in parking lots’ four and five foot walls Reyes is seriously considering vine installations to hide them. Second, free trees will be being offered in the early Fall. Third, so far only one complaint has been received regarding Summer Night Lights. However, Teri Bonsell said that there was an incident on Wednesday night, July 20, around 9:30 p.m. and soon there was a helicopter circling the area; and finally, Ms. Scaduto will be on vacation Aug. 15 to Sept. 6 but will read her email messages.

5. Lisa Mowery, LA Bureau of Sanitation Solids Resources Division was supposed speak, but instead Daniel Hackney, a 15 year veteran of the LA Bureau of Sanitation, spoke in her place. L.A. City is about 500 square miles; it has 6700 miles of sewage piping. Our area has had \$76 million in sewer replacement, with another \$15 million to come. Our Sewage system is our most critical infrastructure of the City. The Hyperion Sewage Treatment Plant has been placed on a list of the 10 most amazing and best infrastructures in history, along with the Hoover Dam and the Panama Canal. It processes 350 million gallons of water per day. Storm drains are an entirely separate system from the sewage system.

In 14 of the last 20 years there has been no increase in water and sewage costs. The average l.a. citizen pays \$30 a month. This compares to the \$110 a month in atlanta, ga., and the \$85 a month in san francisco. The life span of sewage piping is 80 years. Fifty (50) percent of l.a. pipes are older than 70 years. Ten years ago there were two sewage spills a day on average; now there are 2 spills a week. But prices will have to be raised. There have been no increases in the last 10 years of sanitation rates. The bureau is now in \$2 billion in debt. The time of debt funding has reached an end. Over the next 10 years the average bill will go up to \$58 a month, or from \$360 a year to \$720 a year. Costs go up because of labor costs, material costs and because of federal regulations (“unfunded mandates”). If pipes are replaced before a crisis, \$1 will buy \$10 worth of work compared to what would be spent after a crisis. If replace in a non-crisis situation \$400 million will buy what \$4 billion would require after a spill crisis. We can delay no longer.

6. (Item 6) Motion: To place a funding limit of \$1500 on all requests for Neighborhood Purposes Grants (NPG). Discussion: Moore said, although this looks like an attractive proposal is is really a poor idea. A fixed limit does not allow for our judgment and prioritization to be applied. Last year we had at least 4 expenditures that exceeded this amount: Lummis Day (\$3500), Franklin H.S. Festival (\$3000), Franklin H.S. wrestling mat (\$5000) and Youth Football Helmits (\$4500). Not all items are of equal worth. Reback agreed, saying that this issue should be for the Budget and Finance Committee to work with and make judgments about with the proposal before us. Agreement to TABLE
7. Motion to establish two periods for consideration of Neighborhood Purposes Grants (NPGs). Reback declared that this was approved at the last Budget and Finance meeting, when Item 6 above had not been approved. Nancy Wyatt pointed out that April 30 would make both periods 6 months and so it was by consensus agreed to make March 31 April 30.
Motion to approve October 31 and April 30 the two periods to accumulate NPG proposals and then evaluate them collectively.
Motion, Bonsell Second, Gossett. MSA Unanimous
8. Motion to establish percentages for categories in the 2011-2012 HHPNC budget. Reback rejected this proposal. Said that the Budget and Finance Committee needed to seriously analyze the consequences of this proposal and not make any such percentages ironclad rules. Item 8 TABLED
9. Motion to approve Outreach event expenses of candy and decorations (if needed) at the Farmers’ Market, the Northeast Police Halloween Open House, and (added) Hathaway-Sycamores’ Halloween Night if the Outreach Committee approves its participation, total amount not to exceed \$400 pending approval of Budget and Finance Committee. (Bonsell)
Motion, Bonsell Second, Brewer MSA Unanimous
10. Discussion and Motion to approve Outreach operational expenses for ink, copy paper, balloons, helium tank refills, and miscellaneous office supplies. Amount up to but not to exceed \$900 upon approval of Budget and Finance Committee. (Bonsell) Motion, Garcia Second, Duarte MSA Unanimous

11. Discussion and Motion: Declare the position of Director at Large currently held by Miriam Escobar abandoned and vacant as stipulated in current HHPNC Bylaws Article IV Section 5 “Abandonment of Position.” President Smith asked whose item this was. There was no name listed as the one submitting item. No one responded. Moore said that he had talked with Ms. Escobar and that here employer kept changing the times she was needed and that she could not afford to lose the money for the family. Smith said that he had talked with her and that was the reason she gave to him also. Gossett told Escobar that she was not picking on Ms. Escobar, but that she took her position seriously and that she wanted to know that Escobar did the same. Ms. Escobar explained that the family could not afford for her to lose her job; the money was necessary for the family. Smith said that the matter would be dismissed and dropped.
12. Adjournment called by Smith at 8:53 p.m.