

HHPNC MINUTES August 18, 2011

Stan Moore, Acting Secretary

- A. Call to Order, president Chris Smith
- B. Welcome
- C. Public Comment: Summer night lights is coming to an end; thank you for your participation.
Roll Call: Present— Luis Antezana, Lisa Brewer, Theresa Bonsell, Steve Crouch, Janet Dodson, Erik Duarte, Miriam Escobar, Mauro Garcia, Trish Gossett, Tina Gulotta-Miller, David Kekone, Terri Lloyd Rick Marquez, Cathi Milligan, Stan Moore, Joan Potter, Mark Reback, Chris Smith and Ofelia Zuniga. Absent: David Baird (ill).
Quorum Established.
- D. Treasurer's report—DONE is slowly getting payments made. Franklin High School has received the check for the Sacramento Legislative Seminar, March 6-8
 - 1. Adoption of Agenda. Moved, Bonsell Second, Zuniga MSA Unanimous
 - 2. Approval of the Minutes for August 4, 2011. Moved, Bonsell, Second, Reback. Tina Gulotta-Miller noted that her name was misspelled "L"ina and wished it to be corrected. MSA Yes 15 2 Abstain; Kekone and Marquez on vacation.
 - 3. Motion: Neighborhood Purposes Grant application for \$2,500 for Mt. Washington Preschools (La Casita Verde) to help pay for construction costs to reduce noise and improve poor acoustics in their childcare center for low income Highland Park families and send to Budget and Finance Committee for its analysis and approval. Chris Luz, parent and school board member spoke of the terrible acoustics and the great need for improvement to improve the quality of the program. 49 percent of the students are from the 90042 Zip Code zone. Rick Marquez asked whether the school was a non-profit. It is. It was founded in 1993 and was first at the Coptic Church off El Paso, then went to Hathaway-Sycamores and finally to its present location. Question: Are you threatened by the ongoing federal cuts? Answer: No. Nancy Wyatt observed that it is a shared resource with Arroyo Seco NC. Motion to send it to Budget and Finance Committee. Motion: Moved, Teri Second, Ofelia MSA Abstained: Mauro Garcia
 - 4. Discussion and Motion for final approval of funding to the NELA Ministerial Assn. and Iglesia Pentacostal Esmirna to buy up to 1,000 backpacks for distribution on Saturday, September 10, up to but not to exceed \$1,500.
Moved, Garcia Second, Zuniga
Pastor William Rodriguez passed around two backpacks made in L.A. for inspection by the HHPNC. Garcia wanted Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council embroidered on each pack. Rev. Rodriguez said that this would significantly increase the cost and reduce the number that could be purchased. Teri Bonsell asserted that the Outreach Committee will be there and that each pack would have a sticker on the plastic wrapping so that recipients would know who was helping to fund the program. David Kekone asked whether having the HHPNC on the backpack would be a stigma. Kekone also suggested that the

HHPNC little flashlights purchased by Outreach could be attached to each backpack and would carry the name of the HHPNC. Rev. Rodriguez noted that the barber college at 61st. and Figueroa will be there to give out free haircuts from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., and that pencils, crayons and paper would be distributed, as well as food at the event. In addition, there would be music while the people waited in line. Erik Duarte's father is paying for 200 backpacks to help get the total number closer to 1,000. The backpacks will cost about \$3 each. Additional money is being raised from many of the churches participating.

Motion voted on.

MSA Abstaining: Mauro Garcia,
Moore and Kekone

5. Discussion and Motion to approve purchase of replacement equipment for the translation equipment, amount up to but not to exceed \$500, pending the approval of Budget and Finance Committee.

Motion, Bonsell

Second, Zuniga

MSA Unanimous

6. Joe Carmona with an additional 15 or more stakeholders was there to answer any Questions regarding his request for a letter of support to City Councilman Jose Huizar, who before he was elected to the City Council was a member of the Board of the LAUSD and already knows about Carmona's anti-gang program for schools. Mr. Carmona handed out additional information regarding the program, a copy of the letter he wanted endorsed, etc. Joe Carmona was a volunteer when he went for daily to Luther Burbank school for one year. He med the students, slowly built up relationships, and tried to serve the school, students and their families.

Mauro Garcia asked why he had been asked to leave. Carmona said that it was because he attended the "Tribunal" hearing on Adela's daughter, whom the school wanted kicked out. In the end the Tribunal voted against the school. Mr. Sameneigo was surprised when Carmona appeared and supported the girl, not the school. Carmona said he had caught the principal by surprise.

Tony Howard said there was an insurance liability issue, as well as a question regarding the professionalism of gang interventionists.

Stan Moore pointed out that there were over 650 incidents the previous year at Luther Burbank that required calling the LAUSD school police to Luther Burbank. The entire year that Carmona was at Luther Burbank there were about 120 such incidents—a huge drop in violence at the school.

Mauro Garcia said that "something is better than nothing." What we have now is nothing.

Tina Gulotta-Miller said that Carmona, by calling some students "Peace Warriors" and giving votes to some kids to decide who was in or out of the group was breaking down communication within the school. A principal needs to know what is going on in his/her school.

Rosa Rivas said that school require confidentiality, and that Carmona was wanting access to privileged/restricted information that, as a non-employee of the schools, he had no right to access.

A former gang member spoke up: "We need support and Carmona helps us."

Adela: “Let us in—feel us in your hearts.” “Why do you not feel us?”

Lisa Brewer said that, as written, the letter was so confusing, etc., that she could not vote for it. Janet Dodson volunteered to help rewrite it—much shorter and less confusing. Lisa said she was willing to work on rewriting the letter also.

7. Approve letter to Councilmember Huizar in support of the Peace Warrior Program. (Antezana)
The HHPNC approved rewriting a letter edited by Janet Dodson, Lisa Brewer and Tina Gulotta-Miller for the Sept. 1 meeting of the HHPNC. This was agreed to by Mr. Carmona.
Moved, Luis Antezana Second, Rick Marquez MSA Unanimous
8. Motion to approve final draft of a letter to the Mayor and City Council in support of LAPD’s Chief Beck’s call for replica guns to be brightly colored so as to be easily recognizable as replicas. (Moore)
Moved, Cathi Milligan Second, Erik Duarte
Discussion: A long discussion about whether Chief Beck’s statement was enough. Stakeholder Nancy Wyatt, as well as others, thought that it needed expansion—that it should be against the law to paint real guns to look like they are fake ones. Wyatt thought that the two goals should be statewide, etc., and that handguns should be banned in California. Several members of the HHPNC echoed that handguns should be banned. On the other hand certain members thought that people should be free to buy what they wanted.
Motion: Yes 7 No 8 (Garcia, Kekone, Marquez, Brewer, Dodson, Potter, Gossett, and one other. Not Pass
9. Motion to send a letter to Superintendent Deasy requesting that safety lectures in the LAUSD include a warning against ever pointing any gun at a police officer. Joan Potter thought that this was “innocuous” and it passed.
Motion, Cathi Milligan Second, Bonsell 11Yes No 4 (Garcia, Milligan, Gulotta-Miller, Kekone)
10. No official vote was taken on writing a letter to our two state senators and two Assemblypersons.
11. Motion to support the LANCC position to delay the proposed LADWP rate Increase until the ordinance-approved (last March election) Rate Payers Advocate has been hired and has had time to examine the DWP financial reports. (Moore)
Motion, Moore Second, Garcia MSA Unanimous
12. Discussion and Motion to select a final design for the new HHPNC logo. (Bonsell)
Motion, Pro-rounded corner on left side, bottom Moore Second, Teri Rounded, 15 Square, 1 Antezana Abstain, Moore and Garcia

Adjournment: