

Nov. 6, 2014 minutes of the HHPNC general board meeting

6:30 – 7:30 Presentation: Overview of housing rights, L.A. Housing & Community Investment Department, Michael Gregerson.

A. Call to Order – 7:27 pm

B. Roll Call – **Present:** Monica Alcaraz, Aaron Salcido, Diego Silva, Joan Potter, Johanna Sanchez, Liz Amsden, Manuel Avila, SuzAnn Branter, Jessica Ceballos, Mauro Garcia, Susanne Huerta, Stanley Moore, Miguel Ramos, Harvey Slater, Fernando Villa; **ABSENT:** Linda Caban, Graeme Flegenheimer, Amirah Noaman, Miranda Rodriguez

C. Elected Officials (Mayor's office, CD1, CD14, AD51, SD 22)

CD 14- Rep. Huizar presented and updated on current work in the District.

D. President's Report – Veteran's Day Parade, Scavenger Hunt coming up – with prizes, tree lighting in the Senior Center with tree being planted –December 12 at 6:30pm

E. LAPD Report – Ofr. Allen – street robberies have occurred between Ave 50-Ave 60 between 110 fwy and Monte Vista; property crimes continue to go down

F. Board Announcements – Southwest Museum issue; tenants rights workshop on Nov. 13

G. Committee Reports: (Budget, Land Use, Outreach, Rules, Public Safety, Beautification, Youth School Alliance) Budget – Nov. 18 - next mtg.; Land Use – come to meetings when stakeholders have concerns; Outreach – survey is progressing – community spaces, cleanliness, and safety – priorities; Rules – haven't met yet; Public Safety – shake out event happened; Beautification – progress on signage; Youth – met and discussed how to engage the youth

H. Public Comments – Jack Maeby – Giving Music – concerts for senior citizens; Maxine Jimenez –environmental club – Sat. Nov. 15 will hold a free fruit tree adoption at Franklin

ACTION ITEMS

1. Motion to Approve Agenda – move item #24 #22 up after tabled items, also item #23 up. – All in favor. Motion passes.
2. Motion to Approve Minutes of October 2, 2014 – with addition of adding F. Villa as absent – All in favor. Motion passes.
3. Presentation: Update on the Franklin High School Robotics Club, Franklin students. – Franklin students introduced the elementary student team they are mentoring at Buchanan elementary.
4. [PREVIOUSLY TABLED] Motion to add the following guideline to the Council's policies and procedures: Whenever sourcing purchases over \$100, that HHPNC should look to buy within Highland Park, within Los Angeles, within California and within the United States in that order, and to take into account not only cost and shipping but also the issues of global warming, jobs, fair trade, and other more ephemeral metrics.
 - a. Motion to table – Monica, Diego 2nd – All in favor. Motion passes.
5. [PREVIOUSLY TABLED] Motion to recommend to DONE, LANCC, and the City of Los Angeles that they develop buy local policies including databases and networking between purchasers that will help all communities in this City. Recommendation in the form of a letter. –L. Amsden.
 - a. Motion to table – Monica, Diego 2nd – All in favor. Motion passes.
6. [PREVIOUSLY #22] Motion to submit letter of approval. Event banquet facility known as Fig House at 6441 N. Figueroa St- is seeking a zoning variance to allow a banquet facility within the existing commercial zoning (seeking change of the type of commercial use and allow for CUB to serve a full line of alcohol). Applicant has done additional outreach to community to address concerns from the September HHPNC Board meeting and is once again requesting approval for its zoning variance. - H. Slater.
 - a. H. Slater – recapped on previous month – we denied approval; owner now comes back with a changed plan and has proposed voluntary conditions; met with community neighbors;

- Concerns with parking, noise levels – owner – trying to address – isn't a tenant and has invested and wants to be a good neighbor
- b. Public comments – Jose Pineda – complaints on smoking outside; traffic complaints; Trish Gossett – advising delay of approval for the following concerns – permits on exterior work, traffic, quality of life issues, Tina Miller – additional conditions would add – suggesting 3-6 month zoning variance to open up to investigate; traffic study, a hotline for residents; Chris Scherer – in support as it's a well maintained facility and benefit to community; Javier Ramos – in support of venue; Christine Moore – principal of Burbank Middle – has reached out to school and no incidents and no concerns from parents and better in terms of graffiti; Cathi Milligan – in support; Kevin from CD 14 – in support – with additional conditions – strict enforcement for hours; set up during day only; Priscilla Moreno – says wants to see actions with promises – no parking is a problem; Manuel Parra – next door resident – in support (also does business w/owner)
 - c. Motion to amend -Harvey – made additional amendments (to the letter as written) 1) hours till 10-11pm on weeknights, 10-midnight to weekend, 2) live entertainment –only indoors, 3) no amplification, 4) create smoking site – onsite only
 - d. D. Silva– possible to delay 1-2 months to see progress?
 - e. CD14 rep stated Zoning Administrator – has only provided a 2 week window to add conditions with teeth, may lose opportunity to give conditions if we do not act now
 - f. Motion to amend with additional conditions as laid out. Harvey motioned, Seconded by Diego – voting on amendments - all in favor; Motion with letter with amendments. All in favor with exception of Miguel and Liz who abstains. Motion passes.
7. [PREVIOUSLY #23] Motion to send letter of resolution opposing the use of LAPD surveillance drones. Hamid Khan, Jamie Garcia, Cookie Patinsky, Mike Aguilar, Esteban Gil; Carol Smith spoke in support of letter.
 - a. Concerns –may have other public safety benefits; not sure what police uses may be beneficial
 - b. Diego motions to amend letter deleting of “Furthermore” sentence; Aaron – seconded; Opposed – Manuel Avila. All others in favor. Motion passes.
 - c. Motion to amend F. Villa to add that we strongly suggest ownership transferred to LAFD (for public safety purposes); Stan seconded; Opposed – Manuel, Jessica, Susanne, SuzAnne, Diego, Miguel, Johanna. In favor – Fernando, Stan, Aaron. Motion fails.
 - d. All in favor of letter as written with deleted sentence. All in favor with exception of Manuel who opposes. Motion passes.
 8. [PREVIOUSLY #24] Motion to approve submission of a letter to the judge presiding over the Transit Village vs. Friends of Highland Park lawsuit regarding the need for an Environmental Impact Study.
 - a. Harvey – land use recommends sending judge letter.
 - b. Motion – Susanne H – Harvey seconds – to add city address file council file number – All in favor. Abstain – Suzanne B. Motion passes.
 9. Motion to partner with CD 14 on the 2nd Annual Highland Park Tree lighting event, December 12 at 6:30pm at the Senior Center and approve funds of no more than \$200 for activities and supplies.
 - a. All in favor. Motion passes.
 10. Motion to support the Highland Park Rec Center with the traditional HHPNC Santa pictures and Santa letter writing tables for event to be held December 13, 2014. Funds requested of no more than \$400.
 - a. Diego motions to delete “writing tables for event” and add ‘another activity’. Johanna seconded. – All in favor. Motion passes. Motion with amendment – all in favor. Motion passes.
 11. Motion to allocate no more than \$75 to purchase a new website template. All in favor. Motion passes.
 12. Motion to allocate no more than \$800 to purchase a 12-month advertising space on The Boulevard Sentinel. Opposed – Miguel. All else in favor. Motion passes.
 13. Motion to allocate no more than \$25 to dry clean the HHPNC table cover. All in favor. Motion passes.

14. Motion to fund a Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) requested by the Highland Park Kiwanis Foundation in the amount of \$500 for the 8th Annual Peace in the Northeast Walk to be held April 18, 2015. – S. Moore.
 - a. Stan Moore – recuses himself before discussion and leaves the room.
 - b. All in favor. Motion passes.
15. Motion to fund an NPG requested by the Highland Park Heritage Trust in the amount of \$1000 for the preservation and digitization of Northeast Los Angeles Community Newspapers.
 - a. Harvey recuses himself before discussion and leaves the room.
 - b. Going to other NCs for support; requesting seed money for project for purposes of then requesting larger grant support. Requesting same amounts – from other NCs. Intent to make archives publicly accessible.
 - c. All in favor. Motion passes.
16. Motion to fund an NPG requested by the Lummis Day Community Foundation in the amount of \$1500 in support of the Lummis Day 10th Anniversary Festival to be held Sunday, June 7, 2015.
 - a. Visiting other NCs with same amount request. Will be held at Sycamore Park.
 - b. All in favor. Motion passes.
17. Motion to approve the renewal of services provided by InMotion Hosting at a cost of \$132.86 for products described as: Launch Plan (\$107.88), Domain Registration (\$14.99) and Domain Privacy (\$9.99). All in favor. Motion passes.
18. Motion to approve the Monthly Expenditure Report for September 2014 as required by DONE. –All in favor. Motion passes.
19. Motion to approve the Monthly Expenditure Report for October 2014 as required by DONE. All in favor. Motion passes.
20. Motion to approve HHPNC co-sponsoring workshops on tenant and landlord rights, financial literacy, and home ownership. No funds requested at this time. All in favor. Motion passes.
21. Motion to create a standing digital and social media committee. All in favor. Motion passes.
22. Motion to support and participate in the 2015 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count. All in favor. Motion passes.
23. Update on current work of the Budget Advocates. L. Amsden discussed current work addressing infrastructure.
24. Motion to have a full board meeting dedicated solely to land use issues on the third Thursday of every month.
 - a. Concerns regarding time with pressing issues and new developments coming. Emergency meetings take time and difficult to facilitate participation.
 - b. Liz motioned to amend to change to two meetings beginning February 2015. Stan seconded. All in favor. Motion passes. Motion with amendment change. All in favor. Motion passes.
25. Motion to approve submission of an updated letter to LA City Council, MTA, and Cal Trans in opposition to Interstate 710 alternatives that would construct any kind of freeway, both surface or tunnel, and to support the alternatives that do not include the construction of a freeway, such as expanded light rail or no build.
 - a. Motion to add additional language to letter as submitted to the Board. Huerta, Harvey seconded. Monica and Johanna – abstained. All rest in favor. Motion passes.
 - b. Motion with letter with new language. Abstaining – Johanna. All rest in favor – Motion passes.
26. Motion to purchase blank name business cards with the HHPNC logo for use by committee members. Funds requested of up to no more than \$100. Motion to table – H. Slater, Stan seconded. –All in favor. Motion passes.
27. Motion to approve a resolution requesting the City to explore ways to increase voter turn-out across all demographics including evaluating alternate approaches to providing information to the electorate and incentivizing broad participation in future elections. Motion to table - Liz, Stan seconded. Motion passes.

28. Motion to submit a letter requesting the City to implement the Reserve Animal Control Officers (RACO) program that was initiated in 2010. All in favor with exception of abstaining – Jessica and SuzAnne. Motion passes.
29. Motion to change January 1, 2015 general board meeting to Thursday, January 15, 2015. All in favor. Motion passes.
30. Motion to approve a partnership between HHPNC, Figueroa BID, CD1, and other local non-profits on a neighborhood signage project on Figueroa Blvd near Ave. 57 as recommended by the Beautification Committee.
 - a. Signage may eventually be in amount of \$10k but no amounts are being requested yet but expected to partner with other entities to split costs. All in favor. Motion passes.
31. New Business – Pres. – wants more participation in events.
32. Adjournment – 10:41pm