

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

HISTORIC HIGHLAND PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
Post Office Box 50791
Los Angeles, CA 90050
<http://www.highlandparknc.com>
Certified as NC #33 May 28, 2002

CALIFORNIA

DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT
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Aaron Salcido FIRST VICE PRESIDENT
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Joan Potter BUDGET and FINANCE
Diego Silva OUTREACH
Johanna Sanchez RULES
Harvey Slater, Susanne Huerta LAND USE
Monica Alcaraz PUBLIC SAFETY
Aaron Salcido BEAUTIFICATION
Monica Alcaraz YOUTH SCHOOL ALLIANCE
SuzAnn Brantner DIGITAL & SOCIAL MEDIA
Jessica Ceballos ARTS & CULTURE
Vacant GREEN & SUSTAINABILITY

Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council

Notice of Regular Meeting and Agenda

Thursday, May 7, 2015

Highland Park Senior Center 6152 N. Figueroa St.

Los Angeles, CA 90042

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m

The public is requested to fill out a "Speaker Card" to address the Board on any agenda item prior to the Board taking action. Public comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker but the Board has the discretion to modify the amount of time for any speaker.

When the Board considers the agenda item entitled "Public Comments," the public has the right to comment on any matter that is within the Board's jurisdiction. The public may also comment on a specific item listed on this agenda when the Board considers that item. In addition, the members of the public may request and receive copies without undue delay of any documents that are distributed to the Board, unless there is a specific exemption under the Public Records Act that prevents the disclosure of the record. (Govt. Code § 54957.5)

The Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council holds its regular meetings on the first and third Thursday of every month and may also call any additional required special meetings in accordance with its Bylaws and the Brown Act. The agenda for the regular and special meetings is posted for public review at: the Fire Station #12 located at 5921 North Figueroa Street and online at www.highlandparknc.com. Additional locations may include (1) Café de Leche located at 5000 York Boulevard, (2) Ramona Hall Community Center located at 4580 North Figueroa Street, (3) La Tropicana Market located at 5200 Monte Vista Street, (4) Highland Market located at 6901 N. Figueroa St, and (5) the Arroyo Seco Library, 6145 North Figueroa Street.

The Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act and does not discriminate on the basis of any disability. Upon request, the Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council will provide reasonable accommodations to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure the availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting the Department of Neighborhood Councils at (213) 485-1360 or e-mail to NCsupport@lacity.org. In compliance with Government Code Section 54957.5, nonexempt writings that are distributed to a majority of all board members in advance of a meeting may be viewed at www.highlandparknc.com/ by clicking the Board agenda link or at the scheduled meeting. If you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact Monica Alcaraz at monica.alcaraz@highlandparknc.com. To request language services please call the Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment, City of L.A at 213.978.1551.

SI REQUIERE SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCION, FAVOR DE NOTIFICAR A LA OFICINA 3 DIAS DE TRABAJO (72 horas) ANTES DEL EVENTO. SI NECESITA AYUDA CON ESTA AGENDA, POR FAVOR LLAME A NUESTRA OFICINA AL (213) 485-1360.

AGENDA

- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Elected Officials (Mayor's office, CD1, CD14, AD51, SD 22, BOS1)

- D. President's Report
- E. LAPD Report
- F. LAFD Report
- G. Board Announcements
- H. Committee Reports: (Budget, Land Use, Outreach, Rules, Public Safety, Beautification, Youth School Alliance, Digital and Social Media, Arts & Culture, Green & Sustainability)
- I. Budget Advocates Report
- J. Sustainability Alliance Report/LANCC Report
- K. Public Comments (Limited to 10 minutes, maximum 2 minutes per speaker)

ACTION ITEMS

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of Minutes of the April 16, 2015 meeting.
3. (5 mins) [PREVIOUSLY TABLED] Motion to allocate any unused funds from FY 2014-2015 to the DONE Budget Advocate and the NC Congress accounts. - L. Amsden.
4. (3 mins) [PREVIOUSLY TABLED] Motion to request \$50 support in kind for the May 16th NCSA Stakeholder Engagement Workshop to provide refreshments and/or supplies. - L. Amsden.
5. (3 mins) [PREVIOUSLY TABLED] Motion to City Rec and Parks Committee that they allow Nederlander to continue to operate the Greek Theatre. -L. Amsden.
6. (3 mins) Discussion and motion to revise the 2014-2015 HHPNC budget as recommended by the Budget & Finance Committee. -J. Potter.
7. (5 mins) Update on Highland Park signage project and possible motion to redirect \$5000 as previously designated for the signage project to be reallocated to the general budget current fiscal year. - J. Sanchez.
8. (3 mins) Motion to organize a community soft ball game on May 31 at the Highland Park Rec Center in partnership with LAPD, CD1 and CD14. With funds for refreshments in the amount of \$200. -M. Alcaraz.
9. (3 min) Motion to purchase promotional temporary tattoos with funds up to \$250. -M. Alcaraz.
10. (3 min) Motion to purchase promotional bumper sticker with funds up to \$500. -M. Alcaraz.
11. (3 mins) Motion to purchase promotional Highland Park Shirts funds up to \$1500. -M. Alcaraz.
12. (3 mins) Motion to support a cleanup at memorial square on Saturday, May 23rd with funds up to \$250. - M. Alcaraz.
13. (3 mins) Motion to reimburse Stan Moore in the amount of \$84.99 for hospitality items he paid for, in conjunction with the April 11, 2015 Northeast Day of Service. - J. Potter.
14. (5 mins) Discussion and motion to fund an NPG request from Franklin High School JROTC. Budget & Finance recommends funding for \$1000 even though the paperwork asks for \$2,310. - J. Potter.
15. (5 mins) Discussion and motion to fund an NPG request from Arts for a Better Tomorrow. Budget & Finance recommends funding for \$1,500 even though the paperwork asks for \$2,500. - J. Potter.
16. (3 mins) Discussion and motion to fund an NPG request from Franklin High School Robotics Club for \$1000. - J. Potter.
17. (3 mins) Discussion and motion to fund an NPG request from Avenue 50 Studios for \$200.00. These funds enable the Ragdoll Project to put on a 1-day (5 hour) workshop. - J. Potter.
18. (3 mins) Discussion and motion to fund an NPG request from Avenue 50 Studios for \$400.00. These funds enable There's No Story Greater to put on five workshops. - J. Potter.
19. (4 mins) Discussion and motion to fund an NPG request from Avenue 50 Studios for \$500.00. These funds provide for 2 free, 3-hour business re/development workshops. - J. Potter.
20. (5 mins) Discussion and motion to fund an NPG request from Avenue 50 Studios for \$1500 for funds to go toward the purchase of a Book Bike for the Arroyo Seco Regional Branch Library. - J. Potter.
21. (3min) Motion to work with CD14 on the Utility Box Art Project - M.Alcaraz
22. (20 mins) Motion to fill Director At-Large vacant seat(s) per approved process. New Board member to be seated at the May 21st, 2015 Board meeting. -M. Alcaraz.
23. New Business
24. Adjournment

Minutes 4/16/15 general board meeting of the HHPNC

A. Call to Order – 7:07pm

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

C. Elected Officials (Mayor's office, CD1, CD14, AD51, SD 22, BOS1)

CD14 – next tree maintenance day in May (last Sunday of every other month), recap of York park egg hunt, \$100k for San Pascual park – future meetings to discuss how money is to be prioritized, ADA ramp and shade at York park is coming, senior center progressing; BOS – Solis is making rounds at the senior centers, 710 forums to be held in May, oversight panels with respect to the Sheriff's office – forums

D. President's Report – make sure Board members recuse themselves in issues of conflict; Peace March on 4/18

E. LAPD Report – violent crime still important issue; still deploying lots of officers in the area; issue – high demand of stolen vehicles

F. LAFD Report - none

G. Board Announcements – Peace March

H. Committee Reports: (Budget, Land Use, Outreach, Rules, Public Safety, Beautification, Youth School Alliance, Digital and Social Media, Arts & Culture, Green & Sustainability) Budget – April 29 mtg; Land Use – 4th Thursday of the month, fairly large developments are coming down the pipeline; Outreach – Boulevard Sentinel ad is out, brochures are ready, tote bags are coming in, Oxy has purchased property to be used for community purposes at Armadale and York, still a work in progress; Rules – to be discussed in agenda; Public Safety – Gang Injunction to be held on April 30; Beautification – agenda item; YSA – meeting to be called soon; DSM – need minutes and committee member names; Arts/Culture – may be looking into dissolving; Green – meeting to be held soon

I. Budget Advocates Report – Budget Day is June 27 – open to any other board member or stakeholder

J. Sustainability Alliance Report – Steering plan – meetings upcoming; at Tree People – open

K. Public Comments (Limited to 10 minutes, maximum 2 minutes per speaker)

-David Flores – Wall Las Memorias – community health forum on 4/23/15

-Gabriel Chabran – applying as a member at large, introducing himself

-Luisa Cummings – has a petition circulating regarding development – needs to go to land use meeting

-Franklin Robotics- giving an update on the Robotics program

ACTION ITEMS

1. Approval of Agenda – Moving Up #10, #11 to after #3, Aaron motioned, Johanna seconded.
2. Approval of Minutes of the April 2, 2015 meeting. – SuzAnn, Liz, Johanna – abstaining; All else in favor. Motion passes.
3. Motion to approve the Monthly Expenditure Report for February 2015 as required by DONE. – J. Potter. In favor: Monica, Liz, SuzAnn, Jessica, Mauro, Stan, Joan, Miguel, Aaron, Johanna, Diego, Harvey, Fernando – Motion passes.
4. [Previously #10] Discussion and motion to compensate SWA Architects up to \$5,000 for their work on designing neighborhood signage plans and for their future work in getting city approvals, permits, construction plans, and bids. Funds to come from previously allocated \$10,000 for signage project with the remainder to be used for installation costs or returned to general HHPNC fund.
 - a. Aaron – HHPOZ has approved and will be receiving a letter of support. DONE has verbally approved the wording of contract as is. SWA presents – \$10k not likely for full implementation of the sign, SWA has already worked on project unpaid for past 2 years.
 - b. Council concerns that no entities have been able to match or contribute or promised in writing and still seems very preliminary without much planning details; need a budget plan.
 - c. Public comment – (Nancy Wyatt) making this issue more a public forum
 - d. Motion to amend to \$5k to return to general fund immediately, and keep \$5k to be used for the beautification committee to be used for the signage project provided that there is written confirmation on matching funds and approval in writing of the signage contract by DONE – by May 6th, 2015 or all funds (of total of 10k) to be returned to the general fund. Liz motioned. SuzAnn seconded. In favor: Monica, Liz, SuzAnn, Jessica, Mauro, Stan, Joan, (Miguel abstains), Aaron, Diego, Harvey, Fernando – Motion passes.

5. Motion to support with no more than \$200 the Spring Noise Arts and Culture Festival to be held at the Bank Building on Saturday, May 9, 2015. Funds to be used for food and refreshments.
 - a. In favor: Monica, Liz, Suzann Jessica, Mauro, Stan, Joan, Miguel, Aaron, Johanna, Diego, Harvey, Fernando – motion passes.
6. Motion to approve the Monthly Expenditure Report for March 2015 as required by DONE.
 - a. In favor: Monica, Liz, SuzAnn, Jessica, Mauro, Joan, Stan, Aaron, Miguel, Johanna, Harvey, Diego, Fernando. Motion passes.
7. Motion by M. Alcaraz to reimburse Joan Potter for \$129.69 for healthy snacks and decorations for the York Park April 3rd Easter Egg Hunt.
 - a. Joan recuses herself and leaves the room.
 - b. In favor: Monica, Liz, Miguel, SuzAnn, Mauro, Jessica, Stan, Aaron, Johanna, Harvey, Diego, Fernando. No abstentions. Motion passes.
8. Motion to allocate up to \$500 to the April 18th Peace in the Northeast Walk as an Outreach Event.
 - a. Joan returns. Stan recuses himself and leaves the room.
 - b. In favor: Monica, Liz, SuzAnn, Jessica, Mauro, Joan, Miguel, Aaron, Diego, Harvey, Fernando, Harvey. Motion passes.
9. Discussion and motion to request direction from Board to guide the Budget & Finance Committee's budget revision proposal, which will come to the Board in May 2015.
 - a. Stan Returns. \$5000 that was reallocated tonight can now be used as future NPGs.
 - b. Budget proposal to come in May.
10. Motion to allocate any unused funds from FY 2014-2015 to the DONE Budget Advocate and the NC Congress accounts. Liz motions to table. -SuzAnn seconds. All in favor. Motion to table passes.
11. Motion to request \$50 support in kind for the May 16th NCSA Stakeholder Engagement Workshop to provide refreshments and/or supplies. -SuzAnn seconds. All in favor. Motion to table passes.
12. Discussion and motion to provide answers to DONE's Administrative and Elections Stipulation worksheet.
 - a. Miguel, Mauro, and Fernando left.
 - b. Read through document and answered the questions on the stip sheet. All in favor to accept answers: Joan, Jessica, Liz, Aaron, SuzAnn, Monica, Diego, Harvey, Stan, Johanna. Motion passes.
13. Discussion and motion to accept bylaw amendments as proposed by the Rules Committee related to the following articles and sections: Article VII Committees and their Duties, Section 1, and Section 3; Article VIII Meetings, Section 3; Article XI Grievance Process; and Article XIV Compliance, Sections 1 and 2
 - a. Read through bylaw changes. All in favor: Joan, Jessica, Liz, Aaron, SuzAnn, Monica, Diego, Harvey, Stan, Johanna. Motion passes.
14. Motion to support a letter to the Personnel and Animal Welfare Committee supporting the Mayor's recommendation for five exempt positions for the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (Council File 15-0373).
 - a. Aaron left. Quorum lost. Item tabled.
15. Motion to City Rec and Parks Committee that they allow Nederlander to continue to operate the Greek Theatre. –Tabled.
16. New Business - None
17. Adjournment – 9:08pm.

HHPNC At-Large Candidates

Name: Liane Balaban

What skills would you bring to the HHPNC?

I have experience in community outreach and organization via cultural events I have co-produced in my hometown of Toronto, and would like to bring the enthusiasm I have for connecting youth in particular with the local arts scene to the vibrant neighborhood of Highland Park. You can read more about my most recent event here: <http://www.samaritanmag.com/musicians/kurt-cobain-starting-point-bloom-youth-fundraising-initiative>

What committee would you be interested in joining or starting?

I would be interested in connecting local artisans and artists with Highland Park youth in various learning opportunities via workshops based around a specific skill. I.e. a musician teaching a group of youth to play a song, or a local crafts person leading a workshop in creating some visual art. Hopefully these events would be sponsored by local business.

I would also like to start a beautification initiative whereby the billboards are removed from York blvd or co-opted by artists (maybe even guided by local youth making art for the billboards?).

Why are you interested in joining the HHPNC?

I want to become more involved in my community, and see more integration between long time residents and newer inhabitants. I want the changes in Highland Park to provide new opportunities for learning new skills and having fun among youth.

Personal Statement

I don't have a lot of experience working on a council, and would welcome my involvement with the HHPNC as a chance to learn from more experienced board members. I see it as a way for me to become involved in my neighborhood on a more formal, organized level.

Name: Nicholas Chabran

What skills would you bring to the HHPNC?

Leadership, strong organizational skills, social media skills, connecting with different types of people.

What committee would you be interested in joining or starting?

Youth School Alliance, Outreach committee, Digital & Social Media Committee, and Arts & Culture Committee.

Why are you interested in joining the HHPNC?

I want to be more involved with the community and I hope to bring a fresh perspective to table.

Personal Statement

Having lived in NELA for the past eight years, I have witnessed many of the recent changes that have occurred in the neighborhood. I am extremely committed to seeing the Highland Park community flourish as best possible, and would like to assist in the process to better serve in any way that I can.

HHPNC At-Large Candidates

Name: Eunisses Hernandez

What skills would you bring to the HHPNC?

I have many skills that could be potentially valuable to HHPNC. I have several years of experience in networking, public speaking, training, fund raising, and event organization. I graduate from CSULB with a degree in criminal justice, and currently work for Amity Foundation, therapeutic and residential facility for men and women coming out of prison and jail. I also work for Drug Policy Alliance as a criminal justice policy associate.

What committee would you be interested in joining or starting?

I would be interested in joining any of the committees, as long as I can help my community

Why are you interested in joining the HHPNC?

I am interested in joining HHPNC because I want to be a voice for my neighborhood and the people in it. So many voices go unheard because of where they live and the lack of communication they receive or reach out for. Our neighborhoods need people that are not afraid to be a voice for them on important issues such as gentrification and so on an so fourth.

Personal Statement

I have lived in Highland Park my entire life. I want to protect it and the people who live here. Many great things are happening in HLP, but none of it seems to be for the people that have lived there for decades. I also feel that our relationship with LAPD can be strengthened to better protect our folks. We have so many bright minds that have been born in HLP, I would like to foster them and help them grow by helping services reach them and their families.

HLP is my home and will continue to be as long as God allows, and I want to do what ever is in my abilities to make it a better place for our families.

HHPNC At-Large Candidates

Name: Sheri Lunn

What skills would you bring to the HHPNC?

I have a long and varied work history in both for-profit and nonprofit organizations as well as extensive board service for a number of organizations. Overall, I possess the sensitivity, judgment, and capabilities to help lead an organization to the next level of success. My experiences have given me a high level of adaptability and flexibility. I've led highly charged, mission-critical programs and I feel strongly that all my paths — professionally, educationally, and volunteer-wise leave me well-suited to serve on the HHPNC.

What committee would you be interested in joining or starting?

My professional career for most of my adult life has been in marketing/PR/communications/fundraising for nonprofit organizations. I understand that a Social and Digital Media Committee already exists, but I believe my PR and communications/marketing skills could best be utilized somehow. However, I am open to working where necessary and would be better suited to suggest the start of a committee after having some experience with the workings of the HHPNC and seeing which niche might need to be filled.

Why are you interested in joining the HHPNC?

My family settled in Highland Park in the 1940s and I've lived in Highland Park most of my life, graduating from Yorkdale Elementary, Luther Burbank Junior High College Preparatory Magnet School (the Learning Center), and Franklin High School. I believe I bring a history as well as an eye to the future for improving the community I live in.

Personal Statement

I hold an Associate of Arts degree and a national written certification in American Sign Language Interpreting, a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Broadcast Journalism, and a Master of Science in Leadership and Management. For nearly 20 years, I have worked for fairness and equality in social justice and healthcare organizations across race and class boundaries. From grassroots organizations, to community centers, to large-scale fund-raising development initiatives such as AIDS/LifeCycle, to raising awareness of and growing national organizations, I have been on the frontlines of a traditionally socially oppressed community's fight for equality, health, recognition, and legal rights.

As a management executive, I have earned a reputation for conceiving, developing, and executing strategies that drive positive and expansive organizational change. In addition, my early and continuing background in broadcast journalism has helped me to hone my skill set for public speaking, media work, and raising public awareness.

My work with AIDS/LifeCycle (ALC) taught me the intricacies of large-scale fund-raising and the impact that fund-raising has in changing and, indeed, saving lives. I was brought into ALC at a time when the future of the event itself was in doubt and I was tasked with improving employee morale; increasing volunteer, registrant, and business partner participation; and growing participant fund-raising. By the end of my second year of tenure, I had tripled volunteer numbers, doubled participant numbers, improved the cost of fund-raising by 8%, secured community business partnerships worth more than \$75,000, brought the event in \$1 million above its budgeted fund-raising goal, and built relationships with major corporate sponsors such as Subaru, FedEx, and Gilead.

As the communications director for a national nonprofit organization, I had a key leadership role in the successful effort to quadruple the organization's size and raise the organization's profile in a meaningful and permanent way. Working from its New York, Washington D.C., and Los Angeles offices, I secured stories with local, national and international media to promote public understanding of diverse communities. During that period, the organization became the first mover on the issues of the day. It became the go-to news source for both and mainstream and targeted media with appearances on/in Newsweek, Time Magazine, CNN, BBC, The New York Times, the Los Angeles Times, NPR, Associated Press, MSNBC, ABC, The Advocate, and local and national radio programs throughout North America.

I delivered similar results as the media director for the world's largest LGBT organization, the L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center. There, I helped to launch several large-scale media campaigns targeted to underserved communities. As part of this internal "marketing agency," the communications team secured community partners and built coalition with people of color communities in order to develop bilingual campaigns focused on smoking cessation, same-sex domestic violence, lesbian healthcare, and AIDS/HIV prevention and awareness.

In addition to my nonprofit experience, I also have a strong track record in the corporate sector. In the 1990s I was an area manager for a major music retail chain where I developed and maintained an \$8-million budget for multiple outlets and effectively trained, developed, and motivated a staff of 18 managers and more than 150 crew members. I positively affected P&L statements by implementing and enforcing policies and procedures, effectively marketing each individual outlet to its specific neighborhood, and merchandising specific products for maximum return on investment. I built vendor, label, and artist relations and helped produce concerts, special events and in-store appearances by diverse artists such as Ricky Martin, the Beastie Boys, Liza Minnelli and the Indigo Girls.

I'm particularly proud of my volunteer board experience with the ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives. As the former vice president of the board of directors of the ONE, I spearheaded a fund-raising strategy that led to a 275-percent increase in its operating budget. I also instituted the archive's first women's committee, which supported the expansion of the Lesbian Herstory collection and implemented programming specifically targeted to women.

I believe my background, skills, and personality are a great fit and that I can confidently deliver successful results for the HHPNC.

Name: Kate McKeon

What skills would you bring to the HHPNC?

As a lawyer, I have the ability to analyze complex issues and come up with creative solutions. In addition, I understand legal issues, and can advise in that regard as well. I also have community leadership experience, currently serving as a member of the advisory committee of Food on Foot, a local non-profit organization that provides food, clothing, and work opportunities to Los Angeles residents, and as an Assistant Vice President of the executive committee of the Los Angeles County Bar Association's Barristers Committee. I have also previously served as a leader with various other community organizations.

What committee would you be interested in joining or starting?

I feel my skill set would make me an asset to the Rules committee, as I have relevant experience and knowledge from previous organizations I have been involved with. However, I am quite flexible, and always willing to pitch in where my help can be most useful!

Why are you interested in joining the HHPNC?

I am interested in working to make Highland Park the best it can be. Although I am a recent transplant, having just bought a house in the neighborhood a year ago, I plan to make it my lifelong home, and one day raise my children here. I would love the opportunity to give back to the community, and I feel the HHPNC is a great way to get involved and ensure that Highland Park stays the great community I fell in love with when I was looking for a home.

Personal Statement

My name is Kate McKeon, and I am a Highland Park homeowner. I looked all over the Northeast (and the West side as well!) when I was looking for a home last year, and fell in love with Highland Park. The sense of community was apparent, and I knew it was where I wanted to live. After making 16 offers on homes in Highland Park, I was finally blessed to be able to purchase a house on Avenue 63. Since moving to Highland Park, I have loved being able to walk my two dogs down to Garvanza Park, explore the neighborhood on foot, and get to know my neighbors!

Name: Nicholas Mendoza

What skills would you bring to the HHPNC?

I'm a creative professional so naturally I am a problem solver by trade. I'm also outspoken and have no problem voicing my concerns where need be. I've been here in the 90042 long enough to call this my home and take pride in where it has come and where it's going.

What committee would you be interested in joining or starting?

Director at Large

Why are you interested in joining the HHPNC?

I've been a Highland Park resident since 2008. Since then I've seen the embrace and resistance to the change of the neighborhood. My family is originally from NELA and noticing I'm not the only Latino who has moved back into to same neighborhoods our grandparents have moved us out of. I can identify with the newcomers. I can identify with the old school residents. I feel the dual connection with both parties can only aid in being a bridge to the sides that have either embraced or refused the change, hopefully unifying it under one collective goal.

Personal Statement

I'm a creative professional so naturally I am a problem solver by trade. I'm also outspoken and have no problem voicing my concerns where need be. I've been here in the 90042 long enough to call this my home and take pride in where it has come and where it's going.

HHPNC At-Large Candidates

Name: Victoria Mangier

What skills would you bring to the HHPNC?

I would be thrilled to share my skills as an educator with the Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council. As a teacher, I keep in frequent contact with educators, parents, students, and businesses in an effort to build transparency, hold parents accountable for the success of their children, and collaborate with local organizations and businesses in an effort to include them in the decision making process that occurs at our school.

As a member of an Interdisciplinary Learning Team at Sotomayor High School, I collaborate with educators on a regular basis in an effort to create viable solutions to problems at our school site that hold all teachers accountable and responsible for the success of our students.

I intend on using my patience and communication skills to help build transparency at board meetings and throughout the decision-making process to create, implement, and sustain the decisions that are made in favor of the community I am proud to reside in.

Technology is an important part of society that an increasing number of individuals have regular access to. Because I believe technology is such a critical tool, I implement the regular use of technology in my classroom. As a result, I am able to use digital media to help build awareness for HHPNC in order to increase and encourage stakeholder participation in elections or other decision-making activities, or as a tool for disseminating information for the common good.

What committee would you be interested in joining or starting?

I am interested in participation in the Outreach and Digital and Social Media Committees. In 2009, I was Outreach Coordinator for the Audubon Center at Debs Park. I was responsible for maintaining relationships between the Nature Center and the surrounding schools, making sure I kept in frequent contact with parents informing them of upcoming programming. I contacted families via email, digital media, and flyer distribution.

Additionally, I kept in contact with various public resources in the surrounding communities of Lincoln Heights, El Sereno, Highland Park, Eagle Rock, Cypress Park, and Glassell Park, thus, resulting in an attendance increase at the Nature Center and to our family programming events.

As a member of the Outreach Committee, I intend to use my knowledge of Highland Park to reach the various stakeholders who have planted roots in the area and wish to see them to continue to grow by taking a more active role in the grounding and guiding of those roots, as they help build the path towards change they can be proud of.

As a teacher of the largest school district in Los Angeles, I am curious to know more about the actions of the Youth School Alliance Committee. As an educator employed in the Glassell Park area, I am currently working with Molly Lynn Taylor, the Chair of the Glassell Park Neighborhood Council, to develop a Student Intern position responsible for maintaining communication between the Board and the Stakeholders of Glassell Park. I am interested in gaining any tips or advice the Youth School Alliance Committee has to offer with regards to having students advocate in support of their community, so that I may continue to collaborate with leaders in my community interested in helping expand the role of the youth in Neighborhood Councils around Los Angeles.

Why are you interested in joining the HHPNC?

As a resident of Highland Park for over ten years, I have attended neighborhood council meetings and have been a part of committees in the past, so I am aware of their functions and dealings.

I attended Cal State Los Angeles, and recently graduated from Humboldt State University with a Degree in History and double minor in English. I return to my community with many creative ideas for our continued growth and improvement. When I left for college in 2010, I left seeking a change from the hustle and bustle of the big city in exchange for a small-town vibe. Living in Northern California, and seeing the close-knit relationships that people in the community had with each other, made me appreciate the small-town vibe I had all along in Highland Park. My education and upbringing at Bushnell Way Elementary School, Burbank Middle School, and Franklin High School has built up the network of people I know in the surrounding areas that have lived here for many years and have witnessed and benefited from the changes that have taken place.

By joining the HHPNC, I hope to help guide Highland Park along a path that all its residents are proud of by encouraging the community engagement of stakeholders, ensuring that equity and justice are transparent when making decisions for the community as we enter an era of change and make Highland Park a better place to live in.

Personal Statement

I am interested in joining the Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council because it will allow me to expand my leadership abilities by collaborating with professionals from various backgrounds, and work towards making the community of Highland Park a better place to live in.

Growing up in Highland Park, I was exposed to things young children are only accustomed to seeing in the movies. I saw many kids my age get into trouble, resulting in their incarceration or death. I realized early in my life the impact that positive role models can have on individuals, and have since aspired to use my qualities as a leader to improve the academic and personal success of individuals. However, an individual's success is only as strong as the foundation it's built upon.

A few years back, that foundation, Highland Park, was not as solid as it is today. Slowly but surely individuals have been working on filling those cracks and helping build a strong foundation for families to plant roots and grow. Those leaders have helped build a stronger future for the youth by making Highland Park a safer place to live in, thus, allowing youth to rise up to their potential by removing a barrier to adversity and bridging the gap that can be too challenging for some to overcome on their own.

As At-Large-Director on the HHPNC board, I would strive towards representing Highland Park to City Hall to the best of my abilities, and join those leaders that have helped build a strong foundation. I would strive towards making our community a better place to live in for the culturally diverse stakeholders that reside in the area, as well as hope to inspire within them a form of social awareness and activism that encourages their participation as productive citizens that are engaged in dialogue regarding their communities' future while being inclusive of cultural awareness and social understanding for the greater good.

I greatly appreciate your consideration for this voluntary position.

Best, Victoria Munguia

HHPNC At-Large Candidates

Name: Douglas Plamondon

What skills would you bring to the HHPNC?

Enthusiasm, integrity, humor

What committee would you be interested in joining or starting?

Graffiti clean up/ notification

Why are you interested in joining the HHPNC?

To make our community a better place to live. When I heard the police officer saying the he needed our help to prevent gang crime, I thought that I wanted to help...I also thought he was full of it and I want to make the police more accountable for the safety of our neighborhood.

Personal Statement

I want to be involved in my community and make a difference

Name: Malen Rodriguez

What skills would you bring to the HHPNC?

I can be part of the group that advocates for Affordable Housing and Permanent Supportive Services as I have been in this industry for the last 18 years of my working career.

I purchase a property and now my permanent residence at Highland Park because I can see that Highland Park is a great community with bright potentials.

What committee would you be interested in joining or starting?

The committee that is involve in housing and gang prevention

Why are you interested in joining the HHPNC?

I live in Highland Park for almost two years and I've followed the HHPNC for some time now and I've seen the dedication of the members. And I told myself, that when the time comes that I can be of service to my community, I will certainly join a great group. And I guess, now is the time.

Personal Statement

Loving and caring are good feelings but reaching out to share that good feelings is heavenly!

HHPNC At-Large Candidates

Name: Kim White

What skills would you bring to the HHPNC?

I've lived & worked in Highland Park since 2007. I own a small business that I run out of the home I own north of York on Avenue 56. I have attended each of my Neighborhood Watch meetings, and thus am aware of some of the issues effecting HP. I care greatly about my neighborhood. I'm organized, a good listener, a good speaker, cool under pressure, and fair.

What committee would you be interested in joining or starting?

Not sure yet. First time getting involved. But I do think we need to address the drought better in my neighborhood. I'm not sure if everyone got the memo we're in a drought. Lots of hosing off of sidewalks, etc (Herbie's Auto Haus recently, home owners, too).

Why are you interested in joining the HHPNC?

I care about my neighborhood and know I'd be a good asset.

Personal Statement

I love Highland Park. I love how our city has evolved since I moved here in 2007 -- in a positive direction of being a desirable place to live. I'm proud of our art galleries, the art walk, and restaurants and specialty food shops. I'm especially proud of the fact that we're also a working class neighborhood with a long history, with great taco trucks and small businesses and families that have been here for years. Hopefully these type of things won't be squeezed out, because it is exactly what makes HP interesting and unique. I think it's important to keep HP roots. I love all of the diversity of HP. I'm hoping our city won't be overtaken by overzealous developers who might see potential for turning our great little city into a mini mall.