HHPNC MINUTES SEPTEMBER 15, 2011
Acting Secretary, Dr. Stanley Moore

A. Call to Order, Acting President, Lisa Brewer

B. Welcome and Public Comment, Acting President Lisa Brewer

Mel Iconia, spoke regarding the September 17 Foreclosure Workshop being held at 342 San Fernando Rd. (next to Home Depot). This workshop has been funded in part by two local Neighborhood Councils, by Assembly Gil Cedillo, and the participating banks (Bank of America, Wells Fargo), etc. In California we have, at present, the highest foreclosure rate in the nation. This workshop is to try and help rescue home owners.

Ruby DeVerda, chair of the November 13 Veterans’ Parade and Eagle Rock Centennial Celebration, came to both announce the event and to ask for money. She promised to return on October 6 to make her financial request. The Veterans’ Parade will start at Glassell Park Senior Center, go north on Eagle Rock Blvd. to Yosemite Blvd, and then turn east and end at Eagle Rock High School. It starts at 1 p.m. and ends by 2:30 at the ERHS Auditorium for a concert led by the Glendale Community College music department. At 11 a.m. at Eagle Rock City Hall there will be a formal ceremony remembering our local veterans.

Stan Moore announced that the Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) was holding a special meeting at Glassell Park Senior Center (GPSC), beginning at 7 p.m., Thursday, September 22, to analyze and give its response to City Councilman Krekorian’s four proposed ordinances directed at reforming DONE and the Neighborhood Council system as established in the revised City Charter of 1999. DONE requested the NELA Coalition arrange for the meeting at the GPSC, but it will be in total control of the content presented in the program. This should be a priority meeting for the members of the HHPNC.

Then Stan reminded everyone of the upcoming Neighborhood Council Congress on Saturday, September 24, at City Hall. Registration begins at 7:45 with a “continental” breakfast, parking in the City Hall’s parking garage, a free lunch, a session with the Mayor, with the members of the City Council, and three workshops sessions (from a choice of 21 possible workshops). Again, this should be a priority item for the members of the HHPNC. It is open to stakeholders. It is free. And, there is free food!

C. Rules Committee Chair, Janet Dodson, noted that on the Agenda were three items to be voted on by the Council.

D. No Treasurers report; Mark Reback is absent tonight.

E. Outreach chair, Teri Bonsell, encouraged members and stakeholders to attend the Congress, and then reported on a very successful Backpack give-a-way on Saturday, September 10, at Ave. 54 and Figueroa, with over 800 backpacks given away. Erik Duerte’s father provided 200-300 backpacks while the HHPNC’s $1500 provided almost 500 backpacks. There were more than 10 community organizations with
booths at the event: A Drug Free World (Church of Scientology), Hathaway-Sycamores Family Resource Center, Cypress Park Family Source Center, UCLA’s National Mother-Child Research project centered on Highland Park, Northeast Clinic (a non profit organization), Northeast Wellness Center (a County funded health and mental health facility), the HHPNC booth, the HP Kiwanis Club booth, and 4 or 5 more. Teri also pointed out Outreach events coming up in October around Halloween: Tuesday, Oct. 25, Farmers’ Market Halloween Party, Friday night, Oct. 28, Hathaway-Sycamores Halloween Party, and the LAPD NE Division’s Open House on Saturday, October 29.


ACTION ITEMS

1. Request from Marquez: Move up item 14 (speaker present), postpone items 9 and 10. Motion, Marquez Second, Duarte MSA
   Accept the Agenda as amended: Motion: Garcia, Second, Lloyd MSA

2. Motion to Approve Minutes for August 18, 2011. Moved, Bonsell, Second, Lloyd MSA 9 yes 1 abstention Garcia (said he hadn’t read them).

3. Motion: To confirm on the Board Gulotta-Miller, Lloyd, and Milligan. (Dodson) Motion: Marquez Second, Bonsell MSA Unanimous

4. Motion: To approve funding Foreclosure Workshop. Juan Cortez, who went to the 2007 Sacramento Legislative Seminar and now works for Assemblyman Gil Cedillo this summer and is returning to U.C. Davis to complete his senior year of college, was to speak for funding but was unable to attend.
   Item tabled. Request for funding not made. Event is on Saturday, Sept. 17.

5. Discussion: Captain Skelly of Highland Park Fire Station 12 speaking about the need for better lighting for the Fire Station crosswalk because of extreme danger to pedestrians. Almost daily near misses; many senior citizens crossing to the Post Office are endangered. Huge tree needs to be removed, or . . . . Skelly has asked CD 1 for a traffic light, or a yellow blinking light, or “smart” crosswalk—that blinks when someone is crossing-- only to be told that there is no money in the budget. A better, more powerful, light bulb? No, tree too big. Fire Station 12 will resubmit a survey. Marquez noted that since F 12 is for the entire area of Highland Park, CD 14 needs to be involved.
   Second problem: Fire Station 12 needs an automatic door that closes when the company responds to an emergency. Now, the equipment leaving the Station must stop and close the door. Marquez: A rolling door should be affordable from the HHPNC’s budget for the rear exit. Bonsell: We need to take this to the City Council—make some presentations at Council, even have a demonstration with some signs and make some noise at Public Comment time.
Nate Hayward, representing CD 14, came in, was introduced, and said that CD 14 should be involved in this, especially since one local fire station was being closed and 12’s territory was being expanded greatly.

6. Motion to approve Equipment Policies and Procedures. (Dodson)
   Moved, Marquez Second, Bonsell MSA Unanimous

7. Items 7 and 8 Tabled after a long period of discussion. Brewer, turning the chair over to Marquez, saw the need for less vagueness and more clarity in the terminology, especially with the Civility Policy. Moore wanted to know the meaning of “personal interests” rather than economic interests meant? Does belonging to an organization because you are a contributing member who does not attend mean you have a “personal interest.” Aren’t members of the HHPNC encouraged to belong to community organizations. “Conflicts” are usually financial! What is a “personal” interest? Also, do we want to include knowledge of “City Ordinances, and the City Charter” which are hundreds of pages long? Brewer wanted term defined in item number 4: “verbal” “abuse” as separate from strongly arguing for a point. It was agreed that items 7 and 8 would come back after another Rules Committee meeting on them.

8. Item 14 was addressed next. Motion to approve funding for Franklin H.S. football uniforms up to but not to exceed $1500 pending approval of Budget and Finance Committee. (Antezana)
   Motion: Moore Second, Duarte
   Long discussion of funding. Franklin H.S. Alumni Foundation has more than $1 million. Couldn’t it fund this need. (Each jersey costs $85 and there are 80 boys on the football team.) Foundation only funds scholarships for students attending college. Last year $91,000 in grants were made. Coach said the football players work hard at attempting to raise money—from attending rallies, selling candy, having car washes—they are constantly fund raising. Cannot place HHPNC on uniforms—against the rules of the leagues. But, a banner proclaiming HHPNC could be placed at the football stadium. Milligan declared that an automatic door closing at the Fire Station was more important that jerseys for the players.
   Yes 8 No 3 (Dodson, Gossett, Milligan) 1 abstain (Lloyd)

9. Item 11. Approve funding for renewal of web domain, “highlandparknc.com” for two years up to but not to exceed $150 pending Budget and Finance approval.
   Motion: Gossett Second, Lloyd MSA Unanimous

10. Item 12. Motion to hire a Wordpress designer to finish the new HHPNC website Already in progress, amount up to but not to exceed $1500—funding to come from previous unspent allocation for web design of $7500. Marquez: $7500 already approved but we want full transparency.
    Motion: Garcia Second, Duarte MSA Unanimous

11. Item 13, Approve letter of support for Peace Warriors. (Antezana, Dodson, Gullotta-Miller)
    Motion: Marquez Second, Garcia Marquez chairs, while Brewer asks to
Amend by striking the last part of one sentence. Marquez calls for vote on Brewer amendment. MA Abstaining: Kekone, Antezana, Milligan, and Dodson
Voting on whole letter as amended MSA 10 – 0 -3 (Antezana, Dodson, Milligan)

12. Items 15, 16, 17, 18 Tabled.

13. New Business. Kekone asks for permission to write a letter commending the HP citizens who responded to the car crash in which a less than 2 yr. old girl perished. Kekone to write the letter. Motion: Kekone Second, Moore MSA Unanimous

New Business: Nate Harward announced that CD 14 will hold its monthly York Business walk at the Police Museum Wednesday, Sept. 21 at noon at the Police Museum.

14. Adjournment at 9:14 p.m.