A. The meeting began at 7:10 in order to hear Mr. Bennett Kayser, Board Member of the LAUSD, District 5, because he had to leave for another appointment at 7:40 P.M. He began by referring to PROP. 39, which reduced the need for a two-thirds vote for school tax increases, a good thing, but also legally provided Public Charter schools to request classroom space, etc., on any LAUSD campus which has space available. Consequently, the L.A. International Charter School can come to Franklin High School and take over excess classroom space, use the library, use the gym, etc., even if the present faculty, staff and students do not wish another school on the same property.

Kayser discussed the serious cuts of the past four years on the programs of the LAUSD, and, said that there was another deficit this year of probably $500 million, and that this deficit means that 9400 teachers are going to receive warning that they may not have jobs in the Fall. Also it means that all Adult Education programs may be cut, as well as all art, music, etc., programs.

On the other hand, this year 13 LAUSD schools went to the Academic Decathlon National finals in Washington, D.C., and that Franklin’s did very well. However, this whole program is in danger of being discontinued!! Also, the ALL City Band may be dropped.

Tony Torrez, from L.A. International Charter noted that each California student gets $5,500 and can use that money to attend regular public schools, Charter schools, or private schools. The L.A. International Charter School will be saving two-thirds of what it now spends to educate its students at its present facility if it moves to Franklin H.S.

PROP 39 has changed the educational system.

Just before Kayser left at 7:40 he announced that he would be visiting Franklin on May 10. He has 139 schools in District 5 and he is trying to visit all of them.


C. CD14: Nate Hayward noted that April 14 had a CD 1 cleanup of Figueroa, but at 9 a.m. there would be a celebration at York and Ave. 50 for the grant of $2.8 million to establish a park where the former gas station was and which for 15+ years has been left vacant. There was going to be a 9 a.m. celebration of the coming mini-park at that corner. (2) On April 24, a Tuesday, there would be a “Visioning of York,” from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Highland Café. (3) There is going to be ribbon cutting ceremony somewhere.

No Mayor’s Office and no CD 1

Public Announcements: Stan Moore announced that Tuesday, May 1, Councilman Alarcon was continuing the hearing on the establishment of a CC Committee to try to save the oldest museum in Los Angeles, the Southwest Museum. Meeting starts at 8:30 a.m. and ALL ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND. (2) The HHPNC IS INVITED TO
PARTICIPATE IN THE MAY 5TH. PARADE BY THE GREATER CYPRESS PARK NC.
D. No treasurer’s report.

1. Approval of the Agenda. Moved, Bonsell Second, Zuniga MSA Unanimous
2. Minutes of April 5. Dr. Moore apologized for the Minutes not being finished due to his brother’s death and his MRI on his brain because of extreme dizziness.
3. Item 3 was tabled due to the absence of Councilmember Tina Gulotta-Miller being absent and Mr. Marquez not wanting to substitute for her.
4. Discussion and Motion to approve a letter supporting the Arroyo Seco Academy’s Continuation in its contiguous space at Franklin High School. (Bonsell)

Given the passage of Prop. 39, the LAUSD has to offer space to a Public Charter school seeking space that is not presently in use at an LAUSD school. Discussion centered on where at Franklin would be the least disruption of Franklin’s operation if the L.A. International Charter were to take over part of the Franklin campus. L.A. International declared that moving from its present ancient campus on Colina off Via Marisol, with some of its campus over 100 years old, would save them about two-thirds of their costs if they remained where they presently are. Mr. Tony Torrez declared that two years ago the L.A. International spent $10,000 a month busing students to San Fernando Valley. It became apparent that L.A. International was very likely to accept the LAUSD’s Prop. 39 legal mandate to offer excess space to any legal Public Charter School requesting that space. So the drafting of the letter was focused on making any changes at Franklin the least damaging to its ongoing academy mission.

Mr. Rick Marquez declared that both FHS and the LAI scores on statewide tests are deplorable. Ms. Gemma Marquez declared that is why she sent her children to private schools. Dr. Moore pointed out that because of over $2 billion in cuts over the past four years, and the need for another $400+ cuts in the LAUSD’s budget for the coming year starting July 1, that California, ranked number 1 out of the 50 states in funding per student in the early 1960s was now ranked 49th in spending per pupil. That these cuts meant that LAUSD schools and public charter school were fighting over the bones of a once great funded educational system.

President Smith declared that the motion was to support the least disruption of the ongoing educational enterprise of Franklin High School and that he would write the letter and send it before it was too late to have any impact on the transferring of the classroom and campus space from the present Arroyo Seco Academy to the L.A. International operation.

Motion to write a letter asking the LAUSD to do the least harm to FHS in this process.

Motion: Bonsell Second, Moore 7 yes 1 No (Garcia) 2 Abstentions (Dodson and Kekone)

Adjournment at 8:53 p.m.