01-05-17 HHPNC MINUTES

A. Call to Order—7:03 P.M.
C. Elected Officials—Mayor’s office: NONE; CD1: Conrado Terrazas, thanks HHPNC for participating in the Winter Wonderland event, which was a community effort as local merchants, like Frank’s camera, provided toys for 500 kids. The Church of Christ is sponsoring a clean-up on Sycamore Park from 8:30-11:30 A.M. Flyers distributed for the Monte Vista E-waste for old TVs, laptops, etc. and school will receive a percentage of what is dumped. February 4th is the clean-up at Aldama Elementary School and Feb. 25th at Buchanan Elementary School.
CD14: NONE AD51: NONE, SD22: NONE, BOS1: NONE
D. President’s Report—Recently received notice from HHPNC board member Derek Saucedo of his resignation; at the next board meeting the approved process for new candidates will voted on. Mission statements for committees should be on the website, contact H. slater to upload to website. If missions have not been posted, please do so by next meeting.
E. LAPD Report—Officer L. Chang (covers the northern section of Highland Park to San Pascual): Last year the division was top ten in the geographical area in crime reduction, and violent/gang crime is down from last year looking by 1%. A clean-up on Bridwell St. island area will be soon. Make sure cars are locked and take your belongings out of your car and put on your alarm. Make sure your windows and cars are locked. This will help us with lowering property crime. Officer M. Allen (covers the southern section of Highland Park): A homicide occurred on Dec. 28th of a 23 year old female victim, who was shot in the abdomen and died from her wounds. This case is hard to solve because of lack of cooperation because it’s considered a gang crime. After this homicide incident, an increase of tagging between gangs has occurred. For 3-4 days enforcement was increased because of gang activity, and still taking guns out of the community. If you see something let Northeast LAPD know, hear something let us know. Last year finished low with 200 less violent crimes compared to 2015, but don’t let your guard down, gang crime still going on, but not as bad. Property crimes are mainly car break-ins and thefts.
F. LAFD Report: NONE
G. LAPL: Sarah Moore(Arroyo Seco)—Announcing children’s programming, toddlers story time and babies under one for story time; on Monday Jan. 9th at 4pm for STEAM color science, and Jan. 30th doing experiments, also LEGO exploration on Mondays, and reminder of the resources in the library that are available and get your library card and come by the library.
H. Board Announcements—NONE
I. Committee Reports—Executive: A meeting coming up this month. Rules: Just had first meeting with two community members and two board members to discuss what the rules mean and talked about becoming a bridge on non-traditional neighborhood council engaged entities, like chamber of commerce and CPAC, and will put together a proposed bridge to participate with them. Budget: Inviting board members to join in the committee. Land Use: Continued to have a busy agenda on Dec. 20th. On Dec. 3rd held a retreat with all committee members met to discuss the goals and priorities, discussed application process, agendize items, and uploading applications, and upload them to the website so information can be available to stakeholders. Some of the items we discussed are in today’s agenda. Outreach: Had a lot of events in December, photos with Santa, and the tree lighting event, participated in discovery tour and the Lummis event as well; No meeting last month due to events. Sustainability:
Family Youth Education: Held meeting but had no quorum to vote on and had a discussion on organizing Power to the Youth event, and ideas for future events. Public Safety: Meeting soon. Housing and Homelessness: Did not meet in Dec., but hoping to partner with Recycled Resources and working on a Homelessness directory to list all pertinent and useful information. Beautification: Working on Keep it Clean with CD1, plans continue on the veterans square planting of succulents, and working with Officer Lloyd Chang on Veteran’s Square cleanup.

J. Budget Advocates Report: NONE
K. Liaisons—Grievance Panel: NONE; Animal Services: Reached out to DONE because they have not reached out to neighborhood councils. Will be working on an animal fair to invite local rescues, non-profits and animal behaviorists. Homelessness: Working on HHH coming up with oversight committee. Welcome kits trying to get them together. Legal: NONE Public Works: NONE; DWP: NONE

L. Alliances—ARC: nothing to report; LANCC: NONE; NC Sustainability Alliance: NONE; NC Emergency Preparedness Alliance: No report; PlanCheck NC: NONE

M. Public Comments (Limited to 10 minutes, maximum 2 minutes per speaker)
1. P. Reynald: Three and a half years ago came to the board requesting assistance because of a fatality near my house of slowing down Ave. 64. Received a letter from M. Alcaraz, met with Councilmember Huizar. Recently there was a fatality on Hi Ho market. LAPD promised that they will do something but nothing has been done. Need a traffic person present because in 4 years there have been 2 fatalities and a lot of accidents. Need council to help us on this.
2. T. Louie: Urge the council to take a position on Measure S. It’s not just about aesthetics. Old buildings are getting demolished, and developers meeting with councilmembers and getting plush deals. It’s play to pay politics and measure S is trying to stop it. Please support measure S.
3. S. Hernández: Congressional District 34 candidate, running for congress to fight for communities; incoming administration is a threat to our communities and environment, need someone in DC that knows how policies play out on the ground. Former LAUSD middle school teacher, an attorney, had a non-profit, worked with Councilmember Huizar, and worked on homeless issues, and small business issues.
4. K. Mejia: Congressional candidate, born raised by a single mom and graduated college in 3 years. Quit his job 2016 to be a write in candidate, worked with Bernie Sanders campaign, also on community service events, community clean ups platform position, against gentrification, want improvement for our communities, but with no displacement, pushing for community college, and against the privatization of education
5. A. Ravvaba: Running for delegate, lives in El Sereno, a teacher at Glendale community college; a challenging year because people have lost faith in political system, running so that people care and political systems are made by people; believes in progressive values, single payer healthcare, and politicians should never compromise, believes in tuition free colleges because students are in debt. Please come out to vote in the local and grassroots elections.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Approval of Agenda: Motion to amend the date on Item 2 from Dec. 12 to Dec. 01, Table Item 5, adjourning the meeting in the name of the two recent fatalities in our community On Ave. 64 Rafael Canales, and from Ave. 56 Jessica Rocha. Change the date to 2017 on letter head. All in favor. Motion passes.
2. Approval of December 01, 2016 Minutes. J. Ceballos on Item 9, add clarification that the 500 signatures from Kitchen Mouse were not all from the community but outside of the community. All in favor. Motion passes.

3. (5mins) [PREVIOUSLY TABLED] Motion to approve MER for August as requested by DONE.— J. Ceballos abstains. All in favor. Motion passes.

4. (10mins) [PREVIOUSLY TABLED] 5715-5717 N. Figueroa Street (ZA-2016-3320-CUB) - Request to allow the on-site sale of a full line of alcohol in conjunction with a 3,125-square-foot restaurant and barbershop. The restaurant would include 59 seats and would operate from 6 pm to 2 am daily with limited live entertainment. — a. Property owner and business partner present collected signatures (over 75) from the neighboring area and marketing packet passed out in regards to operations. They provided overview of the business history which started in New York, then brought to CA in Culver City and looking for support from HHPNC. They are also meeting with LADP next week Jan. 11th, and have a hearing on January 24th.

b. S. Moore questions the hours of alcohol sales, which is 2 A.M, and what efforts will be taken to prevent patrons from leaving intoxicated. For the property that is a standard hour, and they are open to discuss hours of alcohol sales. The barbershop opens at 11:00 A.M. and goes to 8:00 P.M. and the restaurant from 6:00 P.M.-12:00 A.M. or 2:00 A.M. The integrity depends on our customers, they have a professional manager on staff monitoring and security at night inside and outside for safety. A. Castillo asks if the waiters receive any training. Yes, on the standard conditions like crowd control, and can place a hotline for community to report complaints, D. Andalon states that the major concerns that were brought up at the last board meeting in December had to do with the lack of outreach to the community, and 75 signatures and going to the farmers market is not sufficient, it should have been a more concerted effort, like placing a map of homes visited. Property owner states that he has done door to door, knocking on doors, standing at his store, planned a meet and greet to invite people, who did show up, and 95% of people I say yes to the project. J. Ceballos mentions Vision Zero report of high risk injuries and CD1 had the highest incidents in car crashes, and questions why another alcohol permit is needed in the community since statistics show that people are dying based on alcohol. Owner replies because they are different, and they bring value to the community. Discussion continues on this topic.

c. Public Comments—M. Jimenez: From the Coalition to reduce alcohol in LA metro area; reports collaborate with county report is the latest, and related to this area. Point out city level put out conditions for liquor licenses but city attorney released press release to say he is not enforcing any alcohol conditions. All goes back to the state so local level has no jurisdiction over alcohol permits. Issue with alcohol sale density, is really a serious issue in Highland Park with influx of liquor licenses. Encourage HHPNC to be critical in things like this, the petitions provided by applicant are not substantial, and should be a proactive giving back to the community.

T. Trujillo: own apartments block from the proposed establishment, and I have been here since 1959 and have seen a lot of changes, and recently changing quite a bit, it seems there’s a concern over alcohol. I know two bars opened that are new and different, they are active in the community. There are big issues on other things in the community and this new place would be a benefit.

A. Lopez Corona: I am in support for the barber to bring in new revenue, the issue is not people drinking because not everyone drinks. I don’t have to go out of my community to go to a place like this, it’s a unique concept, and I am in support of them.
E. Volt: I was here last month, and not in support in granting alcohol within the late hours and alcohol density. A report on public of health states that by eliminating one bar, reduces crime. The Blind Barber does not provide economic diversity in area.

S. Ebner: I was here last month, and question about the influx in concept businesses and their sustainability, I’m business positive but I am concerned with the lack of diversity, and density of alcohol permits, and displacement of local income residents in the neighborhood.

Jeff: Owner of the building where new barbershop/restaurant will open, I can talk to everyone about them. In terms of diversity, Franks Camera is diverse, it’s a building vacant for 10 years and they bring it back to life, they are central to bringing it back. They [Blind Barber] haven’t talked to you about what they do with working with the boys and girls club in Venice; they started a local film, own the building next door, ice cream shop and clothing store, the Blind Barber is diverse and forward looking. They have business that has been running for 10 years.

d. A. Castillo states that the applicant was twice on land use committee and discussed the hours of operation with restaurant at rear and barbershop up front, some of the conditions placed land use supported it unanimously. The concept of Blind Barber is a great concept and unique in our neighborhood and northeast LA because it brings vitality to Figueroa St. and enhances economic activity. HHPNC is advisory board and does not approve or deny applications. The zoning administration takes into account the conditions placed by HHPNC that carries heavy weight. If HHPNC denies this applicant, and gets approved at city level, the city will provide its conditions and community gets no say.

A. Castillo motions to amend motion to support project with conditions of not selling alcohol after 1:30 A.M. with a future review and place a clear and unobstructed sign for hotline number to call for complaints or emergency; J. Potter seconds. Vote to change the original motion. D. Andalon and J. Ceballos abstain. All in favor. Motion Passes

Motion to approve amended motion. S. Moore opposes. Abstain D. Andalon, E. Andalon and J. Ceballos. All else in favor. Motion passes. A. Castillo will modify letter to reflect approved motion.

5. (5min.) [PREVIOUSLY TABLED] 6515 N. Figueroa Street: Request to permit the continued use of an existing used car sales in RD1.5 zone; permit public parking extending into portion of the lot within 0 ft. front line; continue the 6 ft wrought iron fence across property line and existing landscape.—S. Huerta, A. Castillo TABLED

6. (2 min.) Motion to approve Joan Potter as the treasurer and card holder of the Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council and to retain Antonio Castillo as the second signer of financial documents as of December 5, 2016.—The official approval makes the change official because of treasury of and money staff but handling money have to take avote and motion reads tthat she is the treasure and bank card name holder. H. Slater, D. Andalon A. Castillo, J. Potter, R. Rivas, E. Andalon, J. Ceballos, G. Chabran, M. Freeland, S. Huerta, S. Lunn, S. Moore, Y. Nogueira, J. Tijerina. All in favor. Motion passes.


8. (6 min.) Motion to approve a Neighborhood Purposes Grant requested by Garvanza Elementary School for an amount up to $3,323. Funds to buy the software and teacher training for an Accelerated Reading program.—J. Potter states that this NPG goes over the money allocated for NPG budget, which has $2950 left in budget. H. Slater mentions that the election budget can be moved to NPG budget and city is giving neighborhood councils more money in the budget. Larry Keith from Garvanza ES reduces NPG request to $750 to
cover the training of teachers as the school fundraisers helped with additional funds.


9. (10min.) Discussion and possible motion to approve a letter of support for Garvanza Elementary School’s application for magnet status.—Garvanza Es was established in 1885 and it’s the second oldest school in LAUSD. Teachers and school overall have worked on improving the test scores, became a distinguished school, and the next goal is to be a magnet school focusing on leadership and technology, which is lacking in the community. The school needs the magnet title and recognition to get more students to enroll in the school. Requesting a letter to support magnet status application due at end of the month. All in favor, except J. Potter. Motion passes. A letter of support will be drafted by R. Rivas and presented at next meeting.

10. (6 min.) Motion to approve a Neighborhood Purposes grant requested by the Arroyo Seco Museum Science Magnet for an amount up to $2,000. Funds to support their Annual Museum Day at Arroyo Seco Magnet; tents, signage, hospitality.—Jim Koneazny, teacher at school states this is a culminating event at end of the year is museum day, which has been done for years. Need funds to build infrastructure and to have something prevalent and visual. A. Castillo states that school can also ask for funds from Arroyo Seco Neighborhood Council, since school is also on their jurisdiction. Motion amended to an decrease NPG request and rest of funds to ask ASNC to $1000; seconded by D. Andalon. All in favor. Motion passes. Motion to approve NPG for $1000. H. Slater, D. Andalon A. Castillo, J. Potter, R. Rivas, E. Andalon, J. Ceballos, G. Chabran, M. Freeland, S. Huerta, S. Lunn, S. Moore, Y. Nogueira, J. Tijerina. All in favor. Motion passes.

11. (3 min.) Motion to reimburse former HHPNC Treasurer, Nicholas Soto, $216 spent to rent the outdoor area of the Highland Park Recreation Center on October 20th for Vision Day.—H. Slater, D. Andalon A. Castillo, J. Potter, R. Rivas, E. Andalon, J. Ceballos, G. Chabran, M. Freeland, S. Huerta, S. Lunn, S. Moore, Y. Nogueira, J. Tijerina. All in favor. Motion passes.

12. (3 min.) Motion to reimburse current Council Member Y. Noguiera $146.43 spent on supplies for the Halloween Pumpkin Patch event held October 28th. — Y. Nogueira exits room during discussion and vote. All in favor. Motion passes. Y. Nogueira returns to board table.

13. (5 min.) Discussion and possible motion to host a CD1 candidate forum/town hall event.—J. Tijerina states that GPIA is hosting the forum on Feb 16th, and would like to partner with HHPNC and requested a sponsorship of $250. Further discussion will continue at Outreach meeting. More details to come next month. All in favor. Motion passes.

14. (5 min.) Motion to nominate and elect two designees (one male, one female) to attend the Neighborhood Council Civic University 1.0.—Selected J. Tijerina and J. Ceballos. All in favor. Motion passes.

15. (6 min) Motion to approve a Neighborhood Purpose Grant requested by Recycled Resources to help fund the Annual Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count for an amount up to $469. The funds will be spent on volunteers, such as dinner, drinks, supplies; and also printing costs to promote the event.—Discussion if funds will go through outreach to provide food or NPG. In addition, NPG application is not valid as it has a signature from a previous board.
member. Motion tabled until decision is made to have Outreach committee work with Recycled Resources or go with NPG.

16. (3 min.) Motion to direct the Budget and Finance Committee to bring to the February Council meeting a revised Budget for Council consideration, adjustment, and approval. —All in favor. Motion passes.

17. (6 min) Discussion and possible action for the HHPNC to be a consulting party for Caltrans' proposed safety improvements to the historic Arroyo Seco Parkway (State Route 110). The HHPNC is eligible to be a consulting party under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.—Caltrans submitted letter providing information on safety improvements from Arroyo Parkway to Dodger Stadium, like gutters, fences, new signs, removing trees, adding trees, adding other improvements, however, they are not making the safety improvements that community has addressed. But this is more infrastructure, and affecting the historic character of the freeway, and asking to request a consulting party to provide feedback to Caltrans on proposed project, on safety improvements, and historic preservation. Write a letter to Caltrans, letting them know HHPNC wants to be a consulting entity and have concerns and recommendations for them. Land use committee would be the active party and present the letter back to the board. All in favor. Motion passes

18. New Business: Committee chairs submit minutes to Kristina, all minutes should be updated and mission statements. Go vote this Jan, 8th at the Barrio Action in El Sereno from 10:00 AM-12:00 P.M.

19. Adjournment—Meeting adjourned in the memory of Canales and Jessica Rocha; 9:20 P.M.