

03-02-17 MINUTES

A. **Call to Order**—7:02 P.M.

B. **Roll Call**—H. Slater, A. Castillo, J. Potter, R. Rivas, L. Amsden, B. Caban, J. Ceballos, G. Chabran, M. Freeland (arrived late), Z. Gardea (left at 8:54 p.m.), S. Huerta, S. Lunn, S. Moore, Y. Nogueira, D. Silva, J. Tijerina.

Absent: E. Andalon, D. Andalon

C. **Elected Officials**—Mayor's office: NONE; CD1: NONE, CD14: NONE; AD51: NONE; SD22:NONE BOS1: NONE

D. **President's Report**: Reminder for every one of the city elections on March 7th, the importance of being informed of the candidates and to cast a vote.

E. **LAPD Report**—NONE

F. **LAFD Report**—The recent rain caused the stations to be very busy. There were 7 river rescues of people living in the islands along Broadway Bridge and all successful rescues. The rain also means that grass and brush are growing back at the hillsides and firefighters are getting ready for fire brush season.

G. **LAPL Report**—S. Moore, librarian at Arroyo Seco Library provided a review of the March programming. There is a new video service, called canopy, for video streaming using library card; Tues March 5th starting a new aerobics class; there's a magic show this month and a book club meeting on the 4th Saturday of every month, always looking for new members. Anyone interested in being a paid performer for the public library has to fill out presenter form. There is limited amount of paid performers that have to get on a list, audition and be available for events at the library. Call the library if you need help with this.

H. **Board Announcements**—NONE

I. **Committee Reports**—Executive: Having a meeting on the 3rd Thursday of this month to discuss loose ends on committees, getting in minutes to digital/web person as we are almost half way in the term.

Rules: NONE

Budget: NONE

Land Use: Announcing upcoming meetings on two proposed ordinances, the accessory dwelling ordinance and the home sharing.

Outreach: NONE

Sustainability: NONE

Family Youth Education: Continuing to organize the Power to the Youth event in September and the town hall meeting with Dr. Ref Rodriguez possibly later in the month or moving it to April, Mr. Larry Keefe from Garvanza Elementary School discussed further some ideas on how to build a relationship between the school and HHPNC.

Public Safety: Additional clarification regarding the approved \$600 allocation for CPR classes provided by Vital Training. In consultation with Patrick Botz-Forbes from CERT, the \$600 will be allocated to provide \$40 for the first 15 HHPNC stakeholders that enroll in the class. The total cost of participation is \$50 per person, the remaining \$10 will be paid by the participant. This is intended to be an incentive for enrolling in the program that will be a benefit for our local community in case of an emergency. Stakeholders that do not register in time for the \$40 registration coverage will still be able to enroll at full price with payment directly to Vital Training.

Housing and Homelessness: Contacted Irene from the community medical center to secure the medical mobile unit for All Saints Church and working will work with recycled resources. Tenant rights workshops taking place through Studio 50 for tenants and landlords, ask J. Ceballos for any questions.

Beautification: Aldama Elementary Clean Up on March 18 from 8am-12 pm

J. **Budget Advocates Report**: In addition to addressing department-specific issues as well as concern over the City's rising deficit, the White Paper being presented to the Mayor on March 8th by the Budget Advocates includes suggestions for revenue growth and asks the City to look into what they will do if the Federal Government cuts funds to the state, county and/or city over issue where California and LA oppose current federal policies. We have serious concerns about the deficit - which is being driven by \$40 million in additional

homeless commitments, large settlements on lawsuits, and income to the City and to its pension plans which fall below what was projected – which could lead to the Reserve Fund falling below its mandated level and put the City at risk of having its credit rating downgraded.

K. **Liaisons**—Grievance Panel: NONE; Animal Services: Interested in organizing a pet event, like the one in Hermon Park and assembly man Jimmy Gomez is interested in helping, if we want to do it in Highland Park. Homelessness: NONE; Legal: NONE; Public Works: NONE; DWP: NONE

L. **Alliances**—ARC: Attended meeting on 20th of last month, when DONE was provided an election summary, different changes are coming up based on the report for 2018. City clerk was there and Gracie Liu to walk through the report, the main area has to do with the electoral elections, which will affect the NC elections, and the changing of bylaws in order to conform to the upcoming elections. Another point in favor for online voting, some of the changes are just to increase voter turnout. LANCC: if we want to expand on issues further, Teri is moving forward, anybody is invited, but if I'm (L. Amsden) not there, anyone can vote. NC Sustainability Alliance: An event addressing Measure S have not heard back; NC Emergency Preparedness Alliance: Meeting was cancelled in February. Should resume this month. PlanCheck NC: NONE

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

1. America Lopez: Representing Joe Bray-Ali's campaign running for CD1 seat to emphasize the importance of voting and of on early voting this weekend. Joe Bray-Ali is a community organizer and small business owner. The community needs to be engaged with uncompromising values. In addition, protecting open spaces is important and to address the displacement of residents.

2. Steven Mac: He is running for 34th Congressional Seat, is federal prosecutor, was in the army and intelligence officer. Mr. Mac is running because he is not happy with national leadership. He was born in Chinatown and grew up on south LA and lives in the Northeast area. He wants to bring resources back to the neighborhood and is interested in national security and foreign relations, homelessness, among other issues.

3. Beth Stickler: She lives in the neighborhood, and wants to address Measure H, which is on the March 7th ballot. It's a county initiative to cover homeless issue, by which the county has gone to a planning process in the city to help end homelessness, with 37 strategies, 100 organizations involved, 25 county departments, 37 cities, and this is to fund the plan. Currently, there are 47,000 people in the county who live in the streets, that is the size of a city like Azusa. This Measure H adds 25 cent tax for 10 years, through a lot of non-profits, to house 47,000 and 30,000 more from becoming homeless. Please vote yes on Measure H, together we can do it.

4. Raymond Meza: He is running for the 34th congressional seat. He was born and raised on Montecito Heights, has a passion for social justice, and on education for students and financial aid. He is a grassroots/community organizer; in addition to a union organizer, and fought for \$15 minimum wage. For further information go to Raymond meza.com

1. 5. Aaron Salcido: A stakeholder for 5 years, here to introduce to the board Yolie Flores, a candidate to the 34th congressional seal, who is on her way. She is a tireless activist and was on the LAUSD school board. Yolie has the endorsement of school police and lives in the neighborhood of Highland Park. Yolie Flores arrived at end of meeting. She has lived in Highland Park for 20 years. She is running for the 34th congressional seat because she is worried on the direction the country is taking. She has worked for 30 years in the community on the wellbeing of families and children.

ACTION ITEMS

2. Approval of Agenda. All in favor. Motion passes

3. Approval of February 02, 2017 Minutes. S. Lunn abstains; everyone else in favor. Motion passes.

4. (5 min.) [Previously Tabled] Motion to approve up to \$500 to provide hospitality for two Highland Park Keep it Clean events at Aldama Elementary School (March 18th) and Buchanan Elementary School (April. 28th).—The flyer for the clean-up for Aldama Elementary School has been posted on HHPNC and CD1 webpages and FB pages. HHPNC is providing lunch for the volunteers. In Favor: H. Slater, A. Castillo, J.

Potter, R. Rivas, L. Amsden, B. Caban, J. Ceballos, G. Chabran, M. Freeland, Z. Gardea, S. Huerta, S. Lunn, S. Moore, Y. Nogueira, D. Silva, J. Tijerina. Motion passes.

5. (5 min.) [Previously Tabled] Motion to appoint a Film Liaison to city hall. —The liaison will attend the meetings on film permits and other related issues. J. Ceballos is interested in the appointment. L. Amsden will be a resource as she works in the film industry. All in favor to select J. Ceballos. Motion passes.
6. (10 min.) Discussion and motion to appoint a candidate to fill in the vacant Director-at-Large seat. —There are eight applicants and all of the board members received applicants' question responses; the applicants will have 2 minutes to talk about themselves and answer question and the board will have a silent vote and tally. Five applicants are present to speak to board: Richard Margulieux, Adam Hirsh, Robert Takushi, Luis Guevara and Marcus Moché. Total tallied votes: Marcus M. 7 votes, Adam H. 4 votes, Richard M. 4 votes; Robert T. 1 vote; Luis G. 0 votes. Marcus Moché appointed as new Director At-Large. All in favor. Motion passes.
7. (5 min.) Motion to support Neighborhood Councils to remain the sole party to initiate and approve changes to their Bylaws.—DONE has decided to facilitate elections by making changes to bylaws and also provided some other good suggestions. However, every NC writes its own bylaws in order to reflect the needs from the district and it's not wise thing to take away the NC's prerogative to write and pass own bylaws. Letting the city council do this is not appropriate as NC's have to address their own issues. This is CIS 151022 basically addressing online elections. Suggested to change wording and tone of letter. All in favor. Motion passes pending the wording and tone of the letter.
8. (5 min.) Motion to support online elections once DONE addresses the problems set forth in the report by the Election Manager for the 2016 NC elections.—Jay Handal, the Election Manager, wrote a detailed report addressing some of the issues concerning online elections, but instead of responding, DONE is going to go ahead with their changes. DONE needs to address all problems before moving ahead. Ceballos suggests to table item until they address those changes. Abstain: J. Ceballos and A. Castillo. 14 in favor. Motion passes.
9. (5 min.) Motion to request DONE develop a weighted formula for funding Neighborhood Councils that would be fairer, given Neighborhood Councils range in size from under ten thousand stakeholders to over a hundred thousand.— This is an issue that comes up and has not been addressed. NC's have different number of stakeholders, ranging from 100,000 like in Koreatown to 4000 if Hermon becomes an NC. In Highland Park, there are approximately 66,000 stakeholders. There should be a flat amount for expenses and other based on size of stakeholders. Board members agree that this is an issue that has come up time and time again and there needs to be a fairer than what it is now. This is a request to conduct more research on this issue. Other alliances and NCs are discussing this issue as well, such as ARC, LANCC, Eagle Rock NC to name a few. 14 in favor. M. Freeland opposes. Motion passes.
10. (2min.) Motion to approve the Monthly Expenditure Report for December, 2016 as required by DONE.—J. Potter mentions of one change she will make. In favor: H. Slater, A. Castillo, J. Potter, R. Rivas, L. Amsden, B. Caban, J. Ceballos, G. Chabran, M. Freeland, Z. Gardea, S. Huerta, S. Lunn, S. Moore, Y. Nogueira, D. Silva, J. Tijerina. All in favor. Motion passes.
11. (2min.) Motion to approve the Monthly Expenditure Report for January, 2017 as required by DONE.—In favor: H. Slater, A. Castillo, J. Potter, R. Rivas, L. Amsden, B. Caban, J. Ceballos, G. Chabran, M. Freeland, Z. Gardea, S. Huerta, S. Lunn, S. Moore, Y. Nogueira, D. Silva, J. Tijerina. Motion passes.
12. (5 min.) Motion to approve no more than \$320 for office supplies, i.e. box of copy paper, paper clips, toner (2), yellow note pads.— In favor: H. Slater, A. Castillo, J. Potter, R. Rivas, L. Amsden, B. Caban, J. Ceballos, G. Chabran, M. Freeland, Z. Gardea, S. Huerta, S. Lunn, S. Moore, Y. Nogueira, D. Silva, J. Tijerina. Motion passes.
13. (5 min.) Motion to request no more than \$100 to purchase groceries necessary to cook for our homeless residents in the All Saints Church shelter run by Recycled Resources. —This is an outreach event and will

make a flyer, and engage as many as possible. In favor: H. Slater, A. Castillo, J. Potter, R. Rivas, L. Amsden, B. Caban, J. Ceballos, G. Chabran, M. Freeland, Z. Gardea, S. Huerta, S. Lunn, S. Moore, Y. Nogueira, D. Silva, J. Tijerina. Motion passes.

14. (5 min.) Discussion and possible action to consider taking a position on Measure S, known as the Neighborhood Integrity Initiative.—This was an topic of discussion brought up at the Land Use Committee and unanimously voted for board to take a make the decision of taking a position on Measure S. Board members discuss if board should take a position or not. If board decides to take a position, it must be posted in the website as it is legally authorized. Two motions were presented by board members: one to oppose taking a stand on Measure S (S. Moore, seconded by M. Freeland); in favor to support Measure S (L. Amsden, seconded by J. Potter.). J. Ceballos states that taking a position is not the board’s responsibility because it is a very divisive topic. **Public comment:** a. Cassie Gogreve lives in Highland Park with an urban planning degree, works in skid row housing works, and states that the Measure will affect affordable housing, and recommends to oppose the Measure or not take a stand at all. b. Steve Crouch is for the Measure S, this is not on affordable housing and business we don’t like. c. Mark Valientos states to oppose Measure S because it will stop affordable housing for the homeless, in support for housing required or otherwise cause evictions and displacement. In favor (3): H. Slater, A. Antonio, and Z. Gardea, Opposes (12): S. Moore, J. Potter, B. Caban, G. Chabran, S. Lunn, D. Silva, Y. Nogueira, S. Huerta, M. Freeland, J. Ceballos, R. Rivas, J. Tijerina. Abstain (1): L. Amsden.
15. (5 min.) 1118-1128 N. Avenue 56 (VTT-74684-SL) Discussion and possible action regarding the proposed demolition of all residential units on three contiguous lots and construction of a four-story, 20-unit small lot subdivision.—S. Huerta recuses herself and leaves room. a. The developer has been to committee twice, and walked the community twice with materials in English and Spanish, did not receive any feedback but passed out flyers with information. Encountered architecture issues and designed with elements from local architecture, such as roof lines and added wood to reference local architecture. From last meeting enhanced landscaping plan in the front, have two parking spaces and 5 for guests, and prices are market rate housing. There are five homes as duplex and a fourplex. Current tenants in the area have been informed and received relocation benefits. b. **Board Comments:** Z. Gardea states he was in the minority in supporting the project, because due to the housing crisis, this offers net plus unit, and can’t prevent more units from coming. The project did look a lot worse and developer has been working with us. M. Freeland states that the population of LA is not going to go down, and more housing needs to be added and the area is zoned for this housing. Housing is going to get more expensive and more people will be displaced. J. Tijerina states that the design of project is completely out of context with the neighborhood and more open space is required. A. Castillo states that this project is by right, what developer is proposing does not require additional variances and if board does not take a position, the input on conditions will be lost; so Board’s voice is required. B. Caban mentions that the land use committee tried to guide the developers in regards to the community. J. Ceballos mentions that people have been displaced and replaced by those who can pay higher rent, creating more of a problem and density and parking are also problematic. c. **Public Comment:** Kathy Gallegos states that the building feels like NY and would destroy the charm of Highland Park, and hopes the board votes against it. Mark Guy is in support because people will like the homes and provide the space needed for all people and the neighborhood needs to be welcoming. A. Castillo motions to write a letter of support and include some conditions to be considered. In favor (8): A. Castillo, H. Slater, L. Amsden, M. Freeland, B. Caban, Z. Gardea, S. Lunn, and J. Potter. Oppose (6): S. Moore, J. Ceballos, Y. Nogueira, G. Chabran, D. Silva and R. Rivas; Abstain (1): J. Tijerina. Absent: A. Andalon and E. Andalon. Recuse: S. Huerta. Motion Passes.
16. (5 min.) 322-326 S. Leslie Way and 5719 Omaha Street (VTT-744486-SL) – Discussion and possible regarding the demolition of a duplex and construction of a seven-unit small lot subdivision with one affordable unit.—TABLED

17. (5 min.) 5259 E. Aldama Street (DIR-2016-4831-COA) – Discussion and possible action regarding a proposed Accessory Dwelling Unit at the rear of an existing single-family dwelling.—This item came to committee and applicants not present because project was approved yesterday, but wanted to discuss the project as an example on accessory. TABLED INDEFINITELY
18. (5 min) Motion to support and participate as a community partner, with Avenue 50 Studio & Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative in their efforts to reduce traffic violence along the North Figueroa Street Corridor through their Vision Zero community-based action plan supported by the Los Angeles Department of Transportation through funding from the California Office of Transportation Safety. (not a funding request) —This is an item of support for Vision Zero to help with speeding and related deaths, and now focusing on empowering communities to take action in artistic ways to educate and provide tools on traffic violence and how to decrease it. Ave 50 and LA initiative are designing a series of events on this issue to better inform the public. Would like a partnership with HHPNC, Arroyo Seco NC and with community partners and schools. Kathy Gallegos mentions that art installations will take about a week or more, but at the moment just looking for partnerships. They want to work with community and arts organizations to get out the word due to increase of density, more traffic deaths and how to educate community. J. Ceballos states that a table will be available for outreach at these workshops. All in favor. Motion passes
19. (5 min) Motion to approve an NPG grant for the amount of \$750 to fund the cost of materials used for workshops to be held during the Vision Zero community day of action on June 17th. —J. Ceballos recuses herself and leaves room. Kathy Gallegos thanks the board for supporting Avenue 50 Studios in the past couple of years. She adds that the workshops were not part of proposal with Department of Transportation (DOT) and plan is to scatter workshops across the avenues and invite different artists to work with community. In June, the workshops will be developed and will be offered to the public, including working with poets and visual artists. Themes of workshops will be on walking in streets, how to interact with traffic/cars, so each will teach artist on an art project, but need money for materials. In favor: H. Slater, A. Castillo, J. Potter, R. Rivas, L. Amsden, B. Caban, G. Chabran, M. Freeland, S. Huerta, S. Lunn, S. Moore, Y. Nogueira, D. Silva, J. Tijerina. Motion passes.
20. (5 min) Motion to approve an NPG for the amount of \$500 for language interpretation equipment for the Los Angeles Tenants Union’s tenants’ rights workshops held every other Wednesday at the All Saints Episcopal Church. — TABLED
21. (5 min) Motion to support “The Outside,” a multidisciplinary enviro-art experience that aims to explore the relationship between our communities and our environment, in order to nurture a sense of connection, stewardship and ownership of our parks, waterways, and greenscapes. (not a funding request).— TABLED
22. (5 min) Motion to support a resolution, in the form of a letter, supporting the City of LA's commitment to supporting the film industry and to working with Film LA. —The mayor has increased and sustained film industry due to large number of employees. The letter will further support what mayor is doing and further empower NCs by film permits accessible to our community; will add information to HHPNC website to provide access to film people. J. Ceballos will write letter on mayor’s executive directive. All in favor. Motion passes.
23. (5 min.) Motion to request up to \$300 for a city certified interpretation vendor to create a transcription of the Facebook Live Candidate Forum. Transcription will be posted on website and Facebook pages, and newsletter prior to the election.—Transcription was promised but had no volunteers came forward. Therefore, need to hire a translator from city vendors. It can be done in one day and have it posted on the website. Amending to \$325 by D. Silva, seconded by J. Ceballos. All in favor. Amendment passes. Done in one day. In favor: H. Slater, A. Castillo, J. Potter, R. Rivas, L. Amsden, B. Caban, J. Ceballos, G. Chabran, M. Freeland, S. Huerta, S. Lunn, S. Moore, Y. Nogueira, D. Silva, J. Tijerina. Motion Passes.
24. **New Business**—S. Lunn mentions that items take more time than they have been allotted. Need to be respectful of the time.
25. **Adjournment**—9:18 P.M.