

Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council
 SUSTAINABILITY (ENVIRONMENTAL) COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
 26 February 2021 7:00pm
 Zoom
 Los Angeles, CA 90042

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Time: 7:06pm

2. ROLL CALL

| Committee Member | Present | Not Present |
|------------------|----------|-------------|
| Steve Crouch | X | |
| Shanna Oskin | X | |
| Emily Spokes | X | |
| Total: | 3 | |

3. [5 min] MOTION TO APPROVE THE MAY AND JUNE SUSTAINABILITY (ENVIRONMENTAL) COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES.

Public Comment: none

Shanna Oskin moves to approve. Emily Spokes member seconds.

| | For | Against | Abstain | Recused | Ineligible | Absent |
|---------------|----------|---------|---------|---------|------------|--------|
| Steve Crouch | X | | | | | |
| Shanna Oskin | X | | | | | |
| Emily Spokes | X | | | | | |
| Total: | 3 | | | | | |

Motion carries.

4. [2 min] MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA.

Public Comment: none

Shanna Oskin moves to approve. Emily Spokes member seconds.

| | For | Against | Abstain | Recused | Ineligible | Absent |
|-------|-----|---------|---------|---------|------------|--------|
| Steve | X | | | | | |

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|---------------|----------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Crouch | | | | | | |
| Shanna Oskin | X | | | | | |
| Emily Spokes | X | | | | | |
| Total: | 3 | | | | | |

Motion carries.

5. **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Board’s jurisdiction (Limited to 5 min, max 1 min per speaker)
- Tani
 - HPOZ meeting tomorrow, Wilson Estate on N. Ave 66 is on the agenda, reduced to 11 smaller houses, taking out 3 trees, saving an oak tree and walnut tree
 1. empty lot behind Rite-Aid was bought by developers a few years ago and put up a 33-unit building for co-living with 4-5 rooms each, only 85 parking spaces for ~155 people
 - SKYA? is back about the Wal-Mart parking lot and now report to comply with all the HPOZ guidelines
 - Rosa: second what Tani just said about Wilson Estate
 - Danny: next steps for joining the committee
 - Emily will agendize it for next meeting, and Danny can be nominated (by himself or by anyone else) then
 - Steve suggested a 15-minute special meeting
6. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE MOTION:** LA Compost NPG -- HHPNC voted to approve a grant in 2020 but it never was honored/paid. LA Compost has submitted a new application. See supporting documents. (10 min)

Public Comment: Shanna asked about how farmers market attendees participate, how the program compares to LA City San’s composting for green bins - green bins don’t allow kitchen scraps except for a pilot program of 18k residents which doesn’t include Highland Park

| | For | Against | Abstain | Recused | Ineligible | Absent |
|--------------|-----|---------|---------|---------|------------|--------|
| Steve Crouch | X | | | | | |
| Shanna Oskin | X | | | | | |
| Emily Spokes | X | | | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|---------------|----------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Total: | 3 | | | | | |
|---------------|----------|--|--|--|--|--|

Motion carries to move NPG to the Board.

7. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Right To Shade Festival -- Tree maps; adoption; progress and next steps. Emily and Shanna (outreach ideas and adopt-a-tree for local business) (20 min)
 - Board wants to see more budget details before voting to approve the NPG
 - Businesses adopt-a-tree - get Monica's thoughts on collecting money, could get landscaping companies to donate their services in return for advertising in the form of signs on each tree ("brought to you by HHPNC and ~Sponsor Landscaping Co~)
 - Promotion to local social media accounts like Happening in Highland Park
 - Festival is tentatively slated for September 12th
 - Ben - likes the name, trees are infrastructure, suggests reaching out to Northeast Trees LA, maintenance of the trees is an important consideration, time frame is tight to do it right, social marketing is important, should get kids there
 - Mario - thinks it's a great idea, have booth to raise awareness and collect donations (can raise money through a non-profit), offer soil testing
 - Rosa - thank you for taking this on, count on my support

8. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** York Park -- Progress and next steps. (10-20 min)
 - Sarah Flaherty CD14 - sent request to Rec & Parks in May, rather than do a site assessment they double-checked existing records, determined that the site is safe, community members tests show levels of diesel fuel but those are within the parameters of what's deemed safe, there was no vapor barrier test because those are only required when building will be erected over, CD14 has exhausted what they can do, regulatory agency overseeing is County Water Board and state Dept of Toxic Substances, recos making request to County Water Board to investigate, Sarah will provide contacts
 - Emily - suggests a special meeting with Task Force where the city/county can send somebody to present and explain their position, will send email to coordinate
 - Mario - next step should be independent soil test, Mario thinks he can get a non-profit to fund, doesn't believe the city or county will listen to us, it's been two months without contact since the CIS

9. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Garvanza Park Mini Forest -- Progress and next steps. (10-20 min)
 - Emily - Would be only the second in all of LA, trees of different size trees densely planted together become self-sustaining more quickly, grass in the park is in poor condition, Funding is there, would bring public health benefit and shade canopy, working with Terra Moto landscaping, would work with local community members and schools to care for the forest, discussion of installing cistern to water

- Rosa would like to see a meeting with neighbors of the park to weigh in, Emily suggests having the landscaper present and get feedback
 - Emily will make a flyer on Canva to bring around the neighborhood
- Sarah - CD14 has money for public parks, up to \$4,999 doesn't require a motion, she will loop in Alice to find request form, loves the idea and wonders how it might integrate with the tiny homes project in Arroyo Seco Park
- Ben - will email Emily with resources to investigate possibility of an underground cistern, suggests adding concept of nature play
- Clara - suggested an alternative site if the Rec&Park doesn't permit it in Garvanza Park, Emily will connect her with the organizer, Sarah believes it's city or county owned land and should be able to be put to community use
 - Steve believes a community garden is already planned for that space

10. NEW BUSINESS:

- Ben - other cities and countries think of the environment as infrastructure, and a name structured around infrastructure may get more traction, idea of "slow streets" is really important to sustainability and infrastructure
- Clara - development endangering black walnut trees in El Sereno

11. ADJOURNMENT

Public Comment:

Steve moves to adjourn the meeting at 9:24pm. Steve seconds.

| | For | Against | Abstain | Recused | Ineligible | Absent |
|---------------|----------|---------|---------|---------|------------|--------|
| Steve Crouch | X | | | | | |
| Shanna Oskin | X | | | | | |
| Emily Spokes | X | | | | | |
| Total: | 3 | | | | | |

Motion carries.