

Notice of Historic Highland Park Special Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, 19th July 2021 @7pm
Zoom Meeting Online or By Telephone
Dial (669)900-6833 or (877) 853-5257 to Join the Meeting
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AGENDA
MINUTES

(Abstentions are neither in favor nor in opposition)

1. CALL TO ORDER: 7:07pm

- a. Meeting Called to Order by President, quick address:

Duncan: In the first meeting, a board member was called out by name which is against our code of conduct. Duncan apologized to the board that he wasn't on top of it and will do a better job of calling that out in the future. Time limits should apply to board members as well as the public to keep the meeting moving and shorter.

Terrence: Remind everyone to double check the funding training is complete in cornerstone. Sometimes there is a delay.

Public Comment: None

2. ROLL CALL

- a. Call of the roll and certification of a quorum by Secretary

Present: Mary, Harry, Albert, Steve, Linalee, Robert, Terrence, Duncan, Ramona, Shanna, Theresa, Emily.

Thirteen are present. Quorum is met.

Not Present: Emily A., Prudence, Christian, Ghazal.

3. DISCUSSION/ACTION: Motion to approve agenda

Comments: Emily S.- the Environmental Festival date changed to Sep 12.

Public Comments: none

Emily S motions to approve agenda. Mary A seconds.

Board Member	For	Against	Abstain	Recused	Ineligible	Absent
Emily Aldrich						x

Mary Allison	x					
Harry Blumsack	x					
Prudence Boczarski-Daniel						x
Albert Ching	x					
Steve Crouch	x					
Linalee Dennis	x					
Robert Diaz	x					
Terrence Elorragia	x					
Christian Garcia						x
Duncan Gregory	x					
Ghazal Hashemi						x
Ramona Joy Mikelson	x					
Samantha McBride	x					
Shanna Oskin	x					
Theresa Saso	x					
Emily Spokes	x					
Total:	13	0	0	0	0	4
Motion carries.						

4. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Public Comments: Clara Solis, Lincoln Heights project.

5. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE MOTION: Approve and fund NPG application submitted by Northeast Los Angeles Community Inc. for \$2,661.49 - Robert Diaz and NPG Submitter (10 min) [Supporting Documents](#)

- a. Backpack Drive for Buchanan Street and Aldama Elementary Schools (300 total students)
- b. 15" backpacks (\$1,154.40), composition notebooks (\$272.16), 3-ring binders with window pencil case (\$345.60), "A+ homework" 3-ring binder (\$453.00), yellow highlighters (\$95.04), "A+ homework" 2 pocket folders (\$78.00), #2 pencils (\$39.99), Crayola Crayons - 24 assorted colors (\$223.30)

Comments: Robert Diaz, Steve Crouch- any other elementary schools make requests? Robert-Aldama was picked because of high attendance of low income students. Steve- Monte Vista

may need something like this. Shanna- want to leverage these backpacks to get the word out about neighborhood council. Robert- it will be and there is . Emily S.- can we include the sustainable pen?.Robert- yes. Duncan- working with schools to decide the ones who need these the most. Terrence- where will the items be purchased? Robert- wholesale from HP. Terrence is curious about transparency on the applicant spending.

Public Comments: none

Emil S. motions to approve NPG. Robert seconds.

Board Member	For	Against	Abstain	Recused	Ineligible	Absent
Emily Aldrich						x
Mary Allison	x					
Harry Blumsack	x					
Prudence Boczarski-Daniel						x
Albert Ching	x					
Steve Crouch	x					
Linalee Dennis	x					
Robert Diaz	x					
Terrence Elorragia	x					
Christian Garcia						x
Duncan Gregory	x					
Ghazal Hashemi						x
Ramona Joy Mikelson	x					
Samantha McBride	x					
Shanna Oskin	x					
Theresa Saso	x					
Emily Spokes	x					
Total:	13	0	0	0	0	4
Motion carries						

6. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE MOTION:** Approve and fund up to \$5,000.00 to co-sponsor an

'environmental festival' in Sycamore Grove Park on Sep 12th with CD1 - Emily Spokes and Bill Cody (10 min)

Emily S. - working title "The Right to Shade" a music festival with environmental awareness and outreach. Bill Cody- local musicians. Lodge Room is volunteering to do all the sound equipment. Emily S. - composting of all leftover food, tree adoption. Bill Cody

Comments: Shanna- is to fund raise for tree.Emily- no it's to get the community engaged with taking care of the tree after it gets planted through adoption.Bill Cody. Mary Allison- did you reach out to Arroyo Seco NC? Harry- what is the financial threshold if we don't commit to \$5000. Emily S.lots can happen with less. Bill Cody- will have a budget soon. Terrence- wants to support but would feel more comfortable with \$1700-\$2500 instead of \$5000. Duncan, not having the budget is tough. We hold the other npgs to that standard. Can we move the vote to aug 5. Emily S. highly encourages us to vote now. Linalee- others have covered what she wanted to say.

Public Comments: None.

Emily S. motions to fund \$2000 of the \$5000. Samantha seconds.

Board Member	For	Against	Abstain	Recused	Ineligible	Absent
Emily Aldrich						X
Mary Allison			X			
Harry Blumsack		X				
Prudence Boczarski-Daniel						X
Albert Ching		X				
Steve Crouch	X					
Linalee Dennis		X				
Robert Diaz			X			
Terrence Elorragia			X			
Christian Garcia						X
Duncan Gregory		X				
Ghazal Hashemi						X
Ramona Joy Mikelson		X				
Samantha McBride	X					
Shanna Oskin	X					

Theresa Saso	x					
Emily Spokes	x					
Total:	5	5	5	0	0	4
Motion falls.						

7. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Approve and send CIS letter in support of the Tenant Opportunity to Purchase Act (TOPA) in LA County to Supervisor Hilda L Solis. ([link to letter](#)) - Sasha Rappaport (5 min)

Comments: Harry- how does it work in conjunction with Ellis act? Seems similar. Sasha- would expand it beyond rent stabilized.

Public Comments: Clara Solis I think this is a good idea. Tenants should have knowledge that their building will be sold and the right of first refusal. Worries about affordability of property taxes for the renters turned buyers. Wants first time buyer loans in tandem with TOPA.

Steve motions to approve CIS. Harry seconds.

Board Member	For	Against	Abstain	Recused	Ineligible	Absent
Emily Aldrich						x
Mary Allison	x					
Harry Blumsack	x					
Prudence Boczarski-Daniel						x
Albert Ching	x					
Steve Crouch	x					
Linalee Dennis			x			
Robert Diaz	x					
Terrence Elorragia	x					
Christian Garcia						x
Duncan Gregory	x					
Ghazal Hashemi						x

Ramona Joy Mikelson	x					
Samantha McBride	x					
Shanna Oskin	x					
Theresa Saso	x					
Emily Spokes	x					
Total:	12	0	1	0	0	4
Motion passes						

8. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Approve and send CIS letter in support of updating the Interim Motel Conversion Ordinance to include supportive and transitional housing; including the conversion of vacant commercial space. ([link to letter](#)) - Sasha Rappaport (5 min)

Sasha-

Comments:Harry- how is it going to be funded? Sasha-HHH funding declares that there is funding to create transitional and supportive housing.

Public Comments:Clara Solis- there was an LA Times about additional funding for supportive housing. Might be able to use some of that.

Theresa S motions to approve CIS. Steve seconds.

Board Member	For	Against	Abstain	Recused	Ineligible	Absent
Emily Aldrich						x
Mary Allison	x					
Harry Blumsack	x					
Prudence Boczarski-Daniel						x
Albert Ching	x					
Steve Crouch	x					
Linallee Dennis	x					
Robert Diaz	x					
Terrence Elorragia	x					
Christian Garcia						x
Duncan Gregory	x					
Ghazal Hashemi						x

Ramona Joy Mikelson	x					
Samantha McBride	x					
Shanna Oskin	x					
Theresa Saso	x					
Emily Spokes	x					
Total:	13	0	0	0	0	4
Motion carries						

9. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Approve and send CIS letter against City Building Code Fire District 1 Expansion ([link to letter](#)) - Sasha Rappaport (5 min)
 Sasha Rappaport- this should be brought to the Land Use committee for a proper discussion.

Comments:Duncan is this time sensitive? Sasha- No. Council is in recess. August should be fine.Mary- happy to have it on the next agenda for Land Use. Steve- in our area it could make affordable housing prohibitive. The concrete lobby is really promoting this. This should not be allowed.

Public Comments:Jeffrey Hernandez- glad it is going to Land Use. Very concerned with the tone of the letter- the CF is about protecting lives, this is about fire safety. Feels that the letter is inaccurate in parts. Clara Solis- submitted a letter that she would like shared with Land Use. Rosa Rivas- Concerned about the subject. Glad it is moving to Land Use. Needs to be looked at thoroughly because it's very important for the community.

Steve motions to put this letter before the Land Use Committee. Marry A seconds.

Board Member	For	Against	Abstain	Recused	Ineligible	Absent
Emily Aldrich						x
Mary Allison	x					
Harry Blumsack	x					
Prudence Boczarski- Daniel						x
Albert Ching	x					
Steve Crouch	x					
Linalee Dennis	x					

Robert Diaz	x					
Terrence Elorragia	x					
Christian Garcia						x
Duncan Gregory	x					
Ghazal Hashemi						x
Ramona Joy Mikelson	x					
Samantha McBride	x					
Shanna Oskin	x					
Theresa Saso	x					
Emily Spokes	x					
Total:	13	0	0	0	0	4
Motion carries						

10. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Approve and send CIS letter in support of giving the City, non-profit affordable housing developers, and tenants the right of first refusal to purchase in Ellis Act proceedings. ([link to letter](#)) - Sasha Rappaport (5 min)

Comments: Steve- how does it work. Sasha- the city or the tenant would be the first ones who could buy the Ellis Act property instead of developers. Linalee- tenants wouldn't be able to afford market rate homes. Would they get a lower rate? Sasha- the city and other housing entities would have a chance at it at the same rate as developers. Samantha- wants to voice support noting that DC had adopted this in the 80's and it is one of the most expensive housing markets and it's working well. Duncan- there is a State bill put forth that could potentially fund. Sasha- correct.

Public Comments: Clara Solis- supports this. The community has seen this happen where developers buy and convert to unaffordable apartments displacing long time residents.

Steve- Senate bill 1482? Sasha- rent caps.

Linalee motions to approve CIS in support. Steve seconds.

Board Member	For	Against	Abstain	Recused	Ineligible	Absent
Emily Aldrich						x
Mary Allison	x					

Harry Blumsack	x					
Prudence Boczarski-Daniel						x
Albert Ching	x					
Steve Crouch	x					
Linalee Dennis	x					
Robert Diaz	x					
Terrence Elorragia	x					
Christian Garcia						x
Duncan Gregory	x					
Ghazal Hashemi						x
Ramona Joy Mikelson	x					
Samantha McBride	x					
Shanna Oskin	x					
Theresa Saso	x					
Emily Spokes	x					
Total:	13	0	0	0	0	4
Motion carries.						

11. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE MOTION: Approve and fund \$50 application fee for an HHPNC booth at El Mercado, Arts and Crafts Fair in Highland Park - Robrt Diaz (5min)

Comments: Robert, Samantha, Mary some community members are upset about it because York Park soil hasn't been tested, Steve where will it be held. Linalee- an idea about passing out flyers with seeds. Robert- we have seeds in storage. Duncan- seeds are a good idea and outreach can collaborate. An opportunity to reach out to the stakeholders who are upset about York park. Emily S.- cautions us to talk to her first before doing anything at York Park. Steve- funds provided to NC from the City are then spent to pay fees to the City. Robert- I agree. Highland Park Chamber of Commerce. Terrence- think it's a good way to extend ourselves to the community. The funds shouldn't go back to the city via fees and rent. Supports having a booth.

Public Comments: Rosa Rivas- thinks it's a good idea for the HHPNC to come out to the Mercado. It's important for the board to be present for the community.

Emily S. motions to approve. Shanna O. seconds.

Board Member	For	Against	Abstain	Recused	Ineligible	Absent
Emily Aldrich						X
Mary Allison	X					
Harry Blumsack	X					
Prudence Boczarski-Daniel						X
Albert Ching	X					
Steve Crouch	X					
Linalee Dennis	X					
Robert Diaz	X					
Terrence Elorragia	X					
Christian Garcia						X
Duncan Gregory	X					
Ghazal Hashemi						X
Ramona Joy Mikelson	X					
Samantha McBride	X					
Shanna Oskin	X					
Theresa Saso	X					
Emily Spokes	X					
Total:	13	0	0	0	0	4
Motion carries						

12. NEW BUSINESS

Comments:Duncan- food drive is looking for a space. Please contact Duncan with ideas. Committees are starting to meet. Agendas are being posted on the website. Emily S. great meeting thank you Duncan. Robert- How are you gonna work the zoom? Duncan - waiting for more info from DONE. Emily S.- Next Environmental Committee meeting is next Monday.

Public Comments:Clara Solis- Lincoln Heights project- The Hyatt regency.

A different project wants to remove 30 walnut trees. There was a hearing opposing it. Would be great if HHPNC members support opposing the removal of the walnut trees.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Robert Diaz motions to adjourn. Samantha M seconds.

Board Member	For	Against	Abstain	Recused	Ineligible	Absent
Emily Aldrich						X
Mary Allison	X					
Harry Blumsack	X					
Prudence Boczarski-Daniel						X
Albert Ching	X					
Steve Crouch	X					
Linalee Dennis	X					
Robert Diaz	X					
Terrence Elorragia	X					
Christian Garcia						X
Duncan Gregory	X					
Ghazal Hashemi						X
Ramona Joy Mikelson	X					
Samantha McBride	X					
Shanna Oskin	X					
Theresa Saso	X					
Emily Spokes	X					
Total:	13	0	0	0	0	4
Motion carries.						

Meeting adjourned at 8:55pm

