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H C N C

Historic Cultural Neighborhood Council



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SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES Tuesday, August 5th, 2003, 7:30 p.m. St Peter's Italian Church, 1039 N. Broadway, Chinatown

Comments from the public on Agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the Agenda that is within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Comment period. Public comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker, unless waived by the presiding officer of the Board. Members of the public who wish to speak must fill out a Speaker's Card and submit it to the Secretary. Agenda is posted for public review at Bloom's General Store at 716 Traction Ave, Chinatown Public Library 39 N Hill St., La Luz del Dia at 107 Paseo de la Plaza, Little Tokyo Koban, 307 E. 1st Street, Solano Elementary School at 615 Solano Ave., Eastside Market at 1013 Alpine St. As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting the Neighborhood Council Senior Project Coordinator, Michele S. Cuevas at (323) 224-2313 or e-mail to mcuevas@mailbox.lacity.org .

Continuation of HCNC Regular Board Meeting of 31 July, 2003

1. Call to Order

Roll Call: Jonathan Jerold, Linda Wang, Jose Luis Sedano, Mamie Hong, Kam Lee, Joan Lee, Don Toy, Edmund SooHoo, Dominic Ehrler, Giovanni Bizzotto, John Schutz, Howard Nishimura, Phillip Young, Peter Woo, Alicia Brown, Al Soo-Hoo, Kelly SooHoo, Kim Benjamin, Nay He Tom, Danny Young, Mary Amason, Alan Kumamoto, Charles Woo, Brian Kito (24)

Public Comments on non-agenda items:

Tom Minkler: Arts District: What do we do when someone leaves their position? How do we get on an email list so we can get an email notice of board and committee meetings?

George Poon: I was here last Thursday and I represent the Senior Citizen's Center, I accompanied a group of seniors to the HCNC Board Meeting. Since the beginning of this council the President has encouraged public participation but during the last meeting I was disappointed at the attitude of the president, how was very hostile. One of the speakers didn't speak English very well and when I tried to clarify what he was saying the chairman had a very angry attitude. As the director of the Senior Citizens Center I have the right to help them make their speeches. So I would like to ask the Chairman to have a respectable attitude toward me as the director of the Senior Citizen's Center and to the Senior Citizen's.

Chairman Woo: Apologizes for offending anyone. Invites everyone to come to the Senior Forum.

Lung Voy Yee: Good evening. In the past we have participated in the election and I hope that the candidates who were in the election last time will be in the election again.

Board Member Comments:

Kelly Soo Hoo: Philip Young has moved out of the district he was representing. What do we do about people who move out of their district?

Jonathan Jerald: The process we agreed on is that we establish that they've left.

Edmund SooHoo: There's nothing in the bylaws, but if they are representing the district and they move out of the district then they're no longer representing the district.

Jonathan Jerald: I recommend that we put this on the agenda for the next meeting to discuss and decide what to do.

Peter Woo: We need to have clarification from DONE. He has not resigned.

Philip Young: Yes, I have moved out of the district and I've researched the bylaws and there is nothing about moving out of the district, or about an employee who leaves or a business that moves out of the district. I've spoken to DONE and they have no opinion on this. There is a clause in the bylaws for the removal of a board member so if you want you can vote me out. But I still have a business in the area and I'm still a very active member of the community and I don't want to resign.

Peter Woo: DONE has informed him that he is still a board member in good standing. Pending further clarification from DONE or a change in bylaws he is still a board member.

Alicia Brown: I think we're discussing something's that not on the agenda, it was a point of clarification and if there's no clarification right in front of us then we should take this up in the Executive Committee Meeting. Mr. Young is a good and active member.

Kim Benjamin: If we want to take up this subject at a later date fine, but to take any action it has to be put on the agenda. Let the people serve out their term. Mr. Young is an active and valuable member of the HCNC.

Don Toy: I would like to ask DONE, since this is an issue that always goes back there. We're always in violation of the bylaws. There are a number of things that are not addressed. DONE needs to do a thorough job. What's reasonable and then it should be applied across the board. You cannot be subjective in applying what you want to. As board members we should have a right to speak. It's important for DONE to go through every single thing. There is someone who has resigned from the board, because of an email that said "if you're not going to participate then you should resign." So we should vote.

Philip Young: When I ran for the board I was a legal resident in Victor Heights and I did confirm with DONE when I moved.

Peter Woo: We conclude our comments and move on to item 9.

9. Discussion and Action on proposed bylaw change that would permit the board to seat the non-profit candidates who were denied seats subsequent to the last election

Public Comments: Tom Minkler: 6 non-profits, I think the 6 original winners should be on the board so let's just put them up there and let them be on the board., I think there were 5 who weren't seated so just add 5 seats.

Board Discussion:

Motion from last meeting:

Alan Kumamoto: Motion to accept the first paragraph under Vacancies, General, with the added verbiage that "in the event of a tie for nominations then the tie would be voted on by the whole board" as the procedure for filling the vacant seat. Seconded by Don Toy.

[general discussion]

Vote: For: 21 Against: 0 Abstain: 1 [have 22, need 2/3rds to pass to need 16 to pass]

Motion [Charlie Woo, Kim Benjamin]: Fill At-Large seats and vacancies by recommendation/nomination by majority vote of the Executive Committee and to then present the candidates to the whole board to be voted on. seconded by Kim Benjamin

Discussion

Vote: For: 17 Against: 7. 2/3rd's majority, motion passes.

Motion [Kelly Soo Hoo, Don Toy]: Add the By-Law Addition: Six (6) Non-Profits Representatives At-large, within the HCNC, voted at-large and Six (6) Non-Profits Representatives, one from each District.

Discussion

Vote: For: 7 Against: 16 Abstain: 1 Motion doesn't pass.

10. Discussion and Action on proposed methods to fill the three empty seats in Solano Canyon, Victor Heights, and El Pueblo

Motion [Kelly Soo Hoo, Don Toy]: Add the By-Law Addition: One (1) Business Owner At-Large, within the HCNC, to be voted At-Large.

Discussion

Vote: For: 7 Against: 14 Abstain: 3 Motion doesn't pass.

11. Report on Senior Forum scheduled for August 8th at 1:30pm at the Chinatown Branch of L.A. Public Library

Everyone is welcome to come and participate.

Comment made that the HCNC Board members need better notice so that they can help in the planning of these events. The president promises to better notify the board in the future.

12. Report on neighborhood council requirements with regard to the Americans with Disabilities Act

The HCNC Meeting places need to have access for Americans with Disabilities.

13. Other Items (No action will be taken on items discussed)

DONE is conducting a series of courses on several issues. The schedule was emailed to all the board members, plus you can call DONE, or Tom Soong or Jonathan Jerald to get the schedule.

The Executive Committee voted today to hire a parliamentarian to run the next HCNC Board Meeting.

Comment that the Election Committee met without noticing the full board. Clarified that it was the pre-meeting to setup the Election Committee and that this would be the first official meeting of the Election Committee.

Call to set next meeting now, 2 people from each area can be on the committee. HCNC Election Committee's first meeting to be at 6:00pm on Tuesday, August 19th, 2003, Location to be announced.

Tom Minkler: Bylaws name the committees but I don't think it gives the chairperson the power to appoint the committee members or set the date for meetings, etc.

Alan Kumamoto: Can the Executive Committee take a look at Youth-At-Large position? Executive Committee will look at and report back to the board.

Put on next agenda to change start time of HCNC Board Meeting.

14. Adjournment

Next meeting, Wednesday, August 27th, 2003.