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Alan Kumamoto, 3rd Vice President
Richard Nozaki, 4th Vice President
Jose Luis Sedano, Secretary
David Nagano, Treasurer
Alicia Brown, Historian

H C N C
Historic Cultural Neighborhood Council



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General Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 10, 2007, 6:30 p.m.
CSC Youth Center, 727 N Broadway #212, LA CA 90012

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 within the Board's 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 are requested to fill out a Speaker's Card and submit it to the Secretary. The Agenda is posted for public review at HCNC 305 E 1st St; Bloom's General Store 716 Traction Ave; Chinatown Public Library 639 N Hill St; La Luz del Dia 107 Paseo de la Plaza; Little Tokyo Koban 307 E 1st Street; Solano Elementary School 615 Solano Ave; and Eastside Market 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, 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 Project Coordinator, Melvin Canas at 323 224 2316.

1) Call to Order & Roll Call – Kim Benjamin
Meeting called to order at 6:45pm. Roll Call: Al Soo-Hoo, Alan Galiano Alan Kumamoto, Alicia Brown, Brian Kito, Charlie Woo, Danny Young, David Nagano, Don Toy, Edmund Soohoo, Gay Yuen, Hieu Van, Hoover Tang, Howard Fink, John Saslow, Jose Sedano, Joe Wong, Kam Lee, Kim Benjamin, Ne Tom, Peter Lau, Richard Nozaki, Ron Fong, Ryan Timmreck, Tim Keating.
Staff: Anne Walrath
Guests: Candace Lee, Michael Fong, Melvin Canas.
Absent: Ann Kim, Alfonse Marquez, Craig Havens, Howard Nishimura, Martin Farfan, Peter Woo, Yukiko Yamahata.
Vacant Seats: Resident Little Tokyo.
New Board Members: John Sastow, Resident Arts District and Alan Galiano, Resident Victor Heights.

2) Public Comments for youths and seniors: 10 minutes
Carol – Evans School, April 24th meeting. Largest adult school in United States. Adult career education.

3) Approval of Minutes March 13, 2007 – Jose Luis Sedano
Correction of March 13, 2007 minutes:
Item 3: Jan Perry Q&A: add HCNC has 6 areas.
Item 5: Don Toy: Note that Kam Lee has asked for Chinese translation of minutes several times.
Item 9: Don Toy: Chinatown caucus wanted noted that Brian Kito had asked 3rd party to inform them of the Action Committee meeting.
Item 16: Don Toy: 3/13/07 meeting began at 6:30pm, not 6pm.

With these corrections Howard Fink made motion to approve minutes and Alan Kumamoto seconded. Minutes approved.

Anne Walrath requested correction to minutes to be emailed or faxed to her before the meeting for sake of accuracy, efficiency, translations and for approving already corrected minutes. Board agreed.

Discussion of Simplified Chinese versus Standardized Chinese translations. Chinatown caucus says standardized Chinese easier for older Chinese to understand. Don Toy accepted responsibility for getting the minutes and agenda translated into Standardized Chinese.

4) President's Report, Kim Benjamin

L.A. Pearls – Senior Citizens of the Year Awards – Alicia Brown. Alicia Brown declined as she had won last year. Don Toy nominated Mrs. Kam Lee, who came over from China when 60 years old. Now she's 100. Gay Yuen seconded. Motion approved for Kam Lee. Don Toy accepted responsibility for filling out the forms.

Kim thanked Tom Minkler for the updated Website.

Updating Guiding principals will be handled with Action committee.

5) Treasurers Report - David Nagano

See attached.

Send report to DONE by June 30th for the funds that are in jeopardy.

Melvin: any funds that will be spent after June 30th need more hard data, ie. Invoices etc.

6) Elections/By-Laws Committee Report – Alan Kumamoto

Alan would like everyone to review bylaws by next meeting so we can review next meeting. Election report will come later.

7) Action Committee: Discussion and action items on neighborhood projects and expenditures,
Brian Kito

See attached.

Motion for approval of Arts District/Little Tokyo projects made by Brian Kito – Hoover Tang seconded. Motion Approved.

\$39,500 done, need to get \$10K more spent.

Al Soo-Hoo wanted to know if our process had any provisos about bids? He noted LT's project presentations had several bids. Kim Benjamin said the RFP process is too overwhelming for volunteer board, but since many of the monies come from government agencies that it will be a professionally vetted process. David Nagano had not seen anything in documentation that requires bidding, not required by DONE.

El Pueblo Project:

Kim: hired an architect with own money, (only charging 50%) to have plans drawn up for a mini-proposal, 280 sq ft development to plant a seed with the city council to form an ad hoc committee to develop this area of El Pueblo. 400 bed, 4 star hotel, restaurants. El Pueblo is the original center of LA, what if we had multi-cultural restaurants. Tying together all the elements, the center of city with cultural center, historic center. On top of center is a meeting room with a window on City Hall. A new center and heartbeat for the city. Plan has endorsement of the El Pueblo caucus. Would be a public project. Emailing plans to board members so they can study project.

Howard Fink spoke in praise of the projected noting that it doesn't change anything in El Pueblo, it's taking a fringe area of El Pueblo and enhancing it. Says it will bring a lot of people and money to El Pueblo and enhance what is already there. Howard Fink strongly endorses this project.

Don Toy: if it is to be supported and built, then some questions need to be asked and answered without which cannot give a blanket endorsement. Would the developer be good and good for community? Would the rooftop hall be available to non-profits? Don thinks it's a beautiful project and commends Kim, but needs to be some cognizance into it.

General discussion whereby it was decided to put on next month's agenda and that Kim Benjamin would email plan to board members so they could study the project in more depth.

Guiding Principals update table for next meeting.

- 8) Vacant Board Seats – Discussion and Action
Little Tokyo Resident, Little Tokyo caucus has not put forward a name.
- 9) Public Comments
Raymond Yu gave public announcements of events happening in April.
- 10) Next Meeting & Announcements, change in meetings dates/times, posting locations and process, action items, possible bylaw change

Action Committee – April 19th, Thursday at 6:30pm at Koban

Michael Fong: next week 5 year celebration; City Hall Rotunda at April 17th at 5pm.

Next HCNC Meeting: May 8th at 6pm at Chinatown Public Library. Please note, this meeting has been changed to Tuesday, May 15th at the Chinatown Public Library.

- 11) Adjournment

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HCNC Project Update

Meeting

March 27, 2007

Arts District-

Arts District / Little Tokyo Farmers Market – Tim Keating

Request for \$1,250

Project start date 5/8/07

The Market will move to Fletcher Brown Square @ Main and Temple.

Funding to be used for publicity of the change.

Community Art Center Project – Tim Keating

Request for \$11,250

Request to LaRABA for matching funds has been made.

Entire project estimated at \$30,000 with \$7,500 in estimated ticket sales.

To work with Padua playwrights festival for a month long event presenting 6 plays on the theme “WAR” and 5000 sq ft visual art show on the theme Anti war. Marketing entire Art Eco system with this event.

China Town

Gateway signage project.- Edmund Soohoo

Added signage and lighting to the Chinatown Dragon gateway on Broadway.

Matching funding requested from HCNC and CRA (community redevelopment agency).

A) Solicit designer ideas

B) Select design

C) Pre construction to be completed within a year, we hope.

Note: No proposal forms submitted yet. More of a RFP submitted, outlining a procedure to the Project.

El Pueblo

Mural Platform – Jose Luis Sedano

Requested \$16,000.

To assist the construction costs of the platform to view the America Tropical The D A Siqueiros painted in (1932).

The El Pueblo Commission will need to fill out the program application.

Note: only proposal forms submitted. No project proposal yet

Victor Heights

Neighborhood watch signs – Ryan Timmreck

Requested \$3,000

50 Signs to be posted.

Amount has been voted upon and approved March 13, 2007 meeting

HCNC Position Requests

March 27,2007

- 1) Mini Park- Kim Benjamin
In Solano Canyon Kim Benjamin will donate property to the city to establish a mini park.
- 2) School expansion – Kim Benjamin
- 3) River Project –Kim Benjamin
- 4) El Pueblo – Kim Benjamin
Master Plan Proposal
- 5) HCNC Office – Brian Kito
location change