

OFFICERS

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Richard Nozaki, 4th Vice President
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David Nagano, Treasurer
Alicia Brown, Historian



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**General Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, Sept 25, 2007, 6:00 p.m.
Chinatown Branch – LA Public Library
639 North Hill Street, Los Angeles, 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, Gabriela Quintana at 323 224 2317.

1. Call to Order & Roll Call – Kim Benjamin

Meeting called to order at 6:10pm with a quorum. Announcements made. Kim reminded the board members about the HCNC website and urged more Board Members to visit it and use it more.

Howard Nishimura, Kim Benjamin and Don Toy said a few words about Richard Nozaki, and our sorrow at his passing.

Roll Call: Al Soo-Hoo, Alan Kumamoto, Alan Galiano, Alicia Brown, Ann Kim, Brian Kito, Charlie Woo, Craig Havens, Danny Young, David Nagano, Don Toy, Edmund Soohoo, Gay Yuen, Hieu Van, Hoover Tang, Howard Fink, Howard Nishimura, John Saslow, Jose Sedano, Joseph Wong, Kam Lee, Kim Benjamin, Ne Tom, Ron Fong, Ryan Timmreck, Tim Keating, Mark Rothenberg

Absent: Martin Farfan, Peter Lau, Peter Woo, Yukiko Yamahata

Guests: Tim Dang & Lisa Tang – East-West Players; Susan Steinberg, Kathleen Kim & Michael Zakian – Kor Group for 808 Spring St; Chuck Cowley – McGregor Company for One Sante Fe; Dan Reza – Solano Canyon Monument Project; Mike Fong – Councilman Ed Reye's Office; Carol Duan & Wanda Fong – Chinatown Public Library; David Meza of Assemblyman Fabian Nunes Office; Erika Sellin – Center Theatre Group.

2. Public Comments for youths and seniors: 5 minutes: No youths or seniors for public comments.

3. Approval of Minutes June 7, 2007 (see attached updated Guidelines) – Jose Luis Sedano
Don Toy made motion to approve minutes and Guidelines with these corrections: Minutes: Item 4 replace “and specifically the concept (as outlined in the attached) “ with “as exemplified by.” Guidelines: add 20% or more on item #3; change signage to multilingual signage on item #11 and add “subject to meaningful community input & participation, public hearings where applicable, and city approval as required” to items #4, 5, 6 and 10. Craig Havens seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

4. Vacant Board Seats – Discussion and Action

a. At-Large Employee

Mark Rothenberg is here as the recommended person by the Executive committee.

Mark said a few words, he came to LA in 1973 and formed RSA a few years later, of which he is President and Managing Principal. He is an Architect, registered in 15 states. RSA has an office in the Arts District, in San Diego, and one in Beijing, China. The firm works on all kinds of projects including commercial, residential, mix use and also works with the city on many projects. RSA did the El Pueblo Project Plan pro-bono. Mark has a specific interest in helping Chinatown since he's spent most of his adult life in Chinatown.

Don Toy moved to seat Mark Rothenberg. John Saslow seconded. Passed unanimously.

b. At-Large Youth – Martin Farfan failed to attend with his candidate. To be handled at next meeting.

c. Little Tokyo Resident

LT Resident seat still vacant with no one to stand for the seat. To be handled at next meeting.

d. Replacing the vacant executive board seat of Mr. Nozaki: To be handled at next meeting

5. President's Report & Action Items, Kim Benjamin

Kim discussed the need to have a more active executive committee and board, that we need to establish working task forces to attend to our goals and objectives and he encouraged members to review the new 2007-8 guidelines and pick a subject they are interested in and look to be active on it. We will meet to speak about implanting this level of interest.

Kim discussed the proposed pocket park for 0 Solano Canyon located across the street from Alicia Brown's home. Councilman Ed Reyes is acting on the proposed part and moving it through the city system. It is the HCNC's hope to have this park implemented and activated for community use in early 2009. The donation of the land is being provided by LaeRoc.

a. One Santa Fe mixed use development – Letter of Support vote & approval (developer presentation Charles F. Cowley III, The McGregor Company). General concept to create a river village with retail, live-work and mix use.

General discussion and question and answer.

Tim Keating made motion to approve support letter, John seconded.

Passed with 16 Yea's; 2 No's; 1 Abstained

b. Kor Project - 808 Spring Street retail component – Letter of Support vote & approval.

Kathleen Kim. Michael Ziggian, architect. Alpine, spring and Alameda.

General discussion and question and answer.

Joe Wong made motion to approve the letter of support. John Saslow seconded.

Motion passed with 17 yea's; 1 No

c. El Pueblo Revitalization / Development Project. Update to be discussed at next meeting.

d. MTA Call for Projects update. Update to be discussed at next meeting.

e. CRA North Chinatown Industrial Specific Plan. Update to be discussed at next meeting.

f. River Plan City Approval. Update to be discussed at next meeting.

g. Solano Canyon Community Park Project update. Update to be discussed at next meeting.

- h. Misc: Development Project updates and action items for Arts District, Chinatown, El Pueblo, Little Tokyo, Solano Canyon, and Victor Heights CALL FOR PROJECTS. Tabled until next meeting.

- 6. Action Committee: Discussion and action items on neighborhood projects and expenditures, Brian Kito
 - a. Tim Keating: Arts District Report for LaDAD/Padua Playwrights – Demonstration Project Community Art Center for Downtown Arts District. HCNC Grant: \$11,500. Update to be discussed at next meeting.

 - b. Suellen Cheng: El Pueblo Signage Project Report. HCNC Grant: \$21,200.
Ernesto has completed the design for the signs and he's coming the day after tomorrow to install 6 signs. The other project, 4 directory signs, it is being designed by Daniel Gonzales and the completion date for the design is the end of October. Ernesto working on the construction drawings and should be done by end of November so the project should be completed by January. Can plan the public ceremony for February.

 - c. Brian Kito: Little Tokyo Security Cameras Project Report. HCNC Grant: \$22,600.
Update to be discussed at next meeting.

 - d. Alicia Brown: Solano Canyon Monument Project Report. HCNC Grant: \$15,000.
Update to be discussed at next meeting.

 - e. Ryan Timmreck: Victor Heights Neighborhood Watch Signs Project Report. HCNC Grant: \$3,000.
Update to be discussed at next meeting.

 - f. Misc: HCNC Sponsored Community Project updates and action items for Arts District, Chinatown, El Pueblo, Little Tokyo, Solano Canyon, and Victor Heights CALL FOR NEW COMMUNITY PROJECTS.
Update to be discussed at next meeting.

 - g. East West Players Proposal: Lisa Tang. Tim Dang. The East West Players can give you presence. Our theater needs renovations. The Marquee needs to be replaced. It's 20 feet high and 15 feet across and would put the HCNC recognition on the lower part of the Marquee and a ¼ page ad on the brochure for 1 year. (David Henry Hwang Theatre). Project description attached. Asking the HCNC for \$27,581.34 for this portion of the renovation. The LT caucus will meet and discuss project and will come up for vote for the entire HCNC.

 - h. Update and action on any project funding previously discussed at the last 4 board meetings not previously approved.
 - 1. Youth Outreach
Update to be discussed at next meeting.

 - 2. At-Large contingent community programs that cover whole HCNC.
Update to be discussed at next meeting.

 - 3. LT: map of Little Tokyo that will identify historic sites.
Update to be discussed at next meeting.

 - 4. Chinatown Signage project.
Update to be discussed at next meeting.

 - 7. Treasurer's Report: David Nagano

Update to be discussed at next meeting.

8. Discussion & Action: New HCNC Office space.
Update to be discussed at next meeting.

9. Discussion & Action: HCNC support of NC Citywide Congress on October 27th: \$1,000. Alan Kumamoto. Looking for about 400 to 500 people to attend. DONE has put in \$40 to \$50K and needs more funds.

Alan Kumamoto made motion to allocate \$500 to DONE to help defray the costs. Danny Young seconded. Motion approved. 13 Yea's, 6 No's, 1 Abstained

10. Dave Meza of Assemblyman Fabian Nunes Office: Seniors' Renters Credit. (10 minutes)
Spoke about the 2007 Homeowner and Renters' Assistance Program and that training was possible for those who want to help others apply. Brian Kito said they did a workshop in LT, about 30 people came and applied so he asked Dave to come to the HCNC Board meeting so that the other communities could have workshops in the other areas.

11. Public Comments: One woman spoke about needing more public comment on agenda items but neither she nor anyone else had filled out a speaker card for any specific item on the agenda.

12. Next Meeting & Announcements, change in meetings dates/times, posting locations and process, action items, possible bylaw change.

Next meetings: October 16th, Location TBD and December 4th, Location TBD

13. New Business

14. Old Business

a. Approval of DWP MOU – Jack Humphreville

15. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm

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Guiding Principals for the HCNC for 2007 / 2008

- 1) Support the creation of Parking Improvement Districts to improve traffic patterns, activate pedestrian connections and reduce parking fees at public meters; support Business Improvement Districts that support improved security, marketing and street improvements as well as street cleaning, subject to the approval of the members that would pay assessments into such a district.
- 2) Support planting of new trees, install covered tree wells, improve sidewalks, new pedestrian benches and related street art along with improved pedestrian lighting and improved cross walks throughout HCNC. Support community art and art related projects.
- 3) Support mixed use development for projects requesting variances to have 20% or more affordable housing and we encourage by-right projects to have 10% affordable housing. We support expedited city applications for all housing and mixed use projects subject to meaningful community input & participation, public hearings where applicable, and city approval as required.
- 4) Support LA River Revitalization subject to meaningful community input & participation, public hearings where applicable, and city approval as required.
- 5) Support Transfer of Floor Area Rights (TFAR) between private and other parties subject to meaningful community input & participation, public hearings where applicable, and city approval as required.
- 6) Support reduced parking requirements on new housing or adaptive reuse projects within HCNC subject to meaningful community input & participation, public hearings where applicable, and city approval as required.
- 7) Call for city to improve/expand existing and build new elementary and middle schools in HCNC.
- 8) Creation of Pocket Parks in HCNC.
- 9) Support creation of historic and cultural resources within HCNC.
- 10) Support change in use of M zoned properties to allow for mixed use and or housing subject to meaningful community input & participation, public hearings where applicable, and city approval as required.
- 11) Support updated community or specific plans that expedite development in HCNC. Support creation of jobs, new parks, schools and other community services and projects that help connect our communities and build a stronger neighborhood.
- 12) Support more and *Improved Public Transportation and access* to same including covered bus stops, better multilingual signage and more locations of dash lines (including a DASH Bus run on Main past El Pueblo), and the connectivity within our communities to each other.
- 13) Encourage use of under utilized public land for public benefits, which includes private and public development.
- 14) Support development of mixed use, hotel, retail, museum, housing and related services within El Pueblo on non-historic sites such as parking lots and under utilized areas...improve pedestrian access and connectivity to rest of HCNC subject to meaningful community input & participation, public hearings where applicable, and city approval as required.
- 15) Support Green transportation and development.