

OFFICERS

Kim Benjamin, President
Brian Kito, 1st Vice President
Martin Farfan, 2nd Vice President
Alan Kumamoto, 3rd Vice President
Gay Yuen, 4th Vice President
Jose Luis Sedano, Secretary
David Nagano, Treasurer
Alicia Brown, Historian

H C N C
Historic Cultural Neighborhood Council



HISTORIC CULTURAL
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
305 E. 1st St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012
213 847 5026
213 473 6703 (fax)
kim@laeroc.com
anne@laeroc.com
jlsedano@hotmail.com

**General Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 11, 2007, 6:00 p.m.
Tokyo Towers Mtg Room, 455 E 3rd St, LA 90013
(formerly Reiki's Kitchen)**

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

Quorum and meeting called to order at 6:15pm.

Present: Al Soo-Hoo, Alan Kumamoto, Alicia Brown, Brian Kito, Craig Havens, Danny Young, David Nagano, Don Toy, Edmund Soohoo, Hieu Van, Howard Fink, Howard Nishimura, John Saslow, Joe Wong, Kam Lee, Kim Benjamin, Mark Rothenberg, Martin Farfan, Peter Lau, Peter Lau, Ron Fong, Ryan Timmreck, Tim Keating, Yukiko Yamahata.

Staff: Anne Walrath

Guests: David Seewack, Kate Bartolo, Jane Mitchell

2. Public Comments for youths and seniors: 5 minutes

Raymond Yu made his public service announcements.

Edmund Soohoo made a public service announcement about wireless network seminar at California Endowment.

3. Approval of Minutes October 16, 2007 – Jose Luis Sedano

Motion to approve the minutes made by Howard Nishimura and seconded by John Saslow.

Motion passed unanimously.

4. Vacant Board Seats – Discussion and Action

4a. At-Large Youth

4a1. Change in bylaws (2nd reading and vote) on definition of youth position, expand age from 16-18 to 15-20 and part of the HCNC Community.

Motion to take second vote on motion approved at last meeting. Motion made by Don Toy and seconded by Tim Keating. Motion passed unanimously.

President Benjamin appealed to the board to please find us a youth

4b. Little Tokyo Resident

President Benjamin appealed to the board to please find us a resident.

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

5a. El Pueblo Plan update.

Kim announced the approval of motion from LA City Council to adopt the El Pueblo plan developed by HCNC Members, Kim Benjamin, LaeRoc Partners and Mark Rothenberg, RSA.

5b. Solano Canyon Pocket Park update.

Kim announced the approval of motion from LA City Council to accept the donated land for the pocket park. Now it's up to the city to develop as a pocket park, will be access to Radio Hill.

5c. Election of Officers for 2008.

**Motion to re-elect 2007 Officers made by Howard Nishimura and seconded by Tim Keating.
Motion passed unanimously.**

5d. CRA North Chinatown Industrial Specific Plan.

They are coming to next meeting to present their plan to us

5e. River Plan City Approval.

Approved by board members.

5f. 695 S Sante Fe Project (David Seewack) – HCNC Support Letter. Kate Bartolo

Kim introduced David Seewack & Kate Bartolo. It's been approved by the CCAC and by Laraba (first unanimous vote by Laraba). 11 Buildings, 3,000 sq. ft to 11,000 sq. ft. Presentation attached.

Motion to approve letter of support from HCNC made by John Saslow and seconded by Al Soohoo. Motion passed unanimously.

5g. Hail-A-Taxi Support Letter. Letter attached.

**Motion to approve letter of support made by Don Toy and seconded by Mark Rothenberg.
Motion approved unanimously.**

5h. Misc: Development Project updates and HCNC Sponsored Community Project updates and action items for Arts District, Chinatown, El Pueblo, Little Tokyo, Solano Canyon, and Victor Heights
CALL FOR PROJECTS.

6. Action Committee: Discussion and action items on neighborhood projects and expenditures, Brian Kito

6a. Arts District Projects and Action Items.

Tim Keating: Temporary Space: Arts District Report for LaDAD/Padua Playwrights – Demonstration Project Community Art Center for Downtown Arts District. HCNC Grant: \$11,500.

Tim would like to take the money that's been allocated for a temporary space and use it to create an online presence instead. Laraba has matched the funds and both HCNC and Laraba will get credit on the website. Tim was asked to take to the Action Committee and bring back to next HCNC meeting.

6b. Chinatown Projects and Action Items.

6b1. Chinatown Signage Project.

Don: Chinatown caucus has asked the CRA to do rendering/plans and timeline and they are working on it now. Have to get approval of people who designed gateway. CRA is the agency that will oversee it and do the project. Dave reminded us that we cannot pay the CRA, we can only pay vendor. Still on track to make a proposal for a \$35K to \$60K project or even possibly a \$100K project. Looking to see project in January or February.

6c. El Pueblo Projects and Action Items.

6d. Little Tokyo Projects and Actions Items. – next Action Committee meeting: Jan 15th at Koban, 6pm.

6d1. Brian Kito: Little Tokyo Security Cameras Project Report. HCNC Grant: \$22,600.

Cameras still in the works, just had meeting last month to talk about locations. CRA will study that, but ultimately it's the LAPD's call. Kim reminds us that we want to have publicity coverage for the HCNC so we can build on and do more for the community.

6d2. Map of Little Tokyo that will identify historic sites. Was finished in August.

6d3. East West Players Proposal. Action Committee will look at again and look at their budget to see what piece of it the HCNC could help them with.

6e. Solano Canyon Projects and Action Items.

6e1. Update on Monument Sign

SC caucus questioned why it was taking so long for DONE to pay the funds. They also want to have a public event/ party to unveil the monument. Directed to Action Committee meeting to get proposal for more funds for public event/party. May want to submit proposal for solar powered lighting.

6f. Victor Heights Projects and Action Items.

6f1. Ryan Timmreck: Victor Heights Neighborhood Watch Signs Project Report. HCNC Grant: \$3,000. Need approval for additional \$123.75, plus more funds for decals.

Motion to approve \$4000 overall made by Ryan Timmreck and seconded by Alan Kumamoto. Motion approved unanimously.

6g. At-Large Projects and Action Items.

6g1. Youth Outreach: To be discussed at next meeting.

6g2. At-Large contingent community programs that cover whole HCNC: To be discussed at next meeting.

6g3. LA City's Alameda & 1st RFP: Tim Keating. HCNC can make recommendations on proposals. There are 5 strong candidates. After make recommendations will go to City Council in February or March. City Council probably won't vote until April. Several board members won't be able to vote because they are part of the project in some way.

Brian suggests a town hall meeting for the project and volunteers to put it together. Kim says we should direct resources toward this, Tim suggests sometime in February. Kim says he'll ask Jan Perry to co-host.

6g4. Visual Communication's Beta tape clean and transfer project and presentation.

Proposed at last Action Comm Mtg. Project: rerecording old Beta Tapes, which are historic, archived tapes of the radical era of 60's and 70's, want to finance the equipment that will clean the beta tapes prior to them being transferred to new media. Will be reviewed at the January 15th Action Committee meeting. Proposal will be about \$10,000.

7. Treasurer's Report: David Nagano

David Nagano gave the Treasurer's Report: Says we have over \$140,000 to spend and need to come up with projects and in doing so publicize the HCNC. Encourages everyone to go to the Action Committee Meetings.

Kim informed board members that with the \$140K and the \$50K the HCNC will receive in July that's almost \$200K that the HCNC can spend on Projects so we should broaden our scope and do larger projects for our communities.

Al Soohoo says money is also for ongoing expenses. What is encumbered amount that must be spent by July? \$50K.

8. City of Los Angeles HIV/AIDS Survey by Vital Research: Tamara Nelson, Project Coordinator. Jane Mitchell passed out the survey and those who wanted to participate filled and turned into her.

9. Public Comments: No comments

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

Suggested Meeting dates for first half of 2008:

Tues, January 22, 2008

Tues, February 12, 2008

Tues, March 11, 2008

Tues, May 13, 2008

Tues, June 10, 2008

11. New Business

Schools, in HCNC guidelines. Martin Farfan says that charter schools are looking for locations and they would jump at a location in Little Tokyo or Chinatown or Lincoln Heights. Kim asked Martin to come up with a list of Charter Schools looking for locations.

12. Old Business

13. Adjournment - Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm.

* * *