

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
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General Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 22, 2009, 5:30 p.m.
Pico House, El Pueblo, 430 N Main St, 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, Naheed Qureshi at 213-473-5391.

1. Call to Order & Roll Call – Kim Benjamin Meeting called to order at 5:40pm

Attended: Alan Kumamoto, Alicia Brown, Brian Kito, Charlie Woo, Danny Young, David Nagano, Don Toy, Edmund Soohoo, Gibson Han, Hoover Tang, Howard Fink, Howard Nishimura, Jimmy Miyoshi, John Saslow, Jose Sedano, Joe Wong, Kim Benjamin, Mark Rothenberg, Paul Bukowski, Ron Fong, Ryan Timmreck, Tim Keating

Absent: Al SooHoo, Craig Havens, Gay Yuen, Hieu Van, Kelsey Iino, Lai Ceez, Martin Farfan, Ne Hay Tom, Peter Lau, Peter Woo, Valerie Hanley

Staff: Anne Walrath

Guests: Tang Wai Chu, Edward Flores, Grayce Liu, Jed Sonnenshein

2. Public Comments for youths and seniors: 6 minutes

Raymond Yu: Public Service Announcements (1 minute)

Monica Morant: City of LA Bureau of Sanitation Alternative Technologies Presentation (5 minutes)

Christian Rodarte 323-669-7652 rodarte@therobergroup.com www.therobergroup.com

The City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation is currently evaluating new alternative technologies for processing black bin waste, and is scheduling presentations at neighborhood councils throughout the City's six collection areas or "wastesheds". The goal of this evaluation process is to select the best new, safe technologies for processing waste that can meet the City's goal achieving 75% diversion from landfills by 2013. Concurrently, BOS is conducting a site study to identify suitable locations for alternative technologies facilities within each wasteshed. Working on becoming first Zero Waste City by 2030. Looking for suitable land for facilities.

Brian Kito presented Kim Benjamin and the board with a plaque for the HCNC's help with the 1st Annual Tanabata Festival 2009 LA. President Benjamin request the plaque be hung in the Koban or Museum or the Little Tokyo Community Center. VP Kito agreed to see that it is displayed.

3. Approval of Minutes for June 9, 2009 – Jose Luis Sedano

Don Toy and Kim Benjamin clarified that monies saved from budget cuts will go to projects.

Motion to approve the minutes for June 9, 2009 made by John Saslow and seconded by Danny Young. Vote was Unanimous. Motion approved.

4. Vacant Board Seats – Discussion and Action
 - 4.1 Chinatown , every one solid for now, can drop from agenda.

5. Bylaw/Election Committee Report and Action Items: Alan Kumamoto.

- 5.1 1st Vote on Bylaw changes

- 5.1.1 **ARTICLE IV. STAKEHOLDERS, BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND VOTING RIGHTS**

- 5.1.1 Stakeholders

- 5.1.1 The Historic & Cultural Neighborhood Council shall be diverse, inclusive and open to all community stakeholders. A community stakeholder is defined as any individual who lives, works, or owns property or a business within the Council's boundaries **and also to those who declare a stake in the neighborhood and affirm the factual basis for it.** In addition, community stakeholder status may be identified by participation in non-profit groups, schools, associations and organizations located within the boundaries of the Council.

- 5.1.2 **Board of Directors**

1. The thirty-three (33) Board shall consist of the following makeup:

- a. Representing Arts District, two (2) residents.
 - b. Representing Chinatown, four (4) residents.
 - c. Representing El Pueblo de Los Angeles, one (1) at large.
 - d. Representing Little Tokyo, two (2) residents.
 - e. Representing Solano Canyon, two (2) residents.
 - f. Representing Victor Heights, four (4) residents, **one (1) at large.**
 - g. Six (6) Business Owners, one (1) for each community.
 - h. Five (5) Nonprofit representatives, of which one (1) will serve from and be elected by each of the 6 districts, **except Victor Heights, which has no Nonprofit organizations within it's boundaries.** No one organization or its affiliates may serve in more than one such seat at any one time. These seats shall be filled by representatives that are from and a part of said non-profit (and officially designated as such by said organization to serve). A nonprofit organization must be 501(C) type of organization in good standing throughout their term and at the time of their candidacy and election.
 - i. One (1) Employee representative of business within the HCNC.
 - j. One (1) Commercial Property owner representative within the HCNC.
 - k. One (1) senior representative, age 62 or older, within the HCNC.
 - l. One (1) youth representative, age 16 -20 within the HCNC.
 - m. Two (2) At large representatives within the HCNC (can be comprised of any category).

- 5.1.3 **ARTICLE VI. BOARD ELECTIONS AND VACANCIES**

- 5.1.3 **This Article explains the administration of Neighborhood Council elections by the City Clerk and provides information regarding Stakeholder membership, the board's structure, and Stakeholder eligibility for voting and being selected or elected to a board seat. The provisions in this Article supersede any prior inconsistent provisions contained in the bylaws.**

- 5.1.3 **1. The governing body of the HCNC is the elected Board of Directors which consists of thirty-three (33) members elected by the Stakeholders at dully noticed Board elections. The governing body shall reflect the diversity of its Stakeholders, to the extent**

reasonably possible. Accordingly, no single Stakeholder group shall comprise a majority of the Board of Directors. The officers of the HCNC shall be elected by the Board of Directors

2 . Elections for the HCNC Board of Directors shall be conducted every two years in even numbered years and shall be administered by the City Clerk beginning on April – June 2010. The rules and regulations promulgated by the City Clerk in conjunction with an election administered by the City Clerk shall take precedence over any inconsistent language in these bylaws.

The term for each currently elected board member shall be extended through and until a successor is elected or appointed at the April – June 2010 City Clerk conducted election.

Beginning with the City Clerk conducted election held on April – June 2010 a board member's term shall be for the duration of four years or until a successor is elected or appointed. The intent of the board is to establish a staggered election system where approximately half of the board is elected at each City Clerk conducted election.

Beginning with the City Clerk conducted election conducted on April – June 2010, every board seat shall be open for election, at which time the following board seats shall be elected for a duration of two years or until a successor is elected or appointed:

- a. Representing Arts District, one (1) resident position
- b. Representing Chinatown, two (2) residents positions
- c. Representing Little Tokyo, one (1) resident position
- d. Representing Solano Canyon, one (1) resident position
- e. Representing Victor Heights, two (2) residents positions
- f. Business Owners representing Little Tokyo, Solano Canyon, and Victor Heights districts, three (3) business owner positions
- g. Nonprofit representatives from Arts, Chinatown, and El Pueblo de Los Angeles, three (3) nonprofit positions
- h. One (1) youth representative within the HCNC
- i. Two (2) At large representatives within the HCNC (can be comprised of any category)

The remaining board seats, including:

- a. Representing Arts District, one (1) resident position
- b. Representing Chinatown, two (2) residents positions
- c. Representing El Pueblo de Los Angeles, one (1) at large member
- c. Representing Little Tokyo, one (1) resident position
- d. Representing Solano Canyon, one (1) resident position
- f. Representing Victor Heights, two (2) residents positions and one (1) at large member
- g. Business Owners representing Arts, Chinatown, and El Pueblo de Los Angeles districts, three (3) business owner positions
- h. Nonprofit representatives from Little Tokyo and Solano Canyon districts , two (2) Nonprofit positions
- j. One (1) Employee representative of business within the HCNC

- k. One (1) Commercial Property owner representative within the HCNC
- l. One (1) senior representative, age 62 or older, within the HCNC shall be elected for a duration of four years or until a successor is elected or appointed.

Beginning with the City Clerk conducted election held on April – June 2012, and each election thereafter, each and every board seat shall be elected for the duration of four years or until a successor is elected or appointed.

5.1.4 Vacancies

- 2. Lines 5, 6 and 7... El Pueblo de Los Angeles

Grayce Liu, Senior Project Coordinator of Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) told the board that any Bylaw changes would not be processed or approved until after the 2012 elections and that the stipulation we voted on takes precedence over our bylaws so vote on changes was put on hold.

- 5.2 2nd vote on Bylaw change: Victor Heights Seat Change from Nonprofit to At-Large.
(1st vote unanimous)

Motion to approve change in Victor Heights seat from Nonprofit to At-Large made by Don Toy and seconded by John Saslow. Vote was Unanimous. Motion approved.

- 5.3 Historic Cultural NC Boundary Map Approval and form.

Motion to approve boundary map made by Alan Kumamoto and seconded by John Saslow. 21 yes. 1 no. Motion is approved.

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

- 6.1 Arts District Projects and Action Items.

Tim Keating: Joel Bloom Triangle Street Trees Downtown Arts District. The general scope of the project would include 20 street trees in the sidewalks around the triangle, a downtown arts district sign, a bronze plaque for Joel Bloom, and perhaps a dog water fountain.

Arts District BID to apply for a \$5000 CB Grant (Community Betterment) from Public Works on Oct.20. They would write, coordinate and maintain the project. Asking LARABA on Sept 14th for a \$3,000 cash match and asking HCNC for a \$2,000 cash match. Mark Rothenberg is on board to help with plans and renderings. Tim spoke briefly about the project and said will bring back to the HCNC after it was approved.

- 6.2 Chinatown Projects and Action Items.

- 6.3 El Pueblo Projects and Action Items. Signs around with HCNC on them. Ed Fuentes spoke to us briefly about the El Pueblo Project. Said it was incomplete and administration in El Pueblo was not responsive in letting them complete the project. He would like this agendized for the next HCNC meeting.

- 6.4 Little Tokyo Projects and Actions Items. David Nagano gave a report on the progress and status of the camera project. Total budget was over \$120,000. LAPD Pilot project.

- 6.5 Solano Canyon Projects and Action Items

Craig Havens: Solano Canyon 2nd Monument Sign presentation (vetted thru Action Committee) for final approval. Alicia Brown reported: The committee met to clarify which corner in June. It will be on southeast side which belongs to the Park lands. She has been meeting with Craig and Dan Reza, the design submitted to HCNC earlier still stands. Met with Brian Kito to vet the project. Needs approval from HCNC for the money. Agendize for next meeting to have project

packet for approval and vote on funds. David Nagano will call Dan Reza to get invoices etc needed for paperwork.

- 6.6 Victor Heights Projects and Action Items.
- 6.7 At-Large Projects and Action Items.
- 6.7a Youth Outreach

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

President Benjamin reported that the Executive Committee determined the election polling sites for purposes of application to the City Clerk's Office to be designated as Mary Knoll or Pico House and the Election Chair Alan Kumamoto filled out, signed and filed the form.

7.1 Introduction of Marisol Salguery, our new Liaison with Councilman Ed Reyes Office. River Plan, Arroyo/Seco Plan, Chinatown Streetscape Program, Cornfields. Ms. Salguery not present.

7.2 Development Project updates, CALL FOR PROJECTS, and HCNC Sponsored Community Project updates and action items for:

- 7.2a Arts District
- 7.2b Chinatown
- 7.2c El Pueblo
- 7.2d Little Tokyo
- 7.2e Solano Canyon: Update on Solano Canyon community problems.
- 7.2f Victor Heights
- 7.2g At-Large

8. Treasurer's Report: David Nagano. Action Items: Several invoices have been submitted to DONE, some over a year ago and they still haven't been paid. DONE is being audited right now and hold only suppose to be until the 25th of September.

9. Public Safety/Emergency Preparedness Committee: Brian Kito, research report and committee formation. This has still not been activated. Brian asks for a volunteer from each community to join the committee. Don Toy, John Saslow and Gibson Han volunteered. Brian will arrange a meeting.

10. Public Comments

Ed Fuentes spoke to the board about being involved in 3 El Pueblo projects. Said getting funding from DONE was very difficult for all 3 projects. Wanted to say thanks to board for letting him communicate problems they had at end of project. And thanks to Tim who was instrumental in keeping him motivated. He said all projects completed and the signs Acknowledging HCNC are up.

Grayce Liu, Senior Project Coordinator for Central East Region of DONE introduced herself and told the board that she is temporarily covering the HCNC until a new field rep is appointed.

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

12. New Business

Gibson thinks we should move our Website to a Wordpress format so we can update it ourselves. Kim says send comments, uploads, corrections, etc. to Anne. Doesn't want to get into a Wikipedia situation but will talk more about options.

13. Old Business

14. Adjournment Next meeting Oct 13th at RSA at 5:30pm. Action Committee Oct 6th. At Koban 6pm. Adjourned at 7pm

APPROVED 01-12-10

"In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting, may be viewed at Koban, 307 E. First St., Los Angeles, CA 90012, or on our website at www.hcncla.org, or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact Anne Walrath at anne@laeroc.com or call 800-523-7621.