

APPROVED 09-07-10

OFFICERS

Kim Benjamin, President
Brian Kito, 1st Vice President
Alan Kumamoto, 2nd Vice President
Peter Martinez, 3rd Vice President
Don Toy, 4th Vice President
Mark Rothenberg, Secretary
George Yu, Treasurer
Peter Lau, Historian

H C N C
Historic Cultural Neighborhood Council



HISTORIC CULTURAL
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
c/o Koban, 307 E 1st St
Los Angeles, CA 90012
800-523-7621
310-374-4652 (fax)
kim@laeroc.com
anne@laeroc.com

General Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 10, 2010, 5:30 p.m.
Japanese American Cultural & Community Center
244 S San Pedro St, 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, Grayce Liu at 213-847-5026.

1. Call to Order & Roll Call – Kim Benjamin

Present: (29 total) Alan Kumamoto, Alex Vasquez, Brian Kito, Charlie Woo, Chase Rummonds, Chou Ly Tran, Danny Young, Don Toy, George Poon, George Yu, Gibson Han, Hoover Tang, John Saslow, Kim Benjamin, Mandi Masai, Mark Rothenberg, Ne Hay Hom, Ne Hung Hom, Norma Garcia, Peter Lee, Peter Lau, Peter Martinez, Raymond Lopez, Ron Fong (showed up after the Vote for Officers) Shaojiao Luo, Steve Rice, Steven Jimenez, Tak Hung Lau, Yee Lim

Absent: (4) Alicia Brown, Tim Keating, Howard Nishimura, (One vacant seat not filled Solano Canyon Business)

Staff: Anne Walrath

Guests: Josephine Benjamin, Philip Iglavier, Valerie Hanley, David Nagano, Edmund Soohoo, Wen Toro Jih, Leslie Chang

2. President's Introduction of the new board and its members (each member introduced themselves)
City Councilmember Jan Perry swore the new board in, as she read from the bylaws of the HCNC, specifically: "I _____ swear to uphold the bylaws of the HCNC, and specifically:
(repeat after me)

1. I so swear!

Congratulations all around. (Jan Perry left after conducting the swearing in ceremony)

President Benjamin pointed out that Raymond Lopez was (to the best of our knowledge) the youngest person elected to any NC in the City of LA. In addition, and since this is an official "body" within the city family ... Raymond may be the youngest person elected to a city, state or municipal position anywhere in the Sate of California, ever. Congratulations to Raymond!!

He got elected through a grass roots voting movement and the help of everyone at Cathedral High School in the community of Solano Canyon.

President Benjamin referred the Board members to the notebooks he handed out and told them to use as their working document for the HCNC Board. He also referred them to our website: www.hcncla.org as another resource and asked the communities to send pictures to him of community events for posting to the website. He clarified for Mr. Toy that this was not an action item that needed a vote, just a reference notebook, and also clarified that the Bylaws were not the current ones and that we would provide copy of the 7/7/2010 Bylaws to the Board. President Benjamin apologized for this oversight and directed Anne Walrath to secure proper copies and hand them out at the next Board meeting. Also these current bylaws can be seen on the www.hcncla.org website.

3. Public Comments for youths and seniors: 5 minutes

Ginny Brideau, The Robert Group: brief update on the Regional Connector project. Ms. Brideau not able to be here so will put on next agenda.

Tani Lee, volunteer in Chinatown, the City Clerk would not let her run because she was 15 and by HCNC Bylaws age to serve and vote is 15. She did not know whom she spoke to at the City Clerk's Office. President Benjamin asked her to provide documentation of what happened and to forward it to us so that the HCNC could take to City Clerks office and find out what happened. Mr. Toy made remarks of problems some of the stakeholders had with the City Clerk's office losing documents.

A newly elected member from Chinatown said he never received any notice that he had won or when the first meeting would be. President Benjamin said the process was to work thru the City Clerk's offices by calling or going down to ask them, or going onto their website, to see if you had been elected. They did post the results on the web site. Mr. Toy said it shouldn't be a requirement to go on the website that it should be our DONE representative's duty to notify new members.

The Grand Ave Senior Apartment's Chairman said they did not receive notice of the meeting and notice should be sent in Chinese and sent as early as possible. President Benjamin responded that the meeting notice was posted in the locations noted above (see locations identified on top of these very minutes), as mandated by our Bylaws, and they were emailed as well. The Chinatown contingent feels a notice in the mail is necessary as many of them do not like to use email. President Benjamin asked George Poon if we could email the notices to him and he could translate to Chinese and hand out to the Chinatown contingent. George Poon declined, saying it was the job of the HCNC, but did not specify who exactly should be responsible. President Benjamin noted that George Poon is now a member of the HCNC and one of our responsibilities, of all board members, is to assist the members of our community and in that spirit he hoped that Mr. Poon could assist his community in getting the notices in the future. Mr. Poon again refused.

The Chinatown contingent would also like the Board to find a place in Chinatown where parking is more available for the HCNC Board meetings. President Benjamin explained we had meetings at the Chinatown Library often and would continue to have meeting in Chinatown in the future, but that the meetings were rotated to as many districts as possible and could not just be held in Chinatown as it was not fair to the other districts. Unfortunately, some districts do have restricted parking but that could not prevent meetings from being held in that district.

4. Approval of Minutes for May 10, 2010 – Mark Rothenberg

Motion to approve the minutes for May 10, 2010 made by Alan Kumamoto and seconded by Mark Rothenberg. Motion approved.

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

- a. City approval of our change as to the election of officers was accepted.
- b. Other changes we previously approved which still need resolution

- c. Future changes proposed and action items
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- 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.
 - 6.2 Chinatown Projects and Action Items.
Some confusion over what exactly was approved, Chinatown sign projects vs Medallion project.
Some research needs to be done.
 - 6.3 El Pueblo Projects and Action Items.
 - 6.4 Little Tokyo Projects and Actions Items.
 - 6.5 Solano Canyon Projects and Action Items
 - 6.6 Victor Heights Projects and Action Items.
 - 6.7 At-Large Projects and Action Items.
Horse patrol program update
 - 6.8 Youth Outreach
 - 7. President's Report & Action Items, Kim Benjamin
 - Election of Officers.
 - Motion to elect all but 3rd VP:
Kim Benjamin, President
Brian Kito, 1st VP
Alan Kumamoto 2nd VP
Peter Martinez 3rd VP
Don Toy: 4th VP
Treasurer: George Yu
Secretary: Mark Rothenberg
 - Motion to approve the slate with the exception of the 3rd Vice President made by John Saslow and seconded by Danny Young. Vote: 27 yes! Abstention Ms Garcia. (Ron Fong was not present at this point in the meeting so only 28 board members were present). Motion approved.**
 - President called on Peter Martinez and Steven Jimenez to introduce themselves further. Both candidates for the 3rd VP position spoke to board about about their respective experiences and why they each wanted to be elected. The President called for a vote on the question.
 - Vote for 3rd Vice President:
Vote for Peter Martinez as 3rd VP: vote: 21
Vote for Steven Jimenez as 3rd VP: Vote: 5
Two board members did not vote
Peter Martinez is elected as 3rd VP.
 - Historian: is an appointed seat, appointed by the President Elect. President Benjamin's choice to be Historian is Peter Lau. Mr. Lau spoke to the board about himself, he is past President of Chinese Community Benevolent Association CCBA and involved in many community activities.
President Benjamin appointed Peter Lau as the HCNC Historian.
 - 8. Past Treasurer's Report: David Nagano. Action Items:
Approval of amendment to 2009-2010 budget, addition of East West Players Marquee, for demand warrant that has already gone forward and been paid by the City. Project voted on and approved by

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Board in 2008 but wasn't viable until this year. If not approved then we will have to give money back to the city and could theoretically lose that money if it doesn't roll over. Discussion on lack of clarity from the City and DONE as to what and why approved projects are being paid and not being paid and the constant changing of rules and processes. Nagano was asked by the board "if we don't" approve of this budget will we lose our roll over money and our 2010-2011 new \$45,000 and that David said he did not think so. President Benjamin asked David Nagano to provide a complete accounting and to speak to DONE and get an accounting of what was going on.

Motion to table the approval of 2009 - 2010 budget as amended for East West Players made by Don Toy and seconded by Alan Kumamoto. For: 22 Against: 3 Motion to table approved.

9. Public Safety/Emergency Preparedness Committee: Brian Kito, research report and committee formation. (discussion postponed)
10. Public Comments
11. Next Meeting & Announcements, change in meetings dates/times, posting locations and process, action items, possible bylaw change. Tentatively set for Sept 14th at Chinatown Library, at 5:30pm.
12. New Business
13. Old Business
14. Adjournment We adjourned at 7:05pm.

"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.