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

H C N C
Historic Cultural Neighborhood Council



## **APPROVED**

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

## General Board Meeting Minutes Tuesday, Jan 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012, 6:00 p.m. JACCC 244 S San Pedro St LA CA 90012 Rms: A-B-C (2<sup>nd</sup> FI)

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

Called to order with a quorum at 6:21pm with 18, George Yu came in a little later, 19 present. Attendees: Angie An, Kim Benjamin, Alicia Brown, Alejandra Flores, Ron Fong, Norma Garcia, Ne Hung Hom, Brian Kito, Alan Kumamoto, Peter Martinez, Steve Rice, Mark Rothenberg, Chase Rummonds, Hoover Tang, Don Toy, Ly Chou Tran, Alex Vasquez, Danny Young, George Yu. (19) Absent: Ne Hay Hom, Steven Jimenez, Tim Keating, Peter Lau, Tak Hung Lau, Peter Lee, Yee Lim, Shaojiao Luo, Mandi Masai, Howard Nishimura, George Poon, Charlie Woo. (12) Guests: Nate Hayward, David Louie, Emily Martinez, Sara Harris, Valerie Hanley, Take Tada, Lydia Moreno, Wendell Llopis, Danny Barragan, Dan Reza.

Staff: Anne Walrath

Introduced Take Tada, President of Solano PTA, and Sara Harris, Program Chair of the Solano PTA. President Benjamin noted that Sketchers donated 900 brand new pairs of shoes to give out to the kids at Christmas to Solano Canyon Elementary and Castelar Elementary Schools. President Benjamin would like each classroom to do a thank you note to Michael Greenberg, CEO of Sketchers. They said these are being worked on. President Benjamin asked that they be on letterhead and to give to President Benjamin to present to Michael Greenberg personally.

President Benjamin introduced Nate Hayward, Field Deputy for Jose Huizar for the Highland Park, Glassell Park area.

Angie asked him about the redistricting. Nate said there would be regional meetings. Maps have to be signed off on March 1<sup>st</sup>. <a href="www.redistricting2011.lacity.org">www.redistricting2011.lacity.org</a>.

President Benjamin reminded the Board that our deadline to get Demand Warrants into DONE for payment was April 15<sup>th</sup> or we'll lose the money. Anne Walrath asked the Board Members to please get their Demand Warrant Paperwork to her by April 1<sup>st</sup> to have time to make sure all requirements were met before filing with DONE on April 15<sup>th</sup>.

Sara Harris, Program Chair of the Solano PTA, and resident of Solano Canyon. Proposing as a teacher and parent to do murals of oral histories. 4, 5, & 6<sup>th</sup> grade students would go into the communities and do recorded interviews and bring them back and younger students would do drawings and pictures of the

histories. Would love to offer the project to the archives of the HCNC. It would stay at the school and be a sustainable gift.

- 2. Public Comments for youths and seniors: 5 minutes each
- 3. Approval of Minutes for Nov 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011 Mark Rothenberg 5.4 correction, should be Little Tokyo, not El Pueblo. 5.5 change period to comma.

Motion to approve the minutes of Nov 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011 with corrections made by Don Toy and seconded by Danny Young. Vote was unanimous. (19) Motion Approved.

- 4. Bylaw/Election Committee Report and Action Items: Peter Martinez
- 5. Action Committee: Discussion and action items on neighborhood projects and expenditures, new and previously approved. Brian Kito
  - 5.1 Arts District Projects and Action Items.
  - 5.2 Chinatown Projects and Action Items. Don Toy said the projects coming along, will get paperwork to
  - 5.3 Norma Garcia spoke to Suellen about the signs and wants to go ahead, if City can't get it together then maybe the Merchants will help with the costs.
    Pete Martinez brought up the Tyrus Wong project and would like to get the additional \$1,500 for the project.
  - 5.4 Little Tokyo Projects and Actions Items. \$3,750. No projects yet but there will be.
  - 5.5 Solano Canyon Projects and Action Items: Dan Reza, 2<sup>nd</sup> Monument Sign, in planning and development, objected to wording so have to redo wording. Will acknowledge HCNC part of contribution.
    - Garden Project: found designer Weybright Farms. Will have more details presently.
  - 5.6 Victor Heights Projects and Action Items. Will be having meeting with Council Office this coming week for the signs.
  - 5.7 At-Large Projects and Action Items.
  - 5.8 Youth Outreach.
- 6. President's Report & Action Items, Kim Benjamin
  - 6.1 SC Non Profit Seat: has been posted.
  - 6.2 At Large Youth Seat. Has been posted.

Candidate: Blake Andrew Martin, student at Cathedral High School. President Benjamin and Anne Walrath met with Blake at Cathedral High School. Blake is a Top Honors student, has two scholarships, is very capable and bright. The Executive Committee voted to approve Blake for the At Large Youth Seat.

General Discussion. Don Toy gave Southeast Asia Immigrant Center our number but hadn't heard back.

Kim Benjamin made motion as head of Exec Committee to seat Blake Martin in the At Large Youth Seat, Brian seconded as an Executive Committee Member. Vote was unanimous. (19) Motion was Approved. Blake will be seated at next board meeting.

- 6.2a Little Tokyo Resident: Mandi Masai has resigned. Seat will be posted.
- 6.2b El Pueblo Non-Profit: Steven Jimenez.

Pete Martinez brought up Steven Jimenez being ill and not being able to make meetings and El Pueblo which only has 3 seats, so in accordance with our Bylaws would like to remove Steven Jimenez and post the seat to be filled. Norma wants to wait one to two more weeks and see how Steven feels and if he's planning on coming back.

General Discussion was extensive. Don Toy said the rules of attendance has not been adhered to and there were other changes in the bylaws that have not been implemented, thinks to make it more clear and to be fair, it should be clearly reviewed as well as other things. Alan Kumamoto asked what constitutes an excused absence? Kim Benjamin replied that we don't have a definition, it hasn't come up until now. Brian Kito suggested we review attendance once a year and send out letters to members with too many absences. President Benjamin asked each caucus to please

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police themselves and their members and if there were too many absences to please decide whether to replace that board member. Don Toy agreed to attend to the Chinatown and the Victor Heights caucus members who have absentee issues. Peter Martinez requested that the motion to remove Steven Jimenez proceed.

Motion for El Pueblo Non-Profit seat to be vacated and seat posted made by Pete and seconded by Alicia Brown. Vote: Yes: 10 No: 8 Abstain: 1 (Alejandra Flores) Yes votes: Mark Rothenberg, Alicia Brown, Kim Benjamin, Peter Martinez, Danny Young, Brian Kito, Chase Rummonds, Hoover Tang, George Yu, and Angie An. No votes: Steve Rice, Don Toy, Norma Garcia, Ne Hung Hom, Ly Chou Tran, Alan Kumamoto, Alex Vasquez, and Ron Fong. Motion passes.

- 6.3 HCNC Board Member Attendance at HCNC meetings.
  - HCNC Bylaws: Article VII 4. An officer or member of the Board of Directors will be removed from office if he fails to attend any three Board meetings during a calendar year without reasonable justification as determined by the majority of the Board and that officer or Board member shall be so notified. President Benjamin noted that for the 2011 year his matter is now closed and all issues attended to.
  - Again, President Benjamin asked each area caucus to police themselves and to get their absentee members to show up to board meetings and/or decide to replace them.
- 6.4 Lot 613 Security Measures added to CUP: The Security Plan which Lot 613 agreed to with the HCNC got left out when they filed their CUP. It is being added.
- 6.5 Metro Plaza Sundry Shop CUP. To be directed to CBID Director George Yu and Don Toy and Chinatown caucus. They want liquor and there is great concern.
- 6.6 Solano Canyon The Store. Danny Barragan. The property at 728 W Amador St. used to be a store, it was closed in 1984. They would like to put a convenience store in there for the community. No liquor and no cigarettes. It will be a very small store. They would need a zoning variance for it as it's zoned R1 since the zoning changed in the 1990's. They have no stores in Solano Canyon and many in the community support this. They're going to do a petition through out the community. They've talked to CD1 Ed Reyes' office, Jose Gardea, his chief of staff, thought it was a good idea. President Benjamin referred them to the Solano Canyon caucus. Wendell Llopis, resident of Solano Canyon spoke in support of the store, said he and many neighbors in Solano Canyon were very excited about having a store in the community.
- 6.7 Solano Canyon Monument Sign 2: see Item 5.5.
- 7. Treasurer's Report: George Yu
- 8. Public Safety/Emergency Preparedness Committee: Brian Kito, research report and committee formation.
- 9. Public Comments
- 10. Next Meeting & Announcements, change in meetings dates/times, posting locations and process, action items, possible bylaw change. Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, as Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> is Valentine's Day and the next week is President's Day, short week. Action Committee, Feb 1<sup>st</sup> at Koban at 6pm. 307 E 1<sup>st</sup> St.
- 11. New Business
- 12. Old Business High Speed Rail, they don't know where they're going to get their money from. Great project, would be wonderful if they could find the money and get it funded and get it done.
- 13. Adjournment

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.