

## 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



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, March 20<sup>th</sup> 2012, 6:00 p.m. Pico House, 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 at 6:10pm with a quorum of 23, two board members arrived a bit later making quorum 25. President Benjamin thanked Norma Garcia and Valerie Hanley for the cookies, tea and coffee they provided to the Board this evening. The Board also thanked President Benjamin for the B-B-Q from Smoke House.

**Present:** Angie An, Kim Benjamin, Alicia Brown, Alejandra Flores, Ron Gong, Norma Garcia, He Hay Hom, Tim Keating, Brian Kito, Alan Kumamoto, Peter Lau, Blake Martin, Peter Martinez, Lydia Moreno, Steve Nagano, Steve Rice, Mark Rothenberg, Chase Rummonds, Al Soo-Hoo, Hoover Tang, Don Toy, Ly Chou Tran, Alex Vasquez, Danny Young, George Yu. (25)

**Absent:** Ne Hung Hom, Tak Hung Lau, Peter Lee, Yee Lim, Shaojiao Luo, Howard Nishimura, George Poon, and Charlie Woo.

**Staff:** Anne Walrath

**Guests:** LAPD Officers Janet Kim and Steve Saletros and Dave Con. Emily Martinez, Julio Garcia, Robert Larmore, Take Tada, SC PTA President, Sara Harris, SC PTA, Edward Flores, Valerie Hanley, Kent Minault, Mike Mariscasz, Leticia Delgadillo.

2. Public Comments for youths and seniors: 5 minutes each  
 Sierra Club Beyond Coal – Kent Minault (Vicki Kirschenbaum could not attend). Asking for Letter of Support. Coal is killing us, its putting poisons in our water supply. In 2010, coal-fired power contributed 74% of LADWP's carbon footprint. It is a serious problem. Sierra Club Beyond Coal goals are to eliminate coal from the electricity supply of Los Angeles by 2020 and to receive 40% of our power from clean energy. They will take up letter of support at the Action Committee.

Julio Garcia and Robert Larmore Jive Live Entertainment, they are a marketing agency in downtown. [www.jive-live.com](http://www.jive-live.com). Wanted to introduce themselves. They did the Redbull Soapbox Race last May in Downtown LA. They are doing a 1/2 Marathon thru the area 1/5/13 that they hope will have minimal impact. Starts at 7<sup>th</sup> and Grand, comes down Broadway and goes to Dodger Stadium.

Janet Kim LAPD, our areas Lead Officer has been promoted to Sergeant and will be leaving us. Steve Saletros will be new contact person, he has worked in our area for 14 years, and speaks fluent Mandarin. Dave Con is Steve's partner for today. George Yu thanked Janet for her good work, and welcomed Steve and informed the Board of Steve's past experience with the community, and said Janet's been a great partner for the CBID and Chinatown.

Don Toy said a group of Chinatown residents have brought a petition. They are complaining about port-a-pottys around their residences in the Chung King Road and Central Plaza areas which are causing bad smells and unsanitary conditions and they wanted the HCNC to know about it. Don Toy will do a letter for them to the City.

Valery Hanley submitted a Grievance.

3. Approval of Minutes for Feb 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011 – Mark Rothenberg Page 4  
**Motion to approve the minutes of Feb 7<sup>th</sup> 2012 made by Al Kumamoto and seconded by Mark Rothenberg. Unanimous. 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.
    - 5.1A Uncommon Ground Booklets (500) 11/8/11 \$2,500. Submitted to Done 3/5/12.
    - 5.1B AD Medallion Project 11/8/11 \$3,750. Submitted to DONE 3/7/12.
  - 5.2 Chinatown Projects and Action Items.
    - 5.2A Chinatown Medallions, Michael Amescua 03/21/11 \$12,500. Michael Amescua received payment, has 2 Medallions completed and is working on the third.
    - 5.2B Fan Canopy Project 11/8/11 \$4,000.
    - 5.2C Bench and Landscape Project 11/8/11 \$5,000.5.2 B&C will be submitted together on one Demand Warrant with one invoice.
  - 5.3 El Pueblo Projects and Action Items.
    - 5.3A El Pueblo Merchant Plaques 2/7/12 \$3,750. No paperwork yet, next fiscal year.
    - 5.3B El Pueblo Banner Replacement 2/7/12 \$2,192. Submitted to DONE 3/14/12
    - 5.3C Tyrus Wong 2/7/12 \$1,500. Submitted to DONE 2/9/12.
  - 5.4 Little Tokyo Projects and Actions Items.
    - 5.4A Aiso Parking Campaign: Postcards/Poster and Banner announcing parking lot. 2/7/12 \$1,339.73 Submitted to DONE 3/15/12.
    - 5.4B LTPS Recording Equipment to connect LT cameras to the Koban. 2/7/12 \$1,500. Submitted to DONE 3/19/12.
    - 5.4C LTPS 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Video. 2/7/12 \$1,000. Business license expired, on hold.
    - 5.4D 2011 Tanabata \$5,000. Submitted to DONE 3/16/12.
  - 5.5 Solano Canyon Projects and Action Items
    - 5.5A SC Monument Sign 2 04/12/11 \$6,020 (Paid).
    - 5.5B SC PTA Oral History Neighborhood Purposes Grant. Submitted to DONE 3/20/12.
  - 5.6 Victor Heights Projects and Action Items.
    - 5.6A VH Identity Signage Program 11/8/11 \$3,750. Moved to next fiscal year.
  - 5.7 At-Large Projects and Action Items.
  - 5.8 Youth Outreach.
6. President's Report & Action Items, Kim Benjamin
  - 6.1 Kim Kawasaki [kkawasaki@ltsc.org] LTSC Budokan Project: LTSC is applying for Prop K funds and is seeking a letter of support from HCNC. Although technically outside of HCNC's boundaries (on the west side of Los Angeles street between 2nd and 3rd), the project is clearly identified with the Little Tokyo neighborhood. Ground lease is for 25 years and an additional 25 years. 36,000 square feet. Site 38,000 square feet. Raised \$4,000,000 so far. Hoping to get ½ of the funds through public grants and funds. Purpose of letter of support is for Proposition K Funding. Also looking at Parks and Rec grants.  
**Motion to give a letter of support made by Ron Fong and seconded by Tim Keating. Unanimous (25). Motion approved.**
7. Treasurer's Report: George Yu/Anne Walrath

**Motion to amend the HCNC 2011-2012 Fiscal budget including the Tanabata 2012 project made by Don Toy and seconded by Hoover Tang. Unanimous (25).**

**Motion for moratorium on new projects except those projects already approved and noted on these minutes until 10/31/12 at which time any projects not submitted for payment will release funds to new projects made by Don Toy and seconded by Chase Rummonds. Yes 24 No 0 Abstain: 1 Brian Kito**

8. Public Comments

9. Next Meeting & Announcements, change in meetings dates/times, posting locations and process, action items, possible bylaw change. Next Meeting April 10<sup>th</sup>. Chinatown.

10. New Business

Uncommon Ground is on Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> of March, its an all day planning Charette for the Arts District, so they can set their priorities and plan their own neighborhood. Everyone is invited.

Chinatown I.C.O. and Walmart in Chinatown: President Benjamin said Walmart has not formally come to the HCNC to request a presentation but like any new business that comes to town they can do so, they can agendize it, they'd go to the caucus, they'd meet with the Action Committee, it would go through normal process before it gets to the full board, we haven't heard from them yet to request such a meeting. President Benjamin asked Don Toy if they had contacted him. Don Toy said they have approached him and would like to meet with some Chinatown groups, a senior group, and Cathay Manor. President Benjamin said they did contact him as President of the HCNC and the Chinatown Bid and contacted George Yu and they've had generic conversations with them but they have not requested a formal HCNC meeting time yet, but that will be forthcoming. There is an ICO, that is an Interim Control Ordinance, to be voted on this Friday, that would deal with not just this issue but all the issues that the ICO attends too, it is far-reaching, it includes a broad stroke of area, its yet to finalized. President Benjamin will come back to the Board and let them know what they find out.

Alicia would like to thank the new Solano Canyon Members of the board for their hard work, Lydia Moreno, Blake Martin, Alejandra Flores and Danny Young, said they are a great team.

Valerie Hanley invited the board to the Blessing of the Animals, Sunday April 7<sup>th</sup> rom 9am to 6pm in El Pueblo. Bring your pets, bring your family. Blessing by Archbishop Jose H. Gomez begins at 2pm.

Brian Kito announced the April 15<sup>th</sup> CicLAvia which goes through Little Tokyo. [www.ciclavia.org](http://www.ciclavia.org). He said he puts bike racks in front of his store to attract business. Also that his son sells about \$200 worth of Lemonage.

Stenciling on streets in Chinatown. George Yu: CBID removed & will send invoice to SK. Information forwarded to LAPD & CA but they will do nothing. 80 Stencils removed from Chinatown, they were found in El Pueblo & Downtown as well.

11. Old Business

Public Safety/Emergency Preparedness Committee: Brian Kito, research report and committee formation.

12. 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](http://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](mailto:anne@laeroc.com) or call 800-523-7621.