

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
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**General Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, June 12th 2012, 6:00 p.m.
JACCC, 244 S San Pedro 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, Grayce Liu at 213-847-5026.

1. Call to Order & Roll Call – Kim Benjamin

Present: Angie An, Kim Benjamin, Alejandra Flores, Ron Fong, Ne Hay Hom, Tim Keating, Brian Kito, Alan Kumamoto, Peter Martinez, Lydia Moreno, Howard Nishimura, George Poon, Mark Rothenberg, Chase Rummonds, Al Soo-Hoo, Hoover Tang, Don Toy, Ly Chou Tran, Charlie Woo, Danny Young, George Yu. (21)

Absent: Alicia Brown, Norma Garcia, Ne Hung Hom, Peter Lau, Tak Hung Lau, Peter Lee, Yee Lim, Shaojiao Luo, Blake Martin, Steve Nagano, Steve Rice, Alex Vasquez.

Staff: Anne Walrath

Guests: Arturo Gonzales and Sara Hernandez with Jose Huizar's office, Janice Huang, Paul Mackley, Benjamin Flynn, Carrie Gan, Gill Salazar, Michael Burke, Xiayi Zhang.

2. Public Comments for youths and seniors: 5 minutes each

President Benjamin introduced Arturo Gonzales and Sara Hernandez of Jose Huizar's office, CD 14. Arturo Gonzalez introduced Councilman Jose Huizar's new Downtown Area Director, Sara Hernandez. Sara Hernandez says she manages the priorities of the Council Member here in Downtown. She says she has been a downtown resident for about 4 years and lives off 5th and Hill. She's very excited about all the activity going on in the heart of downtown. She asked the Board Members to reach out to her. Hopes to be at more of our meetings.

President Benjamin invited Council Member Jose Huizar to attend our next board meeting or the one after that and make it a special meeting where we take 20 or 30 minutes to go over and vet issues of interest to the Board within the downtown area and the HCNC boundaries and address some of the issues that we've previously addressed, for example, how to make better pedestrian, transportation and community connectivity within the HCNC, which the El Pueblo for example is at the core of it and to support education programs, I know Sara used to work at a non-profit, Charter Schools Association here in Little Tokyo on 1st and San Pedro. Also want to address the motion that the Councilman has put forth previously, trying to encourage it to move forward, which basically was the result of the HCNC's unanimous vote and approval of a plan that was put forward by our resident architect Mark Rothenberg, for the revitalization of the El Pueblo through the development of an RFP to basically bring back the Pio Pico House concept of building yourself a hotel that can create a reliable future income source to the El

Pueblo from TOT taxes and other sources, and bring more people to the park so that you have heads and beds, places for meetings, expanded environment for alternative restaurants that currently do not exist that will not compete in a negative or adverse way and more important than anything else, meeting space so we can actually have meetings in El Pueblo where 2, 3, 500 people can meet for business or pleasure and otherwise could actually host events which we are not capable of. All this percolates through the community, where are they going to eat when they wake up in the morning, where are they going to eat when they have their lunches and their meetings, where are they going to go shopping? All of that is positive economically, it keeps and creates jobs. And then if you capture TOT from the hotel, 400 beds, that's about a million dollars a year in TOT tax that the city could capture in revenues to help all the businesses that are currently struggling to make ends meet, to build their businesses, to have more people come to the museums, you've got the Siqueiros Mural coming up and the millions of dollars being put into it, and the opportunity that comes with it, that wonderful monument on Father Sarah Park which I think is disrespected everyday by the excessive homelessness that goes on there. We want your involvement in the Macy's Liquor issue before it ends and we'll talk about that more, I think that David Louie will speak to you specifically about that and the position of the Commissioners. We're glad to see you here, we want you back, we want the Councilman to be here so we can hone in a few of these things and start down the path on a couple of these issues.

President Benjamin asked the HCNC Board Members to introduce themselves to Arturo Gonzalez and Sara Hernandez.

David Louie told the Board that Roger Andrade, the General Manager of El Pueblo, has had some medical problems so Chris Espinoza has been appointed acting General Manager of El Pueblo. David Louie introduced Chris Espinoza to the Board. Mr. Espinoza told the Board that he has been working at Mayor's office since beginning of his term. At the Mayor's office he was in charge of capital projects. He would love to work with us. His goal is to bring resources to El Pueblo. Peter Martinez told the Board that he had worked with Mr. Espinoza before and that he is very accessible. President Benjamin invited Chris Espinoza to have a meeting with the El Pueblo Caucus and himself and go over some of the issues that the El Pueblo Caucus would like to have addressed, especially revitalization and a long term plan. Mr. Espinoza said he would be happy to meet with the Caucus and President Benjamin.

President Benjamin would also like to commend Don Toy, George Poon, Father Estrada, and George Yu for gathering community support and over 2,000 signatures on petitions, which were presented at the hearings we just had, one on Metro Plaza Hotel to sell off-site liquor and the other on Macy's Liquor.

3. Approval of Minutes for Mar 10th, 2012 – Mark Rothenberg

Motion to approve the minutes made by Alan Kumamoto and seconded by Don Toy. Unanimous.

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

4.1 Discussion of HCNC Election. HCNC Region 6, 11/15/12.

4.2 Discussion and vote on Stipulation Worksheet. Due 07/01/12.

Motion to approve Stipulation Worksheet made by Mark Rothenberg and seconded by Brian Kito. Vote was Unanimous. Motion approved.

4.3 Report on Grievance Letter. We will be having a meeting of the Executive Committee per our Bylaws. This was about the Board's vote to remove a member of the board who had not attended the Board meetings in 15 months, we agendized, we posted, per the bylaws, two people put their names in to fill the seat, Valerie Hanley and Al Soo-Hoo, both past Board members. We put it to a vote after hearing their recommendations, and introductions and comments, Al Soo-Hoo won. Valerie Hanley, who lost it put in a letter of Grievance saying it wasn't done right. The Executive Committee met, per our Bylaws, to hear the Grievance and try and resolve it. We've agendized it for the 14th, this Thursday. The Executive Committee will hear the grievance and then come back to the full Board with a report.

4.4 HCNC Letter of support for the Americano, Arts District Caucus. Angie An
Angie An says they are in the process of redoing their conditional use permit. Americano is where
Angie's old Café Metropol was. Americano opened for dinner in May and will soon open for lunches.
(1:33)With the approval of the Arts District Caucus she is asking for a Letter of support for the CUP.
CUP is same as old CUP except for request for outside sitting of up to 16 and requesting a 10 year
CUP. The restaurant has never had a violation.

**Motion to approve letter of support for Americano CUP made by Mark Rothenberg and
seconded by Alan Kumamoto. Unanimous. Motion approved.**

4.5 HCNC Letter of opposition for the Barlow Hospital Development, Solano Canyon Caucus. Want
to sell the land and build 880 units in Elysian Park. Community opposes it, Solano Canyon, Elysian
and Echo Park. Concerns about traffic congestion, parking issues. They have hired professionals to
go into the community and get signatures to "save Barlow Hospital" without telling people about the
development and they are getting signatures. Don't think they are being honest with the community.
They contacted HCNC and were told to contact the HCNC Solano Canyon Caucus, they were
supplied with contact information and have not moved forward on that. Stadium Way, own land in
front of bungalow. Oppose zoning changes, density etc. Going to build 888 units of market rate
housing to raise funds to rebuild hosp.

**Motion to oppose the project based on 1:30:15.approve letter of opposition made by Lydia and
Hoover. Unanimous. Motion approved.**

4.6 Walmart presentation. Javier Angulo Javier.angulo@wal-mart.com 213-256-8148
Mr. Angulo lived in Lincoln Heights for over 10 years and worked downtown. In addition to being at
Walmart he also oversees Public and governmental affairs. He serves on the East Area Planning
Commission which includes the Chinatown area, Little Tokyo, Downtown, and up to Eagle Rock.
Also used to serve on the Neighborhood Council Review Commission, we reviewed the entire city
wide system of Neighborhood Councils and proposed changes to attempt to improve the NC system.
He's been very involved in the community for years. When Walmart approached me to join the
company and had already been close to company because of the work he had been doing so he said
yes because the opportunities afforded by a company such as Walmart to bring more affordable
access to goods here in Los Angeles, especially because Los Angeles in terms of big retail lacks
options, so he said yes. One of the first things Walmart asked him to do is to identify an opportunity
for Walmart to introduce a new concept which is the Walmart Neighborhood Market.

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.

5.3 El Pueblo Projects and Action Items.

5.4 Little Tokyo Projects and Actions Items.

5.4A LTPS 25th Anniversary Video. 2/7/12 \$1,000.

5.4B 2012 Tanabata \$1,250 3/20/12

5.5 Solano Canyon Projects and Action Items (first \$6,000 of 2012-2013 Fiscal Budget)

5.5A SC Garden Project \$3,750 11/8/11

5.5B SC 6th Annual Outreach Food and Art Festival \$1,500.

Approved 9/18/12

Motion to approve \$1,500 for SC 6th Annual Outreach Food and Art Festival put on by LATA and to amend budget to reflect this made by Brian and seconded by Alan. Unanimous. Motion approved.

- 5.6 Victor Heights Projects and Action Items
- 5.6A Victor Heights Projects and Action Items.

5.6A VH Identity Signage Program 11/8/11 \$3,750.

- 5.6 At-Large Projects and Action Items.

- 5.7 Youth Outreach.

- 6. Treasurer's Report: George Yu/Anne Walrath
Amend vote on the HCNC 2012-2013 Fiscal budget of \$37,000.
Motion to approve the amended budget to allocate \$1,000 for the HCNC Election made by Hoover Tang and seconded by Peter Martinez. Unanimous. Motion approved.

- 7. Bylaw/Election Committee Report and Action Items: Peter Martinez

- 8. Public Comments

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

- 10. New Business

- 11. Old Business
Public Safety/Emergency Preparedness Committee: Brian Kito, research report and committee formation. Meeting at Koban in conjunction with Fire Dept at 6pm. Will email date.

- 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, 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.