

H C N C

Historic Cultural Neighborhood Council

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Alan Kumamoto, *President*
Dafne Gokcen, *1st Vice President*
Steve Nagano, *2nd Vice President*
Laura Velkei, *3rd Vice President*
Yuval Bar-Zemer, *4th Vice President*
Lydia Moreno, *Treasurer*
Shirley Zhang, *Secretary*



HISTORIC CULTURAL
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General Board Meeting Minutes Tuesday, March 14, 2017 6:30 - 8:30 pm LOCATION: Arts Share LA 801 E. 4th Place, Los Angeles, CA 90013

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 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 Koban 307 E 1st Street, LA 90012. 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) of the meeting you wish to attend by contacting hcncla@gmail.com. All items on the agenda are subject to possible discussion, action and CIS

1.0 Call to Order & Roll Call (6:43PM)

President Alan Kumamoto called meeting to order, V.P. Dafne Gokcen took roll call. 18 board members present.

Present: June Aochi-Berk, Ron Fong, Norma Garcia, Valerie Garcia-Hanley, Matthew Glacer, Dafne Gokcen, John Jason, Greg Kimura, Alan Kumamoto, Alexandra Leekley, Michael Maier, Lydia Moreno, Angelica Moyes, Steve Nagano, Gabriel Owens-Flores, Marc Rose, Laura Velkei, and Danny M. Young (18)

Late arrivals: George Campos (Arrived at 7:13PM) and Al Soo-Hoo (Arrived at 7:03PM), Phyllis Ling (seated in at 8:18 pm) (21)

Absent: Yuval Bar Zemer, Tran Ly Chou, Hom Ne Huang, Norman Qie Nie, George Rollins, Don Toy, Hoang Tuong, Yuan Wai So, and Xiayi Zhang.

Guests: Mario Hernandez, Mari Bennett, Denise Yamamoto, Geoff Yamamoto, Robert Soburn, Anna Soburn, Paul Ishii, Sam Vinez, Jessica Kim, Lynn Nakamura, Torin Dunnavant, General Jeff, Katherine McNenny, and Maria Ochoa.

2.0 Public Comment & Government Agency Reports

- 2.1 Jessica Kim announced LA CoMotion Event on November 15th – 19th and requested time on the agenda at a future date to discuss the event in more detail.
- 2.2 Lynn Nakamura discussed issues with new bars opening close to the St. Francis Xavier Church Japanese Catholic Center with more vandalism, drug use, and lack of parking.
- 2.3 Mario Hernandez with the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment announced that \$37,000 was available, with June 1st last day for approval for funding. Everything has to be submitted by June 7th in order to issue any payments. June 11th is the last day for spending. He stated that the clerk is missing expense reports for Jan – Feb. The clerk will be hosting round tables, information available on the website. He also stated that there was a potential conflict of interest with the Friends of Chinese Museum (Case # 195984). Ethics Training can only be translated by City approved translator, as so the training done by one of the board member, Hoang Tuong, is invalid as it was translated by a volunteer. Six other board members are currently unable to vote due to lack of training: George Campos (submitted to DONE not reflected on website), Hoang Tuong, Norman Qie Nie, Yvette Grageda (resigned), Al Soo-Hoo, and Gabriel Owens-Flores (youth- no funding votes).

3.0 Consent Calendar

Items listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine and can be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a board member or the general public so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Calendar and considered separately:

3.1 & 3.2 Approval of February Minutes & Approval February 2017 Monthly Expense Report (MER).

This includes the following paid expenses:

- 3.2.1 2/01 \$250 Glassell Park Improvement Assoc for Candidate Forum
- 3.2.2 2/16 \$43.50 U&U Graphics for copies of handouts, agenda and minutes
- 3.2.3 2/16 \$400 Casa Italiana for use of board room on 9/13 and 1/10
- 3.2.4 2/16 \$200 Japanese Am Cultural & Com Center for use of board room on 2/14
- 3.2.5 2/14 \$464.80 Interpreters Unlimited for translation of board meeting on 12/13 and 1/10

Motion to approve February 14, 2017 minutes & February Monthly Expense Report was made by Laura Velkei, seconded by Ron Fong, (17 Yes, 2 Ineligible: Al Soo Hoo, Gabriel Owens-Flores)

4.0 Presidents Report - Alan Kumamoto

4.1 The CD 1 Candidates Town Hall February 16, 2017 - Glassell Park Improvement Association which HCNC was a co-sponsor was well attended and a possible runoff between two candidates is predicted.

4.2 NC Citywide Budget Advocates Request for Motion and CIS re City Budget

Motion to approve Back to Basics and CIS was made by Laura Velkei, Dafne Gokcen Seconded. No discussion. (17 Yes, 1 Abstained, Steven Nagano, 3 Ineligible– George Campos, Al Soo Hoo, Phyllis Ling). Action to move forward with community impact statement.

4.3 Eligibility to Vote

4.3.1 Ethics Training: There are several board members who are not listed on DONE's Roster of completing Ethics training as mentioned in 2.3 including the fact that Mr. Hoang Tuong is required to repeat his Ethics Training (Minimum 2 hours training and approved translator required)

5.0 Committee Reports:

5.1 First VP: Chair of Action Committee Report: - Dafne Gokcen

5.1.1 Action Committee Meeting

5.1.1.1 Olvera Street Merchants Association Foundation (El Pueblo) \$2,000 for Blessing of the Animals.

Norma Garcia and Valerie Garcia-Hanley recused themselves and announced they are members of the El Pueblo Merchants Association. Motion made by Laura Velkei to have DONE reconsider the El Pueblo \$2000 submission grant for December event. Mario Hernandez to assist with process issue. Motion to support current grant application for \$2000 for Blessing of the Animals was included. Danny Young seconded, (16 yes, 2 ineligible: Al Soo Hoo, Gabriel Owens-Flores, 2 recused – Norma Garcia, Valerie Garcia Hanley), motion passed.

5.1.1.2 Community Partners FBO Industrial District Green (Arts District) \$2,000 for 12 months of twice weekly maintenance of 10 trees plus admin charge.

Alexandra Leekley recused herself and announced she has worked for Community Partners and Industrial District Green in the past. Dafne Gocken made a motion and Danny M. Young Seconded, for \$2000 for Community Partners FMO Industrial District Green (Arts District) grant. (17 yes, 2 ineligible: Al Soo Hoo, Gabriel Owens-Flores, 1 Recused Alexandra Leekley), motion passed.

5.1.1.3 Los Angeles Community Garden Council (Solano Canyon) \$2,000 for annual "Growing Communities" community garden outreach events including free classes.

Motion for approval for the Los Angeles Community Garden Council (Solano Canyon) \$2,000 for annual "Growing Communities" community garden outreach events including free classes, made by Dafne Gokcen, seconded by Danny Young (18 yes, 2 ineligible: Al Soo Hoo, Gabriel Owens), motion passed.

5.1.1.4 Los Angeles Theatre Academy (Solano Canyon) \$2,000 for National Night Out

LA Theater Academy \$2000 for National Night Out. Gabriel Owen-Flores recused himself due to the fact that he is related to the ED of the Academy. Motion made by Dafne Gokcen, seconded Angelica Moyan (18 yes, 1 ineligible: Al Soohoo, Recusal: Gabriel Owens-Flores), motion passed.

5.1.2 Updates to amounts for each community made by Dafne Gokcen (including the requests above):

5.1.2.1 Arts District: \$2,833 (2000 Community Partners)

5.1.2.2 El Pueblo: \$1333 (1500 Friends of Chinese Museum, 2000 OSMA)

5.1.2.3 Chinatown: \$833

5.1.2.4 Little Tokyo: \$4,333 - Invoice for LT Sparkle \$500 has not been received, pending.

5.1.2.5 Solano Canyon: \$833 (2000 LA Theatre Academy, 2000 LA Comm Garden Council)

5.1.2.6 Victor Heights: \$4,833

Next Action Committee to be held April 5th.

5.2 Second VP: Chair of Program Committee: Steve Nagano - No Updates.

5.3 Third VP: Chair of Stakeholders Committee: Laura Velkei – No updates.

5.3.1 Land Use Committee Report – Laura Velkei

The 6th st station was again flagged with added language to the motion addressing the turn back, presentation was cancelled.

The committee did not vote on the Jonson Fain project for Solano. The committee made a suggestion to the developers to flip the unit ratios (70/30 to 30/70), inviting more stable tenants. HCNC currently not taking a position.

Rock Hill Holdings – Reduced liquor licenses from 8 down to 4. Worked with their attorneys on a template, and refer them to work with local church, and neighbors, as well as working on parking issues. Currently working on parking issues, working with local tenants in Little Tokyo and the Arts District.

5.3.2 By Laws Committee Update

Motion to discuss by laws changes made by Laura Velkei to submit to DONE, Seconded by Ron Fong.

Laura Velkei reviewed the following changes made to the HCNC By-Laws Committee. Board Structured was changed from 33 down to 23. Made changes to absences, changed from calendar year to 12 months. Changes made to the officer structure, Land Use Committee will be the only standing committee, all the other committees will be ad-hoc committees. The structure of the communities, have been updated to represent the communities.

Board Member Comments:

Ron Fong - Little Tokyo - would like to update By-Laws to update boundaries west of Temple, Arts District, wants to move boundaries into Little Tokyo.

Angelica Moyes – Chinatown – Shared English version of by-laws with other caucus members. Discussing boundaries of West side of Everett Place (Victor Heights) with GENPEC. Laura Velkei suggested this is not time for this boundary discussion.

Marc Rose – Victor Heights – Questioned the number of seats for each community, and how members of other communities losing a seat would affect their voting impact.

Alan Kumamoto – Asked what would be the remedy to resolve the seating/composition for resolving the matter.

Ron Fong – Little Tokyo - with regards to absences, he did not like coming down to 3 absences, instead of 4.

Ron Fong – Little Tokyo - Committee creation & authorization – why 3 board members vs. 5 board members.

Matthew Glaser – Little Tokyo- Board seats composition, would like to remove one (1) seat, property owner, however seat cannot be removed. Laura Velkei clarified it can be changed to be a residential owner. Proposing: 1 residential, 1 at large, 1 business/nonprofit, 1 property owner.

Marc Rose – Victor Heights - why are the board seat compositions different for each community? Alan Kumamoto reiterated that community demographics and compositions are different for each community.

Al Soo Hoo – El Pueblo - question, is it correct to say to “live, work, or own” under section for eligibility to vote for the seat section.

George Campos – Little Tokyo – would like to change the boundaries to keep the portion that includes Xuan Buddhist Temple. Asking to reconsider Historical boundaries of Little Tokyo.

Ron Fong – Little Tokyo – why are nonprofits and businesses combined.

Alan Kumamoto asked the Board members to send their suggestions and recommendations to Laura Velkei and CC him. Angelica Moyes was asked to share it with Chinatown Caucus. Comments and changes to be sent to Laura Velkei by March 21, 2017.

Laura Velkei to send changes in red, for board members to review and accept. Motion tabled and continues to April Board meeting.

5.3.3 Elections and Online Voting Motion

Motion to approve the LANCC position to suspend online voting for NC elections made by Laura Velkei, seconded Dafne Gokcen, amended to include CIS, (19 yes, 1 ineligible: Al Soo Hoo), motion passed.

5.3.3.2 LANCC's position • *Whereas the City plans to change NC election procedures unilaterally and, • Whereas the City plans to make all NC elections self-affirmation against the will of some boards and bylaws, and • Whereas the City plans to reduce unilaterally the voting age of stakeholders in some NC's to 16 years of age against the bylaws and will of the boards, and • Whereas the City is mandating all NC's use online voting only, against the will of the some boards who voted against online voting, and • Whereas the City is attempting to mold neighborhood councils to fit an electronic voting model rather than fitting the contracted for electronic voting model to neighborhood councils, Therefore, The Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition (LANCC) moves to demand the City suspend online voting unless and until it can show evidence that the online model is complete and secure as contracted for, that the City will provide proper outreach, that the Department can show it has returned to its core mission of supporting NC's, and can truly support neighborhood councils per its Charter mandate, and allow all of the councils, per the Charter, Ordinance and plan, to self-rule for the benefit of its stakeholders, and to allow the NC's to determine whether it should be online, self-determination and age specific for its voters.*

The President requested for the next April HCNC board meeting be adjusted to begin at 6:15 pm, and be done by 7:50 pm at the Chinatown Library.

5.4 Fourth VP: Chair - Early Notifications Committee/ Chair - Hospitality & Refreshments Committee - No Updates

5.5 Treasurer: (Lydia Moreno)

5.5.1 NPG Update

5.5.1.1 El Pueblo: Olvera Street Merchants Association "Las Posadas" – Denied

5.5.1.2 El Pueblo: Friends of Chinese Am Museum "Lantern Festival" – Pending Call to City Attorney

6.0 Old Business

6.1 HCNC Logo (Update) – Alexandra Leekley

6.1.1 Alternate Logo design – El Pueblo

Logo designed brought in with color drawn in, however digitalizing of LOGO design proving to be costly. Alan Kumamoto to take design for possible estimate on digitalization of logo.

6.2 Little Tokyo Caucus – Ron Fong

6.2.1 HCNC Overlapping Boundaries with proposed Skid Row Neighborhood Council.

HCNC discussed current opposition to Skid Row Neighborhood Council formation due to overlapping boundaries (5 blocks over Little Tokyo).

General Jeff from Skid Row Neighborhood Council made brief presentation stating their Council was not trying to take over Little Tokyo boundaries, strongly urged Little Tokyo Neighborhood Council to submit letter of Support on behalf of Skid Row Neighborhood Council, stating their concern for the overlapping boundaries. After the elections, both councils can talk about the overlapping boundaries and talk about the reassignment of boundaries to each neighborhood council. Skid Row Neighborhood Council would like to avoid any delays to the formation of the Skid Row Neighborhood Council.

Ron Fong expressed concern over ceding area over to the Skid Row Neighborhood Council.

Katherine McNenny from Skid Row Neighborhood Council stated they would asked BONC to give back area being discussed back to Little Tokyo.

Michael Maier asked HCNC board members to reconsider their vote, as this is a historical moment to support the formation of Skid Row Neighborhood Council.

HCNC meeting to discuss boundary concerns between Little Tokyo and new Skid Row Neighborhood Council formation, and will discuss with BONC extension to discuss these issues. Meeting to be held on March 28th at 6:30 pm, at Arts District.

Motion to oppose current Skid Row Neighborhood Council formation made by Ron Fong, seconded by Matthew Glaser (13 yes, 1 ineligible: Al Soo Hoo, and 8 opposed: Laura Velkei, Michael Maier, Alexandria Leekley, Gabriel Owens-Flores, John Jason, Greg Kimura, Marc Rose). Motion Passes

7.0 New Business

7.1 Caucus Recommended Actions

7.1.1 Solano Canyon

7.1.1.1 Solano Canyon Caucus recommends Phyllis Ling for Solano Canyon resident seat to replace Yvette Grageda (resignation). Ms. Ling introduced herself and announced she has completed all DONE trainings.

Motion to recommend Phyllis Ling to serve on the Solano Canyon Residency Board made by Danny Young, seconded by Lydia Moreno (18 yes, 1 ineligible: Al Soo Hoo), motion passed.

7.1.2 Arts District (Discussion and Vote)

7.1.2.1 Motion to recommend Gabrielle Newmark to serve on the Metro Public Arts Committee for the Little Tokyo/Arts District Regional Connector made by Laura Velkei, seconded by Michael Maier, (19 yes, 1 ineligible: Al Soo Hoo), motion passed.

7.2 Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance (NCSA) Presentation:

Torin Dunnivant from the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance (NCSA) made a brief presentation, and invited HCNC to become a member of NCSA. NCSA deals with a variety of issues that impact communities that are directly tied to sustainability: transportation, pollution, quality of life, public health, urban forestry, park equality, water quality, water supply, energy, and more.

7.3 NC Liaison Reports -

7.3.1 Homeless –LAHSA presentation, passed out hand out.

7.3.2 LA Animal Services – no update

7.3.3 Film LA - no update

7.3.4 Purposeful Aging Liaisons - no update

9.0 Next Meeting

9.1 General Board Meeting: 2nd Tues of Month (location Chinatown Library)

9.2 Urban Design/Land Use Committee: 3rd Wed of Month, (location TBD)

9.3 Action Committee April 5, 2017 location TBD

9.4 By Laws Committee (TBD)

10.0 Adjournment: 9:18 pm

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 S., Los Angeles, CA 90012, or on our website at www.hcncla.org and <http://empowerla.org/hcnc/> and at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact hcncla@gmail.com