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**H C N C**  
**Historic Cultural Neighborhood Council**



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APPROVED 3-10-2015

**General Board Minutes**

**March 10, 2015**

**6PM, Japanese American Cultural Center**

**1.0 Call to Order & Roll Call (6:15)**

President Brian Kito calls meeting to order, V.P. Shirley Zhang takes roll call. 20 board members present.

Present: Mark Rothenberg, George Rollins, Yuval Bar-Zemer, Christopher Fudurich, Norma Garcia, Valerie Garcia-Hanley, Howard Nishumura, Stephen Nagano, Ron Fong, Brian Kito, Yvette Grageda, Lydia Moreno, Danny Young, Don Toy, Ly Chou Tran, Wai So Yuan, Esther Woo, Gi Hao Cheung, Ne Hung Hom, Edmund Soohoo, (20) George Yu (left 6:45) Xiayi Shirley Zhang (left 6:45) Laura Velkei, Melissa Richardson Banks, Norman Qin Nie (25)

Absent: Alan Kumamoto, June Aochi-Berk, Andrew Lucero, Alejandra Flores, Hoover Tang, Nick Curl, Peter Hick Loon Pang, Richard Estrada.

Guest: Thomas Ottman-LAFD, Alfred Poirier- LAFD, Dafne Gokcen, Lauren Hom, Miller Duvall, General Jeff, Brad Rosenheim, Harry Drake, Aracely Del Campo Lopez, Melinda Ramos, Miguel Vargas, Peter Cheng.

**2.0 Public Comments**

2.1 Miguel Vargas currently of Councilmember Jose Huizar’s office announced that he is the new Director of the Arts District BID effective at the end of March 2015.

2.2 Public Safety (Emergency Preparedness) – LAFD Chief presentation

2.3 Melinda Alatorre representing CD1 Councilmember Gil Cedillo shared information about on community activities in progress by her office. Currently, their staff is working with Solano Canyon and Elysian Park to secure parking for special events on two streets (Lookout Dr. and Boylston St.). Their proposed solution will allow for resident-only parking with details still being worked out – HCNC board members Lydia Moreno and Yvette Grageda had questions regarding the solution. Also, their office has helped repave a few roads in the area. Alatorre also reported that the office is working on helping to reduce “unwanted activities” in the park. The Councilmember’s office is also hosting a free housing workshop on Thursday, March 12, 2015 at 6 p.m. in Highland Park (Coalition for Economic Survival). Translation can be provided by request (Spanish is planned, but other languages can be made available). Last, the Councilmember’s office is hosting the 20<sup>th</sup> annual Community Job Fair at Dodgers Stadium on Saturday, March 28, 2015 at 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**3.0 Previous Board Minutes (motion by George Yu, seconded by Laura Velkei, approved 17 Yes, 4 No,3 abstain )**

**4.0 President’s Report**

4.1 Melissa Richardson Banks was **approved as the new HCNC Secretary by unanimous vote present (motion by Yuval, seconded by Mark Rothenberg, 24 Yes, 0 No )**.

4.2 Discussion & Action on Two Arts District Issues:

**4.2.1 Arts District Official Boundaries:** Laura Velkei shared DLANC has never held a seat in the area south of 7<sup>th</sup> St. The City of Los Angeles only has an official map of the Arts District, which is the one defining the HCNC governance. That map was officially amended in 2007 through a motion presented by Councilmember Jose Huizar and approved by the L.A. City Council, which extended the Arts District boundaries from 7<sup>th</sup> St. south to Violet St. (see attached ... boundaries are west to east, Alameda St. to the Los Angeles River, and north to south, 101 Fwy. to Violet St.). Melissa Richardson Banks recalled that the area south of 7<sup>th</sup> St. was not in

the original boundaries set in 2000 when neighborhood councils were first established in Los Angeles only because there were few residents and businesses in the area at the time. Don Toy inquired as to what has changed since then to trigger this request to enforce the 2007 boundaries and to request a new extension to go to 10 East or even beyond. Yuval Bar-Zemer responded that the area south of 7<sup>th</sup> has had marked increase in the number of residents and businesses in the area, both of which are requesting governance by those currently covering the Arts District. The goal is to have a united community with cohesive representation. Laura Velkei mentioned that, to her knowledge, DLANC has not have a seat covering their part of the area south of 7<sup>th</sup> in its history. ***Yuval Bar-Zemer motioned that HCNC support any reasonable efforts to make the Arts District contiguous as part of the HCNC, which was seconded by Christopher Fudurich and approved by the board with a unanimous vote Present 24 Yes.***

- 4.3 **Arts District Live/Work Ordinance:** The request was for HCNC to review and approve proposed letters of support to accompany a community-amended version of the City's Arts District Live/Work Ordinance to be sent to Councilmember Jose Huizar, Mayor Eric Garcetti, and representatives of the City's Planning Department. ***Yuval Bar-Zemer motioned that these letters as drafted be sent, along with the community-amended version of the ordinance, Don Toy seconded the motion, which was approved by unanimous vote present.***

## 5.0 Treasurer's Report

- 5.1 Treasurer's monthly expenditure reports (including granting of \$2,000 to the Tanabata Festival and budget line item adjustments) were ***approved by unanimous vote after a motion by Danny Young, which was seconded by Christopher Fudurich. (25 yes- see vote count)***

## 6.0 Committee Reports

### 6.1 Urban Design / Land Use (Mark Rothenberg)

- 6.1.1 **A. 963 E. 4<sup>th</sup> St.** (former Coca Cola headquarters): Don Toy asked Mark Rothenberg to address why the committee supports this project unanimously. The reasons included that the historic building will remain intact and its proposed uses support the needs of the community – ***motion made to support the project by Laura Velkei seconded by Christopher Fudurich and approved (22 yes- see vote count).***
- 6.1.2 **B. 2060 E. 7<sup>th</sup> St.** (first Ford Motor Company building in Los Angeles) – HCNC will support this project provided that the following conditions are met as verified by the UD/LUC: (1) set back of the parking from 7<sup>th</sup> Street to allow more public access; (2) add retail on the ground floor of the parking structure to encourage more public use – ***motion by George Rollins seconded by Laura Velkei and approved (21 Yes Brian / 1 abstained).***
- 6.1.3 **C. 454-462 and 506 Commercial St. plus 459-461 and 503-511 E. Ducommun LADOT Bus Maintenance and CNG Refueling Station:** Brad Rosenheim and Harry Draper gave a presentation during which they stated the proposed station is not in the Arts District, but is located in an existing industrial zone; that it is a gateway to the community; and 70 DASH buses will depart each morning at 6 a.m. and return to the station at night using Ducommun St. for access. No storage of compressed gas will be on site. – ***motion by Laura Velkei to oppose the project due to the site's intended use seconded by Lydia Moreno (20 yes 1 abstain)***  
– time noted by Brian Kito as 7:47 PM.
- 6.1.4 **D. 440 Seaton St.** – briefing only, no action required from the board.
- 6.1.5 **E. 620 E. 1st St.** Chas Germain restaurant – ***motion made to support the project by Yuval Bar-Zemer seconded by Christopher Fudurich and approved (19 yes/ 0 No).***
- 6.1.6 **F. 555 Mateo St.** – No action due to submission incomplete. Melissa will ask for the developer for any new renderings and to set another meeting to review the project with the UD/LUC.

6.2 **By-Laws:** Lydia Moreno (no report)

6.3 **Outreach (Marketing):** Artwork for a proposed HCNC brochure to market all six neighborhoods was presented by Brian Kito.

6.4 **Action Committee Report:** Alan Kumamoto not present, so nothing to report.

## 7.0 New Business /Old Business

## 8.0 Next Meeting Announcements

8.1 **General Board Meeting:** 2nd Tuesday of the Month (location TBD)

### 8.2 Committee Meetings

8.2.1 **Urban Design/Land Use Committee** convenes every 3rd Wednesday of the month. Open to the public, the next meeting is Wednesday, March 18 @ 7-9 PM at SCI-Arc @ 255 S. Santa Fe Ave. in Rm. 160.

8.2.2 **Action Committee** will meet on March 25 at the Koban @ 307 E. 1st St.

8.2.3 **Outreach (Marketing) Committee** TBA

8.2.4 **By-Laws Committee** TBA

## 9.0 Adjournment 7:52PM

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 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](mailto:hcncla@gmail.com) or by calling 323/849-0012

*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](http://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](mailto:hcncla@gmail.com)*

