

OFFICERS

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

H C N C
Historic Cultural Neighborhood Council



HISTORIC CULTURAL NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
c/o Koban 307 E First Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

President: akumamoto@aol.com
hcncla@gmail.com
t. 213. 849.0012
f. 213. 613.0282

APPROVED 7-12-2016
Special Board Meeting Agenda
Tuesday, June 14, 2016

LOCATION:
Impact Hub Los Angeles
830 Traction Ave 3A, Los Angeles CA 90013

1.0 Attendance

27 members were present. Board Members signed in the Attendance Sheet.

Present (27): Alan Kumamoto, Shirley Zhang, Lydia Moreno, Laura Velkei, Yuval Bar-Zemer (left early – absent for 1 vote), June Aochi-Berk, Gabriel Flores, Alexandra Leekley, Mark Rothenberg, Michael Maier, John Jason, Tuong Hoang, Ly Chou Tran, Ne Huang Hom, Wai So Yuan, Angelica Lopez Moyes, Al Soo-Hoo (left early – absent for 1 vote), Norma Garcia, Valerie Garcia-Hanley, Stephen Nagano, Ron Fong, Matther Glaser, Danny Young, Don Toy, Dafne Gokcen, Marc Rose (left early – absent for 3 votes), Greg Kimura

Absent (5): George Rollins, Yvette Grageda, Norman Nie, Howard Nishimura, Esther Joaquin Woo

2.0 Swearing in of New Board & Board Orientation (6:50 PM)

DONE representative Jasmine Elbarbary welcomed new and returning board members. All new and returning HCNC board members took an oath and were seated to the board.

Ms. Elbarbary and Mario Hernandez from DONE conducted a training, which included an overview of board member responsibilities, requirements of board meetings, budgeting, and voting & conflict of interest procedures. Don Toy asked if materials were available in other languages other than English for the Chinatown and Victor Heights representatives. Ms. Elbarbary invited them to the DONE offices to conduct the training with them with possible in-house translations. Valerie Garcia-Hanley asked for clarification about voting for items not listed on the agenda. Ms. Elbarbary clarified that only agendized items can be voted on and emphasized to put more information on the agenda to ensure transparency. Additional questions were asked about board members' potential conflict of interest when submitting projects for Neighborhood Purpose Grants. Mr. Hernandez encouraged that members contact the city attorney if they have a potential conflict of interest to receive specific instructions on how to proceed.

3.0 Appointment of New Officers

3.1 Jasmine Elbarbary initiated the appointment of new officers.

3.1.1 Ms. Elbarbary asked for nominations for president. Laura Velkei nominated Alan Kumamoto. June Aochi-Berk seconded.

Alan Kumamoto is appointed President.

23 Yay, 0 Nay, 4 Ineligible (Al Soo-hoo, Matthew Glaser, Hoang Troung, Greg Kimura)

3.1.2 President Kumamoto asked for nominations for First Vice President. Laura Velkei nominated Lydia Moreno for First Vice President. Lydia Moreno declined. Lydia nominated Dafne Gokcen. Shirley Zhang seconded.

Dafne Gokcen is appointed First Vice President.

23 Yay, 0 Nay, 4 Ineligible (Al Soo-hoo, Matthew Glaser, Hoang Troung, Greg Kimura)

3.1.3 President Kumamoto asked for nominations for Second Vice President. Laura Velkei nominated Stephen Nagano. Ron Fong seconded.

Stephen Nagano is appointed Second Vice President.

23 Yay, 0 Nay, 4 Ineligible (Al Soo-hoo, Matthew Glaser, Hoang Troung, Greg Kimura)

3.1.4 President Kumamoto asked for nominations for Third Vice President. Yuval Bar-Zemer nominated himself. Valerie Garcia-Hanley seconded. Mark Rothenberg nominated Laura Velkei. Lydia Moreno seconded. Yuval Bar-Zemer retracted his nomination.

Laura Velkei is appointed Third Vice President.

23 Yay, 0 Nay, 4 Ineligible (Al Soo-hoo, Matthew Glaser, Hoang Troung, Greg Kimura)

3.1.5 President Kumamoto asked for nominations for Third Vice President. Michael Maier nominated Yuval Bar-Zemer. Laura Velkei seconded.

Yuval Bar-Zemer is appointed Fourth Vice President.

23 Yay, 0 Nay, 4 Ineligible (Al Soo-hoo, Matthew Glaser, Hoang Troung, Greg Kimura)

3.1.6 President Kumamoto asked for nominations for Recording Secretary. Laura Velkei nominated Shirley Zhang. Danny Young seconded.

Shirley Zhang is appointed Recording Secretary.

23 Yay, 0 Nay, 4 Ineligible (Al Soo-hoo, Matthew Glaser, Hoang Troung, Greg Kimura)

3.1.7 President Kumamoto asked for nominations for Treasurer. Laura Velkei nominated Lydia Moreno. Mark Rothenberg seconded. Lydia Moreno nominated Valerie Garcia-Hanley. Valerie Garcia-Hanley declined.

Lydia Moreno is appointed Treasurer.

23 Yay, 0 Nay, 4 Ineligible (Al Soo-hoo, Matthew Glaser, Hoang Troung, Greg Kimura)

3.1.8 President Kumamoto asked if anyone would like to volunteer for the historian position. No one volunteered so the position was left open.

3.2 Laura Velkei motioned to maintain the current bank card holder and second signatory designation. Danny Young seconded.

Motion to maintain the current bank card holder and second signatory designation passed.

23 Yay, 0 Nay, 4 Ineligible (Al Soo-hoo, Matthew Glaser, Hoang Troung, Greg Kimura)

3.3 Jasmine Elbarbary announced that DONE is looking for neighborhood council liaisons to various city departments, including public works, animal services, and emergency management.

4.0 Call to order of Business Meeting

President Alan Kumamoto called the business meeting to order at 8:30 PM. 27 board members were present and quorum was established.

5.0 Approval of May Meeting Minutes

President Alan Kumamoto explained that there were two board meetings in May, May 10th and May 24th. The May 24th meeting does not count as an official board meeting. The minutes for the May 10th meeting will be available at the next meeting for a vote.

6.0 Treasurer's Report

6.1 Treasurer Lydia Moreno distributed the May monthly expense reports and asked for approval of that month's expenses. Laura Valkei motioned to approve the May monthly expense report. Steve Nagano seconded.

Motion to approve the May 2016 Treasurer's Report passed.

18 Yay, 3 Nay (Ne Huang Hom, Ly Chou Tran, Wai So Yuan), 1 Abstention (Alan Kumamoto), 5 Ineligible (Gabriel Owens, Al Soo-hoo, Matthew Glaser, Hoang Troung, Greg Kimura)

6.2 Treasurer Lydia Moreno asked for approval of 2 expenses related to the May elections.

6.2.1 Laura motioned to approve to reimburse Yuval Bar-Zemer for pizza for volunteers on election day. Danny Young seconded.

Motion to approve a reimbursement to Yuval Bar-Zemer for pizza for election day volunteers passed.

20 Yay, 1 Nay (Yuval Bar-Zemer), 1 Abstention (Alan Kumamoto), 5 Ineligible (Gabriel Owens, Al Soo-hoo, Matthew Glaser, Hoang Troung, Greg Kimura)

6.2.2 Laura Velkei motioned to approve \$750 to Premeir for hosting election day. Norma Garcia seconded.

Motion to pay \$750 to Premeir for hosting the site for election day passed.

21 Yay, 1 Abstention (Alan Kumamoto), 5 Ineligible (Gabriel Owens, Al Soo-hoo, Matthew Glaser, Hoang Troung, Greg Kimura)

6.3 Treasurer Lydia Moreno asked for approvals for line item changes for 2015-2016 budgeted funds.

3.2.1 Yuval Bar-Zemer motioned to move \$12,000 budgeted to Community Improvement Projects to Neighborhood Improvement Projects. Laura Velkei seconded.

Motion to move \$12,000 from Community Improvement Projects to Neighborhood Improvement Projects passed.

21 Yay, 1 Abstention (Alan Kumamoto), 5 Ineligible (Gabriel Owens, Al Soo-hoo, Matthew Glaser, Hoang Troung, Greg Kimura)

3.2.2 Yuval Bar-Zemer motioned to move \$150 budgeted to newsletter to miscellaneous. Laura Velkei seconded.

Motion to move \$150 from Newsletter to Miscellaneous passed.

21 Yay, 1 Abstention (Alan Kumamoto), 5 Ineligible (Gabriel Owens, Al Soo-hoo, Matthew Glaser, Hoang Troung, Greg Kimura)

3.2.3 Yuval Bar-Zemer motioned to move \$1000 unallocated funds to advertising. Valerie Garcia-Hanley seconded.

Motion to move \$1000 of Unallocated Funds to Advertising passed.

21 Yay, 1 Abstention (Alan Kumamoto), 5 Ineligible (Gabriel Owens, Al Soo-hoo, Matthew Glaser, Hoang Troung, Greg Kimura)

3.2.4 Yuval Bar-Zemer motioned to move the \$500 balance from office supplies balance, \$430 web balance, and \$100 postage balance to Advertising. Laura Velkei seconded.

Motion to move \$500 from Office Supplies, \$430 from Web Balance, and \$100 from Postage to Advertising passed.

21 Yay, 1 Abstention (Alan Kumamoto), 5 Ineligible (Gabriel Owens, Al Soo-hoo, Matthew Glaser, Hoang Troung, Greg Kimura)

3.2.5 Laura Velkei motioned to move \$3200 budgeted to Administration to \$500 for translation and \$2700 to Neighborhood Improvement Grants. Danny Young seconded.

Motion to move \$3200 from Administration to \$500 for Translation and \$2700 for Neighborhood Improvement Grants passed.

21 Yay, 1 Abstention (Alan Kumamoto), 5 Ineligible (Gabriel Owens, Al Soo-hoo, Matthew Glaser, Hoang Troung, Greg Kimura)

3.2.6 Yuval Bar-Zemer motioned to move the \$1700 elections balance to Neighborhood Improvement Grants. Laura Velkei seconded.

Motion to move \$1700 from Elections to Neighborhood Improvement Grants passed.

21 Yay, 1 Abstention (Alan Kumamoto), 5 Ineligible (Gabriel Owens, Al Soo-hoo, Matthew Glaser, Hoang Troung, Greg Kimura)

6.4 Treasurer Lydia Moreno explained that she is still working on the proposed 2016-2017 budget because they have received new instructions from DONE. Valerie Garcia-Hanley motioned to table the vote to approve the 2016-2017 budget to the next meeting. Laura Velkei seconded.

Motion to table the vote to approve the 2016-2017 Budget for the July 2016 Board Meeting passed.

21 Yay, 1 Abstention (Alan Kumamoto), 5 Ineligible (Gabriel Owens, Al Soo-hoo, Matthew Glaser, Hoang Troung, Greg Kimura)

7.0 Committee Reports

7.1 Action Committee Reports

Treasurer Lydia Moreno announced that there are 2 pending proposals for Victor Heights that were presented to the Action Committee.

7.1.1 Community Partners is requesting \$2000 for a tree planting project. Dafne Gokcen asked for clarification on the location of the trees. Don Toy responded that they are along White Knoll Avenue. Laura Velkei motioned to approve \$2000 to Community Partners for tree planting along White Knoll in the Victor Heights neighborhood. Danny Young seconded.

Motion to approve \$2000 to Community Partners for tree planting in Victor Heights passed.

21 Yay, 1 Abstention (Alan Kumamoto), 5 Ineligible (Gabriel Owens, Al Soo-hoo, Matthew Glaser, Hoang Troung, Greg Kimura)

7.1.2 Firecracker Run is requesting \$2000 for tools to support a community gardens on Kaiser property in Victor Heights. Greg Kimura recused himself due to his participation as a volunteer in the Firecracker Run. Treasurer Moreno expressed concern about a conflict of interest and asked for clarification from former board member Edmund Soohoo if he contacted the City Attorney. Edmund Soohoo responded that he did and was told by the city attorney to recuse himself from the vote. Mr. Soohoo also indicated he is no longer on the board and thus cannot vote on the issue anymore. Dafne Gokcen expressed concerns about the accessibility of the park and the waiting list for receiving a plot of land. Board members discussed public access issues on a privately-owned property for a non-profit such as Kaiser. Don Toy stated that Kaiser has historically provided the space to the public in Victor Heights and Chinatown. Yuval Bar-Zemer advised that they set up an agreement to ensure it is publically accessible. Valerie Garcia-Hanley motioned to table the discussion and vote to the next meeting. Yuval Bar-Zemer seconded. Board members discussed the option of tabling this request and how this effected the budget. After the discussion, Valerie Garcia-Hanley retracted her motion.

Don Toy motioned to approve \$2000 to Firecracker Run to fund their community garden project on the Kaiser property in Victor Heights. Angelica Lopez Moyes seconded.

Motion to approve \$2000 to Firecracker Run to fund their community garden project passed.

15 Yay, 4 Nay (Dafne Gokcen, Xiayi Zhang, Danny Young, Mark Rothenberg), 2 Abstention (Michael Maier, Lydia Moreno), 4 Ineligible (Gabriel Owens, Al Soo-hoo, Hoang Troung, Matthew Glaser), 1 Recused (Greg Kimura)

7.2 Community Outreach.

Shirley Zhang recused herself and announced she is an employee of the Chinatown Business Improvement District which is the lead organization requesting the funding for the community outreach project. Treasurer Lydia Moreno explained that the HCNC has a potential advertising sponsorship for Chinatown Summer Nights. Laura Velkei motioned

to approve \$4000 for advertising sponsorship of Chinatown Summer Nights. Michael Maier seconded. Anjelica Lopez Moyes and Al Soohoo asked for clarification as to if the funding would go to just one night or all three nights in the summer. Board members discussed that funding for June may be too soon and that the outreach activities, which may include hosting a booth, should be pushed back to the July event.

Motion to approve \$4000 for advertising sponsorship for Chinatown Summer Nights passed.

19 Yay, 1 Abstention (Alan Kumamoto), 5 Ineligible (Gabriel Owens, Al Soo-hoo, Matthew Glaser, Hoang Troung, Greg Kimura), 1 Recused (Shirley Zhang)

7.3 Urban Design/Land Use Committee

President Alan Kumamoto announced that the next urban design/land use committee will be tomorrow at this location.

7.4 By-Laws Committee

7.4.1 Laura Velkei passed out the Standing Rules document for discussion and vote. She explained that this is to complement the current by-laws, which will be revised in the future, and to help keep meetings on track in the meantime. DONE has reviewed the document and supported it in that they do not see it as conflicting with their current by-laws. Board members discussed as to whether to vote on the document as a whole or to vote on each item separately. Laura Velkei motioned to approve the Standing Room document. Danny Young seconded. President Alan Kumamoto opened the discussion for each item on the document.

Ne Huang Hom thanked the board for translating the document into Chinese, however he opposed Rule 1 that states a board member would automatically be removed after their 4th absence. He, as well as Don Toy and Angelica Lopez Moyes, expressed that dismissal from the board due to absences should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Mr. Toy further stated that it does not allow for a process because the Standing Rules automatically removes a board member after the 4th absence. Laura Velkei and Danny Young responded that this rule is specific to absences that do not have a valid excuse. Valerie Garcia-Hanley also opposed the first rule because she sees it as in conflict with the current by-laws and does not support an expedited process. Michael Maier and Shirley Zhang expressed that they did not see it as a conflict because the by-laws are specific to the procedures for the 3rd absence, while the Standing Rules are specific to the procedures for the 4th absence. Matthew Maier expressed that there needs to be more clarity on what defines an unexcused absence.

Ms. Garcia-Hanley was concerned with Rule 2 because she did not feel that if a board member spends over an hour at a meeting and leaves early, it should be counted as an absence, especially if they leave to do work in the community. Mark Rothenberg clarified that this only applies if the board loses quorum, so he supports the motion. Mr. Hom also criticized this rule stating that the communication about meeting times is unclear to him so he may not be able to make a commitment. Mr. Toy said that this penalizes people who arrive early when the meetings tend to start late. Ms. Garcia-Hanley said that this targets the people who come as groups because if they all leave together, then the board may lose quorum. Mr. Rothenberg said that board members should be prepared for some of the unpredictability of the meetings. Ms. Velkei added that breaking quorum penalizes everyone on the board.

Some board members felt that Rules 3-5 were repetitive with the by-laws and did not see it as necessary. For Rule 6, Stephen Nagano asked for clarification on what a consent agenda is. Dafne Gokcen responded that the board approves all the items listed in the consent agenda through one vote. Board members are responsible for reading the listed items in advance, so it helps to expedite the process.

Motion to approve the Standing Rules document passed.

12 Yay, 8 Nay (Danny Young, Angelica Lopez Moyes, Norma Garcia, Valerie Garcia-Hanley, Don Toy, Wai So Yuan, Ne Huang Hom, Ly Chou Tran), 1 Abstention (Alan Kumamoto), 3 Ineligible (Matthew Glaser, Hoang Troung, Greg Kimura)

7.4.1 Laura Velkei asked for caucus representatives for the by-laws committee. The following board members will participate in the committee: Danny Young (Solano Canyon), Angelica Lopez Moyes (Chinatown), Don Toy (Victor Heights), Matthew Glaser (Little Tokyo), Yuval Bar-Zemer (Arts District), and Al Soohoo (El Pueblo).

8.0 Public Comment

8.1 Former HCNC board member Edmund Soohoo congratulated the new and current members. He spoke to the board about ongoing participation and inclusion issues in the election process, stating that over 300 stakeholders were unable to vote. He cited another organization that also used one email to sign 15 people were also unable to vote. He asked the new board to take a position on this matter.

8.2 George Poon from the Chinatown Senior Service Center, criticized the election process and feels that people are being deliberately excluded. He asked for an apology for the accusations of fraud about the elections in Chinatown.

8.3 Former HCNC board member Gi Hao Cheung said that he was also effected by the election. His computer broke down while he was trying to vote, so his vote did not count.

8.4 Dennis Wong, a board member on the Firecracker Run, also criticized the election process. He asked the board to review their procedures and have more convenient polling places for elections. President Alan Kumamoto responded that DONE and the City Clerk ran the elections and the HCNC was hands off on the elections. He also acknowledged that other people had similar problems and this was the first election to use computers. Current board member Don Toy expressed that this is an issue of inclusion, explaining that certain people are being cut of the process. He cited the first HCNC election where there were over 1300 votes to win Victor Heights, but in some neighborhoods you only need 2-3 votes to be voted into the board. Angelica Lopez Moyes shared that she has been talking to other neighborhood council board members that they are experiencing similar elections issues and that 9 of the 12 regions had an all-time low voter turnout. She encouraged that they be in conversation with other councils to improve the process.

9.0 After receiving feedback from board members, President Alan Kumamoto announced that they will hold a board meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of July.

10.0 President Alan Kumamoto adjourned the meeting at 10:15 PM.

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 or by calling 323/849-0012

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