

HUNC OFFICERS

PRESIDENT
Susan Swan
VICE-PRESIDENT
Maurece Chesse
RECORDING SECRETARY
Charles Suhayda
TREASURER
Ryan Ole Hass

CITY OF LOS ANGELES



HOLLYWOOD UNITED
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Certified Council #52
P.O.Box 3272 Los Angeles, CA 90078
Phone: 323-957-3784 www.HollywoodUnitedNC.org
E Mail Info@HollywoodUnitedNC.org

HUNC Board Members:

Debbi Aldahl
Robert Abrahamian
Jordan Birnbaum
Bechir Blagui
Andrew Ettinger
Rodney Hargrove
Scott Larson
Bree Long
Jamie Rosenthal
Hilary Royce
Erik Sanjurjo
David H. Schlesinger

Monday, August 18th, 2008
Full Board Meeting at 6:30 pm
First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood
Community Room – Upper Terrace, 6054 Yucca St. (East of Gower)

AGENDA ITEMS: ALL ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

1. Welcome and Roll Call

Charles Suhayda called the meeting to order at **6:51pm**.

Present were Debbi Aldahl, Andrew Ettinger, Bree Long, David Schlesinger, Erik Sanjurjo, Jordan Birnbaum, Rodney Hargrove, Robert Abrahamian, Bechir Blagui, Scott Larson.

Excused: Ryan Ole Hass, Jamie Rosenthal

Absent: Hilary Royce

Susan Swan, Maurece Chesse, and Erik Sanjurjo started the evening up the street at the BONC meeting. They all joined the meeting by 7pm.

2. Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Bree Long.

SECOND: Rodney Hargrove.

David made a correction to his statements in Paragraph D re: Subway station at Argyle. Amended to Hollywood Blvd. He stated how he appreciated the minutes this month.

VOTE: 10-Yes, 0-No, 2-Abstained.

Charles then turned the meeting over to Susan Swan.

Susan announced the results of the BONC meeting – the HUNC Eastern Boundary application has been approved.

3. LAPD and LAFD Updates

There were none made at this time.

4. Los Angeles City and County Updates including but not limited to:

A. Mayor's Office Updates

Stacy Marble, field deputy for C. LaBonge's Office, has taken over for Doug Mensman. Sharon Shapiro will be the point person regarding traffic, transit, and preferential parking.

The 5th of five-part Tour LaBonge biking events will be completed this coming Wednesday.

Community Beautification Grant workbooks are due October 22nd.

October 4th, 5th Annual 10-4 Day in salute to our officers.

Scott Larson asked about the status of the signage on Bronson. Sharon Shapiro said that the Councilman is still awaiting a letter of support – the Captain has been on vacation for the past week. Andrew asked about Cahuenga Peak – Sharon replied that there was no change.

B. City Council Office Updates

Helen Leung could not be here, but she forwarded a CD 13 report for August which is in the board packets and in the back of the room.

C. DONE Updates

There were none made at this time.

5. Public Comment on items not on the Agenda

Brendan Alley from the HERO Homeless Outreach team gave an update. Made 188 contacts, placed 9 people. Also, PATH Hollywood just opened PetCo place, an animal shelter. They now have two dogs and two cats. He also thanked the council for their support.

Raymond Yu made an announcement about an upcoming parade.

6. Outreach at the Hollywood Farmers Market -- need volunteer(s), other tasking and outreach needs

Susan Swan spoke about the history of the NC presence at the Farmers Market. It's one day a month, from around 7a to 1pm, and it's a lot of fun. Bechir is interested. Follow up when dates are known.

7. Air Force Week in Los Angeles this coming November 14th through Nov. 21st.

Robin Whitney was unable to be here tonight to speak, so she will be here in September.

8. Executive Committee Reports including but not limited to:

A. President

1. Board Workshop topics for Monday August 25th, responsibilities of elected board members re meetings/committees, open seats

Robert had offered to host the Workshop but offers the 26th instead as he cannot host it on the 25th. Susan initiated a discussion amongst the board members present about their availability on that date. The resolution was to have the meeting here at the Church on the 25th, and Robert's restaurant will cater. Pertinent questions that evening will be concerning board member tenures of election. The executive committee election will be in September. There is currently one Renters seat open and this would be a good time for anyone who wants to, to step down. Nomination processes can be varied.

B. Vice-President

1. Update on NBC/Universal Project Working Group

Maurece Chesse reported that the Draft EIR has been sent. Once this huge file is uploaded, he can forward it by email to the board.

C. Treasurer

Ryan Hass was not present.

9. Committee & Liaison Reports/Updates including but not limited to:

A. Education

1. Cheremoya School funding assistance request: \$100 x @20 teachers for school supplies

Debbi Aldahl said that there are 13 teachers, not 20. Andrew Glaser is asking for half that amount, \$650, with the other half to come from a match of funds by the Dell council. Erik Sanjurjo pointed out that this has not

gone through the Finance Committee yet. The time limit is before September 2nd, before the school year begins.

MOTION: To approve Cheremoya School funding of \$50 for 13 teachers for supplies for a total of \$650 to be matched by the Hollywood Dell: Debbi Aldahl

Second, Bechir.

VOTE: 12-yes,0-no,1-abstain

2. Assistance with Cheremoya School Field trips \$300 to \$350 per bus for 7 Field Trips (1 bus per trip)

Sent back to Finance Committee for next month. Erik Sanjurjo brought up the idea of giving also to LeConte. Debbi suggested finding a contact person at the other schools.

B. PLUM

1. Little Country Church of Hollywood, possible motion

Bree Long described the representative from the Church who came to PLUM for an alcohol permit. Concerns expressed were noise mitigations as the property is within a residential area. The proposal is for 400 patrons, inside and on landscaped outside areas, with a closing time of 10pm weekdays and 12am weekends. Parking was also discussed – it remains an issue. PLUM recommended that they come back with a plan.

MOTION: To write a letter to the owner of the Church property and have archival materials presented to the committee. David Schlesinger

Second: Jordan Birnbaum

VOTE: 12-yes,0-no

2. Request for improved record keeping of City Early Info and of outreach to persons filing for Zoning exceptions, CUPs, etc.

Tabled and referred back to PLUM Committee.

3. Update on Billboard removal, request to take position on City approval of Supergraphics and Billboards

Robert Abrahamian stated that he has been in contact with many of the concerned agencies.

Erik reported that billboards are becoming a topic of discussion. Charles discussed the tremendous community impact of Supergraphics, such as at Olympic & Figueroa. Bree said that the Sunset Tower is another example.

MOTION: That the council urge the city to put a moratorium on all Supergraphics in Hollywood until such time as the city develops a sufficient enforcement policy: Bree

Second: Maurece.

VOTE: 12-yes, 0-no,1-abstain

Bree will write the letter.

C. PS&T

1. Updates from CPAB reps

There were none.

2. Updates, if any, regarding Pending PPDs and TPPDs, issues related to formation of Preferential Parking Districts (including Temporary) and options available to community

There were none.

3. Update, if any, regarding timetable for removal of No-Parking signs on Bronson north of Foothill
Already discussed when Scott Larson raised the issue earlier.

4. Follow up on Emergency Preparedness efforts, purchase of kits, other items

A. Approval of funds to purchase walkie-talkies, possibly 20+

Maurece Chesse very briefly updated the board on this initiative.

10. Florentine Gardens, 5951 W Hollywood Bl. Owner is petitioning City to remove restrictions imposed on nightclub as conditions for operation. Review of proposals (available on www.MyHUNC.com) and possible motion

Erik started, representing the PS&T committee. David noted that representatives from the Florentine Gardens are present.

Erik reported that because this was a Nightclub, PS&T was asked to review the situation due to the security component. He said that item by item there were some conversations to be had, which were continued by the PLUM committee.

David said that the Zoning Administrator's findings were used in examining this proposal. He said that the owners would be required to provide contact information for their security, and that coordination should be maintained with the club's neighbor, the Salvation Army.

Lee Rabun, consultant from Florentine Gardens, is here representing the owners, the Mackenzies.

Mr. Rabun stated that the request to modify Conditions #21a and #3 has been removed from the application. A stationed parking attendant will be there, and a security employee to secure the lot.

Condition #12 is an important ones that the Mackenzies would like the board to consider, regarding Promoters. The example they used is Menudo – they need a promoting staff and to allow foreign acts who may or may not be of age. The administrative hearing is on Monday August 26th, so they would need a decision tonight.

Scott Larson suggested that the conditions improved the community, so why change it. The noise and drinking used to be a huge problem that might get worse again. He also suggested keeping the parking restriction.

Bree spoke about how Florentine Gardens has been cooperative in mitigating the noise for the elderly community, but that the closing time of the parking lot was still in debate. Midnight seems reasonable, is the consensus. The glass bottle issue, now removed, was a major concern.

Jordan expressed his conflict of interest but suggested that the condition that the premises not be allowed to use promoters is unfair and unreasonable. Susan asked whether the location is a Restaurant or a Nightclub. Mr. Rabun said that the premises are licensed similarly to the Palladium or Dodgers Stadium, Type 47, as an Event Venue/ Restaurant. Jordan said that since it has a dancehall license and a liquor license, it is a Nightclub, like many other Type 47s in the area.

Debbi then read the included statement from Susan Polifronio, who could not be present. Susan Polifronio is against the Gardens being able to use Carlos for commercial parking.

Susan Swan referenced the Zoning Administrator's concerns in June 2007 about the lack of public notice and hearings and asked what meetings had been held to inform the nearby community. Mr. Rabun said that this meeting is the first one. He quoted a rarely-used city ordinance, Resolution 12.27.I-D. Susan asked if Florentine Gardens had done any public outreach to the community or business owners. Mr. Rabun said no, besides the Toyota dealership and the Salvation Army.

Susan asked about the condition regarding the filing of quarterly records and Mr Rabun answered that he could make available quarterly records from the past year upon request. Susan referenced Page 8 of the provided documents, the department's security findings, stating that the conditions improved the community. In response to that, David repeated the previously stated sentiment, "If it ain't broke, why fix it?"

Erik recommended that the board discuss the findings of the Committees and make the decision as a board. He recommended that the conditions be considered as feasible, fair, and in the best interest of the community, (or not). On #5, Erik suggested that the board go with the LAPD's recommendation.

Discussion followed as to whether the board should make a final decision tonight or not. Item-by-item conversation then commenced.

By consensus, the board does not support changes to Conditions numbers 19 and 23.

Items #3 and #21a were struck as the applicant tells us that they had removed the request to the ZA for consideration..

Item #5 should be dictated by LAPD, who is better equipped, in Erik's view. Does the board support a change in the operating hours, Susan asked?

MOTION: Regarding Condition #5: To support the opinion and position of LAPD regarding implementation of Condition #5. Erik

SECOND: Rodney

VOTE: 7-yes, 2-no, 4-abstain Motion passed.

Item #6 concerns the parking lot hours on Carlos and in the back. Erik said it would be good to get DOT's perspective. Does it make sense to have parking past 6pm? That seems early for a street so close to Hollywood Blvd.

MOTION: Regarding Condition #6: To support a 10pm closure of the lot [Carlos exit] rather than 6pm, and that a Security Guard must be present. Scott

SECOND: Bree

VOTE: 10-yes,0-no,3-abstain Motion passed.

Item #8 required that the security operator be equipped with a patrol vehicle. Erik said that the entire area will soon have private security [early 2009 by Andrews International], so it would be redundant to force this establishment to pay for parking.

MOTION: Regarding Condition #8: Whenever the Business Improvement District (BID) expansion goes into effect, the condition should sunset. Erik

SECOND: Scott

VOTE: 9-yes,0-no,3-abstain Motion passed.

Item #12 is the item about outside Promoters. Erik recommends a reasonable middle ground – let them have a couple events a month [2]. The discussion expanded to include language about subletting. Discussion of motion: That the premises should not be sublet for nightclub; and to allow the premises on occasion to use promoters. [Robert] To support the applicant's request to modify Condition 12, with the added stipulation that the term "occasionally" be defined as once or twice a month. [Erik] Shall not be sublet for nightclub use.

MOTION: Erik Regarding Condition #12: We support the applicant's request to modify Condition 12 with the added stipulation that the term occasionally be used to define once or twice a month with the provision that the premises shall not be sublet for Nightclub use. Erik

SECOND: Robert.

VOTE: 9-yes,0-no,3 abstain. Motion passed.

Item #18 requires patrons to demonstrate that they drove and parked in the establishment's lot. Erik raised the issue of the condition being poorly thought-out. Maybe the nightclub could provide incentives. Otherwise PS&T recommends striking this condition. Parking issues were debated.

MOTION: Regarding Condition #18: Modified to include an allowance for demonstration of public transportation, or proof of parking at a another parking facility. Erik

SECOND:Scott

VOTE: 9-yes,0-no,3-abstain. The motion passed.

The concept of deleting Condition #4 came up. Underage people can be allowed there to do harmless events, as long as the noise is not a disturbance. Erik said that putting life on the street is a good thing. Debate about the place of minors ensued. Mr. Rabun said they would like to operate as a banquet hall/ restaurant.

MOTION: Regarding Condition #4: Allow to have events with people under 18 up to 10pm with a limit on decibels and amplification of music. Erik

SECOND: David.

VOTE: 7-yes,1-no,2-abstain. The motion passed.

11. New Business/Announcements

None was presented.

12. Old Business

None was presented.

13. Submission of proposed Agenda items for September

None were made. Susan made sure that all present would attend the meeting next Monday at 6:30pm.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at **9:18pm**.