

HUNC OFFICERS

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

CITY OF LOS ANGELES



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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

Tuesday, February 17th, 2009  
Executive Board Meeting at 5:30 pm  
Full Board Meeting at 6:30 pm  
First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood

**Community Room – Upper Terrace, 6054 Yucca St. (East of Gower)**

*The public is requested to fill out a "Speaker Card" to address the Board on any item of the agenda prior to the Board taking action on an item. 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 not appearing on the Agenda that is within the Board's subject matter 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. Agenda is posted for public review at Cheremoya Ave Elementary School 6017 Franklin Ave, First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood 1760 Gower, Beachwood Market, 2701 Beldon Dr, Sabor & Cultura Cafe, 5625 Hollywood Blvd., Counterpoint Records & Books, 5911 Franklin Ave. 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, assistive 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 Naheed Qureshi, email: [Naheed.Qureshi@lacity.org](mailto:Naheed.Qureshi@lacity.org) phone 213-473-5391)*

Executive Committee Meeting 5:30 pm

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

1. Welcome and Roll Call
  2. Public Comment on items not on the Agenda (2 minutes each) but under Executive Committee purview
  3. Review of Office functionality, review of logs and timesheets
  4. Attendance requirements to maintain boardmember status, responsibilities and obligations of board members
  5. Topics for Workshop, proposed dates
  6. New Business
  7. Old Business
  8. Submission of proposed Agenda items
- ADJOURNMENT

Full Board Meeting 6:30 pm

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

1. Welcome and Roll Call: Board members – Present: : Robert Abrahamian, Bechir Blagui, Maurece Chesse, Andy Ettinger, Scott Larson, Bree Long, Don Paul, Erik Sanjurjo, Charles Suhayda, Susan Swan, Rodney Hargrove, Ryan Ole Hass, David Schlesinger  
Excused: Debbie Aldahl  
Absent: Hilary Royce, Jordan Birnbaum, Jamie Rosenthal

2. Approval of Minutes

Motion: Robert Abrahamian Second: Don Paul Vote: Yes— 9 No—0 Abs—4

3. Assembly member Mike Feuer - Request for Support for AB 109 (Digital Billboards) (10 minutes)

Ellen Issacs spoke to imposing a moratorium on the construction of new digital billboards for a period of 2 years pending the release of safety studies. There is a study that says that anything that distracts your for more than two seconds doubles the chances of having an accident.

The CEO of Clear Channel said digital billboards are one medium that you can't fast forward, skip over or delete. They're an extremely lucrative biz and that it would behoove us all to consider the safety implications and to look at these safety studies and then decide on what's next.

Local control is still in effect for existing digital billboards and for on premises signs.

The City of LA already has a 3 month moratorium on these billboards

- working on an ordinance that would regulate these billboards in the period before our legislation can take effect

Enforcers and inspectors – up to 20 inspectors, actually doing more inventory of these billboards now

\$3,500/day fine

AB 109 – Jan. 1, 2010 – will take effect and it will take most of this year to get legislation.

City attorneys/AG – can get an injunction against digital billboards

Motion: Maurece Chesse Second: Robert Abrahamian Vote: Yes—11 No—1 Abs—0.

4. Councilmember Wendy Greuel, update on Transportation issues (10 minutes)

Chair of Transportation Committee

In 1973, Mayor Bradley, 18 months to start subway – it took 18 years.

In the midst of developing a strategic plan. Develop a public/private partnership.

We're dealing with the issue of traffic - short term and long term projects. Working with Council offices.

- left hand turn signals, synchronization of lights
- extension of Gold Line; Expo-line
- SFV improvements
- Create a seamless system of public transportation

Peak-hour restricted parking. Created anti-gridlock zones. Fines will be doubled. The idea is to keep traffic moving

State law – 50 or more employees and you lease parking, must offer employees an incentive equal to the value of that leased parking.

Wendy said that they're committed in the next 5 or 10 years to have a plan for the future of transp. In LA.

Maurece Chesse inquired whether there were any plans in regard to the monorail.

Don Paul brought up the future of improved bike lanes.

Andrew inquired whether there was a way that Los Angeles could exchange ideas with other cities.

Wendy said that if we don't change our behaviors now and don't look into the intersection between planning and transportation, we're going to suffer.

5. LAPD and LAFD Updates (5 minutes)

none

6. Los Angeles City and County Updates including but not limited to (5 minutes):

Naheed Qureshi spoke.

First off, Naheed was referring to the future HUNC newsletter when she said it would cost \$950 for 12,000 copies each newsletter and \$1,900 for color. Both rates were considerably lower than previous estimate obtained.

The question about holding HUNC meetings outside their boundaries came up. HUNC committees cannot meet at Hollywood City Hall. They must meet within their boundaries.

Erik Sanjurjo said that it's a charter issue and gave the solution to hold joint quarterly meetings with other neighborhood councils.

Naheed said that sounded like a creative solution.

The issue of blogging came up and Naheed said that as a general matter, Facebook causes less of a challenge than blogging because it is not as interactive.

Under the Brown act, the board members do business in open and decisions shouldn't be made secretly behind closed doors. The public not only watches board members voting. It watches them deliberating so with blogging, there is the potential for a conversation between five board members. A majority of the quorum – five out of nine – cannot discuss an issue outside of a meeting. Blogging runs the risk of serial meetings.

Susan Swan inquired as to how you set up the control with blogging.

Naheed said that with blogging there are no restrictions on giving out information – it's really just about if someone's lobbying about something. That's when it's going to be problematic.

Naheed said she would send any information about how other NC's have successfully blogged.

- A. Mayor's Office Updates
- B. City Council Office Updates
- C. DONE Updates

7. Public Comment on items not on the Agenda (2 minutes each)

8. Announcement re: the Dispute Resolution Program, a community-based program, which provides mediation, conciliation and facilitation services to stakeholders in English and Spanish. The services provided are free. The services of the program are provided with the help of volunteer mediators, pursuant to the California Dispute Resolution Program Act.

Contact: Eva Fisher, Administrative Coordinator, Office of the Los Angeles City Attorney, Dispute Resolution Program, (213) 485-8324, [eva.fisher@lacity.org](mailto:eva.fisher@lacity.org) (5 minutes)

9. Report by Jim McQuiston regarding the recent study: L.A. High-Rises Would Fall in Major Quake, possible letter (15 minutes)

Jim presented his report

The city is responsible for locating faults.

He showed a map of the Hollywood area of faults and the Santa Monica fault

-both declared active by the federal government

Jim said owners and agents must notify customers of seismic danger.

10. Presentation by Ira Handelman regarding 1800 Argyle Project, no action (15 minutes)

David Nix Co. one of the owners, his building abutting the 101 Freeway

John Goldman – land use council

Jon Bowman, Robert Greene, co-dev partners

Ira Handelman - Outreach

Here a little over a year ago, With the help of Robert Greene, decided a hotel an ideal product. mid-priced hotel serving tourists and business travelers

Ira said he's been talking about community outreach and he met with the Argyle Civic Assoc and others who have all written letters of support. He has also been dealing this with PLUM

Recent meeting, got a mailing list, Mr. Akavan mentioned that he didn't get it, 190 people were notified. Did hold meeting, listened to the people, just want you to know what our outreach did

Bring up quickly: NCA Green has done a lot w/the community, working with George Abraham, the Palladium, another NCA Green – how it's been restored came from a \$5 mil contribution from NCA Green

This was brought up regarding the developers need to give back to the community.

David Nix briefly gave a description of the project they were proposing, 16 stories, 218 guest rooms, 5400 square feet of meeting space, 3300 square feet of lobby and restaurant area. It's a limited service hotel.

Similar in size – 16 stories

Overview of land use approvals they're seeking in terms of zoning – this property is currently a C4 2D SN

C4 - General commercial zone (allows wide range of commercial including hotels – so we don't need to change zoning for this project)

Do have multi-home family housing to the east – so there will be a conditional use permit for the hotel,

Applying for change from C4 to TQ C4

Requires CUP for hotel because there is residential within 500 feet on east and south.

2D is height district – this regulates floor area ratio, 6 to 1 projected which the height district allows, D effectively limits the floor area ratio 2 to 1 – seeking to change this

19,000 ft squared by 6 = 117,000 feet squared

D limits FAR to 2:1

Seeking a height district change – remove the D designation

Adjustments: North – 0 ft, Yucca – 0 ft, Argyle – 0 ft, East – 7.5 ft set back

David Nix: Neighborhood issues: 1. operations of a hotel 2. parking

Rooms – 218 parking spaces – 98, with valet – 148

seeking approval of owner participation agreement

seeking yard adjustments, not a variance, 0 foot side ramps on Argyle and Yucca, and 7 ½ ft yard requirement would serve as a landscape buffer, also required to seek site plan review

all of these requested will be considered by the city planning commission

David Nix presented a rendering of proposed building. He said they're not currently seeking application form for approval of a sign and he wanted to address concerns: use of hotel and parking.

Given it's a limited service hotel and not a destination hotel, it won't have a destination restaurant.

In regard to parking, the code says that for 1<sup>st</sup> 30 guest rooms, 1 space per room, for the next 30, ½, the rest 1/3  
CRA negotiations: 1. \$500,000 donation for addition open space 2. \$100,000 to Hollywood Mobility Tourist Fund  
this earmarked for the exclusive benefit of the neighbors in the area and could provide subsidy to parking in adjacent lots  
so these are some things David Nix wanted to make sure the City is aware of.

Robert Greene pointed out that this building will be a concrete building, not a steel building – that it is a reinforced concrete building.

Maurece Chesse inquired that with the limited amt of parking if there would be a shuttle system?

Public comment:

George Abrahams spoke in favor of the project and said that it's not the job of a neighborhood group to be against development. Does the project cause harm? Does it produce benefits? He said a hotel like this is a very low impact type of enterprise and that the site is ideally suited in terms of neighborhood – that it's right next to the freeway and a block away from public transportation. Since a similar project is already approved, this hotel will keep the area alive. Right now, he said the homeless rule the area. He also said the restaurant and meeting space will also be a benefit to the community.

Patty Negri, president of the Hollywood Dell voiced being in favor of the project. Negri said that the developers had they've listened to the association the whole way along and that they think it will be a benefit to the neighborhood.

George Skarpeleos (spelling?): said the developer has been so helpful with the Hollywood Dell and that they have participated with the community and listened to the community.

James Kennish (spelling?) of the Argyle Civic Association said that the association has found the developers very cooperative, responsive and very anxious to hear their concerns. He said the association supports the project and urged the support of the board.

Annette Ehrlich, Argyle Civic Association said that the association voted in favor of this project.

Sharon Romano who has lived in the dell for 19 years believes the project will help our economy and said she appreciates the extent of the community outreach.

Fran Reichenbach who has worked with the Hollywood Gower Association said she looked forward to this project as a bright change and that she was excited about the mobility fund.

Oscar Arslanian, who is on the board of the Hollywood Arts Council and is the publisher of Discover Hollywood Magazine, is totally in support of project. He said what's missing in Hollywood is hotels. He said 10 years ago hotels wouldn't come to Hollywood – that there are 20 million people who visit Hollywood annually and there are only roughly 3,000 hotels, which means people don't stay in Hollywood and that's a lot of money the city is not getting. He said the Arts Council supports this project.

11. Resolution and possible action on letter to CD4 and separate letter to Immaculate Heart High School Board and President requesting that they honor the intent of the in-progress HPOZ by preventing the demolition of the home at 1912 St Andrews. Letter also asks IHHS and CD4 to dialogue with neighbors and HUNC to find other solutions to parking & other growth issues (20 minutes)

Scott Larson said this is one of the 139 homes that the NC has supported for a historic district. This historic district is set to go live in nine months.

The issue at hand is that the neighborhood just wants to get a letter written by the NC stating not to tear down this house until they tell us what they want to do with it.

There are a lot of options in this neighborhood for parking, for this home and many solutions which have not been vetted. What's being requested is a letter going to Immaculate House asking to not tear down the house until CD4 and Immaculate Heart can tell the community what they plan to do with the property and to respect the historic overlay zone. All of St. Andrews place is zoned R1. 1906 Andrews Place was demolished without a permit.

Robert Scarge (spelling?) from 1969 Taft Avenue. He lives in a Georgian Colonial built in 1919. Hollywood Grove HPOZ – has 139 homes in a proposed plan. He's asking that demolition plans be stopped and that IHHS talk to the neighborhood about plans.

Fran Reichenbach has worked with the Eastwood Coalition in this. They could sell this house. They can't demolish a house and change the zoning to another designation. HUNC should impress upon the CD4 office that there should be a moratorium on demolition.

Carla De Govia (spelling?) agrees with everything that has been said.

Richard Mac Naughton

Kent Beyda lives on Wilton – worried about precedence, more such projects N. of Franklin and this really concerns him. Susan Swan asked to clarify if they had requested a meeting with Immaculate Heart and if they had responded.

Scott said that the issue here is that Immaculate Heart is saying that this house is a safety hazard but the report says it has normal wear and tear of a 90 year-old house and that it's not a hazard.

Jim McQuiston said that according to the 5<sup>th</sup> amendment, a person has the right to do what they want to do with their house – that it's their property and how can you tell them what to do with it – unless it affects public safety.

Adam Kear said they have been circulating a petition and they have 35 signatures expressing opposition to the demolition of the house and in response to Jim's comments, they still have to go through a conditional use permit if they want to have parking and do what they want. He said that the point is to protect the residential character of our communities – what we're asking for is to work with the community, to explore options to meet what their needs are. He spoke with Julie McCormick.

David Schlesinger said that the board can modify the draft letter to CD4 – Tom LaBonge.

Motion: Scott Larson Second: Robert Abrahamian Vote: Yes—12 No—0 Abs—1

12. Update on DWP MOU, re-appointment of Representative (10 minutes)  
Possibly Rodney Hargrove?

13. Update on Neighborhood Council File proposal. City Council voted to reconfirm previous action from January of 2008 that requires NC's Board members filling out a Form 700 to take part. New version called a Form 54, but it's nearly as detailed (list of properties, stocks and businesses, as well as loans and other financial information). Possible motion. (5 minutes)

14. Update by Director of Animal Welfare Representative Rachel Paap (10 minutes)  
She proposed a pet fair.

15. Executive Committee Reports including but not limited to (10 minutes):

A. President

1. Workshop topics and proposed dates, perhaps March board meeting to be mostly Workshop

Half the Board is termed out in 2011

Susan: removing

Entire executive committee is going to be gone

Move into 2010 – who is going to be leading?

David Schlesinger said that exceptions can be made.

Jim McQuiston said it's a non-issue – that the ordinance says you can only serve for nine years and asked if the board wanted to have a provision in the bylaws about what to do if you lose so many members that you can't get a quorum

2. Attendance requirements to maintain board member status, responsibilities and obligations of board members

B. Vice-President

1. Update on NBC/Universal Project Working Group

C. Treasurer

1. Budget update

2. Budget representatives

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

A. Update on 2009 Outreach campaign and Newsletter. Proposal for approval of budget for newsletter. (20 minutes)

The meeting adjourned before there was appropriate time allocated to this agenda item however Bree Long did quickly go over the proposed budget for both the HUNC newsletter and entire outreach plan, which included not only the newsletter but a revamped Website and e-mail campaign. Further discussion about both the outreach campaign and newsletter will be agendaized for the HUNC main board meeting in March.

B. PS&T (25 minutes)

1. Update, if any, regarding timetable for removal of No-Parking signs on Bronson north of Foothill
2. Update on 2009 LAHSA Homeless Count
3. Proposal to hold committee meetings outside of HUNC boundaries (in short term as joint meetings with other Hollywood Coalition of NCs committees and possibly by selves in long term) at government facilities that are within one-half mile of HUNC boundaries and one mile of Neighborhood City Hall.
4. Surveying public streets for tree planting, sidewalk, street paving opportunities.
5. Proposal to adopt East Hollywood Neighborhood Council form to discourage flyers.

C. Renters (5 minutes)

1. Request for funds, up to \$1500 for funding of proposed March Renter's Townhall (date, time, location TBD). The \$1500 will cover outreach and food for the event  
Don Paul asked about having a meeting at the Villa Carlotta – a regional town hall in April, outside this current location with a speaker, hand-outs and food.  
David Schlesinger asked about the purpose of the meeting.  
Ryan Haas and Don Paul said they were going to have renters come in and talk about the current parking issues and that someone from housing would address fair housing laws and that the DOT was going to come talk.

Motion: Ryan Haas Second: Don Paul Vote: Yes—11 No—0 Abs—0

D. Bylaws (35 minutes)

1. Bylaws changes to facilitate Spring 2010 election

HUNC will hold its next election in the Spring of 2010. it will be run by the City Clerk.

A. HUNC has approved staggered 4-year terms, with the below seats having 2-year terms (highest vote-getter within specified categories to have 4-year term, lowest vote getter within specified categories to have 2-year terms.

Categories are:

Geographical Areas: 5 Board seats, one for each of the five Areas. (proposed 3 to have 2-year terms, 2 to have 4-year terms)

Business Areas: 3 Board seats for each of 3 Areas as defined below. (proposed 2 to have 2-year terms, 1 to have 4-year term)

Renters Seats: 2 Board seats. (proposed 1 to have 2-year terms, 1 to have 4-year term)

Homeowners Seats: 2 Board Seats. (proposed 2 to have 2-year terms, 1 to have 4-year term)

Unclassified Stakeholder Status: 2 Board seats. (proposed 1 to have 2-year terms, 1 to have 4-year term)

Educational Organizations: 1 Board seat. (proposed 4-year term)

Non-Profit Stakeholders: 1 Board seat. (proposed 4-year term)

Faith-Based Organizations: 1 Board seat. (proposed 4-year term)

Related documents from DONE:

[Transition Correspondence](#)

[Addendum Transition Correspondence](#)

[Election Transition Bylaws Language Amendments](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions regarding City-Clerk-run elections](#)

B. From Current Bylaws: Section D. Election Day

- An election day will be held between September 1 and December 31 once each calendar year.

>Bring into compliance with City-Clerk-Run Election specifications

C. From Current Bylaws: Section D. Terms of Office

- Members of the Board of Directors shall serve a term of two years (Except for the initial election).

>Bring into compliance with City-Clerk-Run Election specifications and HUNC vote for staggered 4-year terms, as outlined in 15 E1A above

- No Board member may serve more than 8 consecutive years.

>Remove

D. From Current Bylaws: Article VII Candidate Filing Procedure

Candidates may file for the Board of Director Elections following the procedures outlined in the DONE-approved HUNC Election Procedures.

E. From Current Bylaws: Article VIII Voting

- The Board of Directors shall be elected by ballots cast by registered stakeholders.
- Ballots shall be pre-printed and shall include all qualified candidates who were previously verified.
- The Election will be monitored by the Independent Election Administrator.
- No absentee votes, vote by proxy, or write-in votes are allowed.
- Stakeholders must be at least 16 years old on or before the Election Day in order to vote.

>Bring into compliance with City-Clerk-Run Election specifications

17. New Business/Announcements

18. Old Business

## 19. Submission of proposed Agenda items for March ADJOURNMENT

*Process for Reconsideration* The Board may reconsider and amend its action on items listed on the agenda if that reconsideration takes place before the end of the meeting at which it was considered or at the next regular meeting. The Board, on either of these two days, shall: (1) Make a Motion for Reconsideration and, if approved, (2) hear the matter and take an action. If the motion to reconsider an action is to be scheduled at the next meeting following the original action, then two items shall be placed on the agenda for that meeting: (1) A Motion for Reconsideration on the described matter and (2) a [Proposed] action should the motion to reconsider be approved. A Motion for Reconsideration can only be made by a Board member who has previously voted on the prevailing side of the original action taken. If a Motion for Reconsideration is not made on the date the action was taken, then a Board member on the prevailing side of the action must submit a memorandum to the Recording Secretary identifying the matter to be reconsidered and a brief description of the reason(s) for requesting reconsideration at the next regular meeting. The aforesaid shall all be in compliance with the Ralph M. Brown Act.