

OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT	George Skarpelos
VICE-PRESIDENT	Tom Meredith
TREASURER	Adam Miller
SECRETARY	Erin Penner

**BOARD MEMBERS:**

Andrew Chadsey	Brandi D'Amore
Coyote Shivers	Jeff Ramberg
Jim Van Dusen	Luis Saldivar
Margaret Marmolejo	Matt Wait
Sheila Irani	Susan Swan
Violet Williams	

HOLLYWOOD UNITED NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Certified Council #52,

P.O. Box 3272 Los Angeles, CA 90078

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Sign up to receive Agendas via links on our homepage**BOARD MEETING MINUTES****Monday, May 13, 2019, 6:30 PM****Fire Station 82 Annex****1800 N. BRONSON AVENUE, L.A., CA 90028
Second Floor Conference Room**

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Welcome**6:36 PM start****1. Roll Call****Attending**

Susan Swan	Tom Meredith	Sheila Irani	George Skarpelos	Jim Van Dusen	Luis Saldivar
Margaret Marmolejo	Erin Penner	Adam Miller	Violet Williams	Brandi D'Amore	Matt Wait
Andrew Chadsey	Michael Connolly				

Excused

Jeff Ramberg

Absent

Chona Galvez	Coyote Shivers	Danielle Paris
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2. Approval of Minutes***Sheila Irani pointed out an issue with the vote count on item 7D; somehow the vote didn't automatically populate.******Brandi D'Amore also noted that Gerry Hans' name is spelled with a G, not a J.******Erin Penner added that Brian White's name is spelled with an I, not with a y in his first name.******Adam Miller wanted to correct "Koreatowns" to "Koreatown".******Motion Made: Approval of Minutes as amended to correct spelling of Gerry Hans' and Brian White's names and the vote count issue of item 7D.*****Motion:** Adam Miller **Second:** Tom Meredith **Vote:** Yes-11, No-0, Abstain-3, Recused-0, Ineligible-0**Yes**

Adam Miller	Andrew Chadsey	Brandi D'Amore	Erin Penner	George Skarpelos	Jim Van Dusen
Margaret Marmolejo	Matt Wait	Susan Swan	Tom Meredith	Violet Williams	

Abstain

Luis Saldivar	Michael Connolly	Sheila Irani
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3 Seating of newly elected board members

Councilmember David Ryu discussed how he covered 11 neighborhood councils, and said that he makes every effort to come and personally swear in new neighborhood council board members. He said how much he appreciated them stepping up, and recognized how hard it is to be on a neighborhood council. He said he was still the only city councilmember who has been a member of a neighborhood council. He also thanked HUNC for being such a great partner, and thanked Shannon Prior for her assistance. He also said that HUNC and neighborhood councils like it were an important first line of contact for the public, noting that they probably reduced calls to his office by a great deal.

Councilmember Ryu then proceeded to swear in the entire HUNC board. He also presented a certificate for one of HUNC's outgoing board members.

He also announced that Shannon Prior is leaving his office; she has been in graduate school for public administration at USC, and is leaving to focus on her studies and graduate. George Skarpetos spoke for the community and neighborhood council in saying that Ms. Prior had been an integral part of Councilmember Ryu's team and will be missed.

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

Commissioner Debbie Wehbe introduced herself as HUNC's commissioner for the central area on the BONC council. She explained the boundaries of her area, and thanked the HUNC board for their award. She also explained that all policy issues go through the commission that she serves. There's also a subcommittee of commissioners that votes on awards given to neighborhood councils, and HUNC had been submitted for an award along with 6 other neighborhood councils. She was proud that HUNC had received an award for their work in alleviating homelessness. She added that their emergency preparedness day had also been very well-received.

George Skarpetos added that it was a decision of their entire board, having chosen to have a greater presence in City Hall and a greater focus on homelessness outreach. He was proud that HUNC had been recognized for those efforts. Debby presented an award of recognition for HUNC's efforts to Sheila Irani.

Following the swearing in of the HUNC board, Stakeholder Raymond Yu spoke to remind those present that the LA Triathlon will be occurring on June 2nd, and outlined the route of the Triathlon. Then the Carnival parade will be on June 29th from 10 AM until 3 PM and Mr. Yu outlined the route of that parade. It will run through HUNC's neighborhood. Also, Ciclavia will be on June 30th, traveling through HUNC's jurisdiction. Finally, the 2020 LA Triathlon will run through HUNC's jurisdiction on Sunday, June 7th, 2020.

Stakeholder Sylvie introduced herself as a current tenant of Villa Carlotta and thanked the board for how instrumental they were in getting her back in her home. She emphasized that the NC had been incredible on renters' issues, and she has seen the change they effected and appreciates it, even if she is not present at HUNC meetings. She thanked the board, and emphasized that her silence or absence was not tacit agreement.

Stakeholder Tracy Cooke introduced herself and said she was here on behalf of Bancroft Middle School as an LAUSD parent. She said that Selma has been around since 1905, and has a long history. They have an event on Saturday, and she hoped that HUNC could distribute a flyer for the event, which includes STEM and coding workshops. Also, Bancroft is having an event on Wednesday in Plummer Park, and she would like HUNC to also distribute a flyer for that.

5. Comments from any City, County, State or Federal representatives in attendance (5 minutes each)

Field Deputy Sean Starkey, with CD13 Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell's office, introduced himself and said that a Rent Control workshop would be happening on the 15th. A DWP project was now being moved to overnights in the fall after the councilmember's office advocated for it. This coming Saturday in Santa Monica, the councilmember will be doing his monthly Councilmember In Your Corners event. He added that his office had spearheaded an initiative focusing on the preservation of historic LA buildings.

Stakeholder Lee Thompson asked where and when the renters' workshop would be, and Sean reiterated that it would be on Wednesday, May 15th at 6:30.

Tom Meredith applauded the preservation of historical buildings, and asked what the selection process was for the initiative. Sean explained that anyone can nominate a building as a historical building to be preserved.

Deputy City Attorney Ethan Weaver introduced himself and explained that as warm weather comes in, more party houses will crop up, which is an issue for HUNC. He explained that back in January, CD4, he, and the LAPD got together to ask what they could do about the situation, and they asked for funding for a designated LAPD car to do enforcement on the weekends related to party houses. Last week, they got great news that the overtime funding was included in the Mayor's new budget. It goes to securing special events and dealing with anything that could add more person-hours to the LAPD's work. They were hoping to get a specific line-item dedicated to Hollywood Division enforcement funding. All sorts of things can come up, and his concern is that if it's all pushed into one bucket, they could get halfway through the year and the money would be tapped out due to other overtime assignments.

Ethan emphasized that this is an issue where the community's voice could be very helpful. They just found out about it today, so he wanted to put it on the board's radar now.

Sheila Irani asked if they could work with Captain Palka to discuss if they could commit to the enforcement car after they have the budget. Ethan said that they could do that, and would rather to have the money set aside first.

He added that July 1st, the new home-sharing ordinance will take effect, adding that most of the party-houses were Air BnB's. Currently the city has contracted with a company that scours the internet to see where rentals are popping up. From his understanding, Building and Safety and HCID are slowly coming around to their enforcement components. In order to post online, owners will need to get a permit from Building and Safety, with the permit visible to the public. The third-party company will be checking that there is a valid permit number; if they don't have one, they will be kicked off the website. For a third citation regarding noise, properties will receive a warning; for a fourth citation, they will be banned from posting for 30 days.

Stakeholder Kristina said that she has an Air BnB party house nearby, and they have called the non-emergency number for the LAPD, and the officers have not knocked on the door or shut them down. She asked if there would be more enforcement or additional cars. Ethan explained that it would be involving more cars and officers, and that they were working with Senior Lead Officers to train them in the ordinance's enforcement. The way the overtime budget would work is two nights a week, they'd have an overtime shift of two officers, with LAPD getting to choose who gets them. They will be selecting officers who have already broken up party houses, and people who are enforcing will be trained and tasked only with party enforcement. He added that a Whitney Terrace party house that had been shut down led to felony arrests.

6. HUNC Committee & Liaison announcements on items not on the Agenda

Brandi D'Amore announced that she had went to the Hollywood Dell meeting about a homeless person whose pit bulls had been causing problems. There was a misunderstanding that police file bite reports at incidents; they need to file bite reports with LA County Animal Care. They may not be able to file reports when it happens, and they will need to be at the subsequent hearing for anything to be done about bite reports.

- A) Short presentation by the Marine Mammal Care Center, a non-profit which houses and rehabilitates pinnipeds.
<https://marinemammalcarecenterlosangeles.com>

Jeff Cozad introduced himself as the director of a non-profit sea lion hospital based in San Pedro that treats seals and sea lions that are rescued anywhere in Los Angeles County. He is not here to ask for money, and passed out certificates of support to the board members.

Their non-profit is only in its third year, and are meeting with Supervisor Sheila Kuehl's office to try to get funding in their budget. They are going from Neighborhood Council to Neighborhood Council to introduce themselves. They are interested in increasing their visibility city-wide and getting more knowledgeable about city politics.

He explained some of the injuries and health conditions that marine animals come in to them with, including strangulation from litter and firearm wounds. He explained that their care takes 6-12 weeks for most animals.

He added that they are open every day, with free parking, right in Angel's Gate Park. They have a Seal Day on June 22nd for the public to learn more about marine animal care. Also, they have a Wish List Wagon that will come pick up donation items from businesses, and kids can get community service hours by volunteering with them. He elaborated that they are the only marine animal hospital in the county, and are a fantastic opportunity to see animals up close.

7. PLUM Committee

- A) Report by Committee Chair

Jim Van Dusen said that on May 28th there would be a presentation addressing the Hollywood Community Plan, addressing tenants' issues and RSO issues, involving a joint meeting between PLUM and the Renters and Housing Issues Committee.

- B) Discussion and possible motion to support both the March 13, 2019 letter of opposition to Senate Bill No. 50 (SB 50) by Councilmember David Ryu and the April 16, 2019 Los Angeles City Council's unanimously approved opposition to SB 50.

Jim Van Dusen explained that the SB 50 bill would wipe out all zoning regulations as far as building multifamily homes on all lots. Right now they are looking at exceptions for high-fire areas and coastal areas. It's too comprehensive, and Councilmember Ryu's letter of opposition did a great job of explaining the issues with SB50. Mr. Van Dusen added that there is opposition across the board for the bill, and the PLUM committee voted unanimously to oppose the bill.

George Skarpetos asked if anyone had comments, and added that he was personally opposed to SB 50 because blanket one-size-fits-all changes like SB 50 don't let individual communities modify the zoning laws to address specific, local issues.

Sheila Irani said that she did not think she knew SB 50 enough to vote on it. She said that localities are having a tough time trying

to get housing built, and her understanding was that the upside was the bill was trying to break through housing issues and allow localities to build affordable housing.

Brandi D'Amore clarified that they would be supporting the LA City Council's rejection, and added that it would also in its current form remove any zoning laws governing affordable housing. It would completely remove the city's planning process. She added that most public transportation hubs were located in areas where people who use it live. The law will be nitpicked for various things, and their opposition will force the LA City Council to go through and look at different things.

Matt Wait said that as a clarification, LA Times came out with a new article on SB 50 today, saying that under the legislation developers would not be able to demolish properties and put up a fourplex without local government approval, so it does not completely remove the local governments from the zoning process. He does not know how to feel about SB 50, and disagrees with the resolution where it states that LA is doing enough regarding affordable housing. He said it may take a drastic state bill to resolve the current housing crisis.

Susan Swan commented that there was a part in the letter that mentioned the Ellis act, and changes to loopholes in that would be more prudent at the current time.

Stakeholder John Billingsley said that two-thirds of the land in California was being developed for single-family property, and the reality of climate change means that it calls for something more robust than something that can be done on the local level. He would rather err on the side of something more dramatic.

Stakeholder Lee Thompson said he was in favor of the resolution opposing SB 50; he said there was good stuff in SB 50, but the one-size-fits-all approach does not work. It would make more sense to have targeted areas that can set up their own rules.

Commissioner Debbie Wehbe said that she had served for ten years on a state commission as a legislated representative, and had the obligation of reading legislation on a regular basis. She found in situations like that, referring directly to the legislation was always a safer route when criticizing it. She has been reading it during the meeting with no previous information, and some of the things she's heard are, while well-intentioned, not included in the actual legislation. She thinks it is in the best interest of the board to have a committee or individual to read the legislation and come back and report, then base what they do on that.

Jim Van Dusen said that the PLUM committee had read it, but it was still being revised. He clarified that the city council was essentially saying that the local communities should have the chance to fix elements of the zoning laws, not outright rejecting all of SB 50. He thought that it would radically increase the cost of houses by enabling development at inflated rates without the requirement for affordable housing, and with no control from neighborhood councils.

Adam Miller asked if they should table the motion until they can read SB 50, and George Skarcelos clarified that the motion was to support the letter. Luis Saldivar said that the issue reminded him of the previous TOC issue, and that the city council has been pushing to build around the Metro, saying that it would drive people to the metro, and it has not happened.

Motion Made: Motion to support both the March 13, 2019 letter of opposition to Senate Bill No. 50 (SB 50) by Councilmember David Ryu and the April 16, 2019 Los Angeles City Council's unanimously approved opposition to SB 50. (motion covers approval to both cases of opposition.)

Motion: Jim Van Dusen **Second:** Brandi D'Amore **Vote:** Yes-10, No-0, Abstain-3, Recused-0, Ineligible-1

Yes

Andrew Chadsey	Brandi D'Amore	Erin Penner	George Skarcelos	Jim Van Dusen	Luis Saldivar
Margaret Marmolejo	Michael Connolly	Susan Swan	Tom Meredith		

Absain

Adam Miller	Matt Wait	Sheila Irani
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Ineligible

Violet Williams

8. Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness Committee

A) Report by Committee Chair

Erin Penner summarized the last meeting, where they discussed the upcoming CERT class. They talked about holding ham radio classes. They had also met with city council members and the LAPD about the previous board meeting's issue regarding unhoused individuals around the Hollywood Presbyterian preschool, and having SLO's get an officer to patrol the area.

9. Outreach Committee

A) Report by Committee Chair

George Skarcelos said that they had not met, but emphasized the upcoming Hollywood Dell public barbecue, where HUNC would

have a presence and Mr. Skarpelos would be playing in a band providing music for the event.

10. Non Profit, Arts & Education Committee

A) Report by Committee Chair

Margaret Marmolejo said that they had started the CERT class, with about 35-36 people signed up. Mitch McKnight will be speaking at the class, and June 12 would be the last class where participants will get backpacks and certificates.

She added that they have an NPG for a proposal on the agenda to support a group that is interested in getting new young people into film/video/screenwriting careers.

B) Discussion and possible motion to approve up to \$500 for the Justice for My Sister/Community Partners TV Pitching Training.

Representative Julissa introduced herself, and explained that the Justice for My Sister program was a non-profit dedicated to supporting under-represented communities targeting people from 15-30 year old, including minority and LGBTQ+ communities. Their goal is to support those communities in getting into film/TV production and screenwriting careers. The NPG is to support a TV pitch training program, to help them get film and TV projects made. They would like to do it in Hollywood, and had secured a space in the West Hollywood LGBTQ center. They are hoping to do it on Friday, June 28th, and to have 30 underserved writers present. They would like to have a script doctor come out and help writers perfect pitches.

Brandi D'Amore asked if they had established where they were going to do it, and that last time they weren't sure if they would have their neighborhood be able to participate. Julissa said that they will flyer at film festivals and would hope to engage stakeholders who live in Hollywood, since it is now being held in the nearby West Hollywood area.

Adam Miller asked if it was the LGBTQ center on Selma, and Julissa confirmed that it was. Adam Miller said that it was very close to their borders.

Tom Meredith asked if participants had to be LGBTQ, and Julissa said that they did not have to be. He also asked what specifically the \$500 would go against for the items listed on the NPG. She clarified that it would go to the speaker and program facilitator. Tom Meredith said that as a steward of public funds, HUNC pays for items, and does not pay for facilitation or services. He personally would resist that, but would be more than happy to pay for certificates and video production.

Brandi D'Amore asked if there was a cover charge, and there was not.

Andrew Chadsey asked if this was their whole budget, and Julissa said it was, and that they were asking for money from other neighborhood councils. Andrew Chadsey asked what they would do if they got money from multiple councils. Julissa said that she does not know. Susan Swan asked if the Boyle Heights ask would be only going to the East LA program, and she said it was.

Brandi D'Amore asked if they would be using their logo on program materials, and Julissa said they would.

Sheila Irani asked if it was illegal to use neighborhood council money for labor, and Mr. Meredith said that he was not aware if it was legal or illegal, but that it has been their practice and the practice of other neighborhood councils not to use it for labor.

Erin Penner said that to Mr. Meredith's point, there are set prices for material items, and this was setting a price for a person's services. She asked what the \$100 for outreach would go to, and Julissa said it would go to flyers and promotion.

Michael Connolly asked who the leader of the program would be, and Julissa said it would be a GLAAD award winning filmmaker.

George Skarpelos said that he thought \$500 as a way to fund the program to a non-profit is not the kind of thing that they should tell to go back and rework.

Andrew Chadsey asked why the Boyle Heights request was on here, and Adam Miller said it was because they wanted to be transparent.

George Skarpelos said that the amended NPG they could vote on would probably need to take out the 12% sponsor fee of \$60. Ms. Irani clarified that the non-profit doesn't have any jurisdiction over that. Mr. Meredith said that he thought it would set a precedent of paying for services.

Motion Made: Motion to approve up to \$500 for the Justice for My Sister/Community Partners TV Pitching Training, amended for them to get the signature of Kimberly Bautista and to remove the ask from Boyle Heights.

Motion: Margaret Marmolejo **Second:** Brandi D'Amore **Vote:** Yes-12, No-1, Abstain-0, Recused-0, Ineligible-1

Yes

Adam Miller	Andrew Chadsey	Brandi D'Amore	Erin Penner	George Skarpelos	Jim Van Dusen
Luis Saldivar	Margaret Marmolejo	Matt Wait	Michael Connolly	Sheila Irani	Susan Swan

No

Tom Meredith

Ineligible

Violet Williams

11. Renters and Housing Issues Committee

A) Report by Committee Chair

Matt Wait said that the CIS's they discussed took up most of their time.

B) Discussion and possible motion for a CIS in support of Council File 19-0002-S57, Support for AB 36

The Hollywood United Neighborhood Council supports this resolution in support of California AB 36, which would amend the Costa-Hawkins act to allow rent control on residential buildings constructed more than 20 years ago. Rent stabilization in Hollywood ensures that low and fixed income tenants are able to remain in their homes despite increasing market pressures in the neighborhood. The current supply of affordable housing does not meet the neighborhood's needs and legislation such as this bill is needed to prevent further displacement and homelessness.

Matt Wait explained that they were writing in support of the council file which supports AB36, and read the language of the proposed CIS.

Adam Miller said that he thought AB 36 failed in committee, and Richard Bloom couldn't get the votes to push it on to the actual assembly, so the issue might be a non-starter. Susan Swan asked if it would help to take on a position regardless, and Adam Miller said it wouldn't hurt.

Jim Van Dusen asked for clarification: is it an all-or-nothing proposal, and what the bill was referring to. Matt Wait clarified that the bill was a partial repeal of the Costa-Hawkins act, giving power back to local communities and municipal and county governments to set rent control.

Brandi D'Amore emphasized that they need to be semantically clear that it was rent stabilization, not rent control.

Motion Made: Motion for a CIS in support of Council File 19-0002-S57, Support for AB 36

The Hollywood United Neighborhood Council supports this resolution in support of California AB 36, which would amend the Costa-Hawkins act to allow rent control on residential buildings constructed more than 20 years ago. Rent stabilization in Hollywood ensures that low and fixed income tenants are able to remain in their homes despite increasing market pressures in the neighborhood. The current supply of affordable housing does not meet the neighborhood's needs and legislation such as this bill is needed to prevent further displacement and homelessness.

Motion: Matt Wait **Second:** Luis Saldivar **Vote:** Yes-12, No-1, Abstain-0, Recused-0, Ineligible-1

Yes

Adam Miller	Andrew Chadsey	Brandi D'Amore	Erin Penner	George Skarpelos	Jim Van Dusen
Luis Saldivar	Margaret Marmolejo	Matt Wait	Michael Connolly	Susan Swan	Tom Meredith

No

Sheila Irani

Ineligible

Violet Williams

C) Discussion and possible motion for a CIS in support of Council File 19-0002-S58, Support for AB 1399

The Hollywood United Neighborhood council supports this resolution in favor of California AB 1399, which would provide a year to all tenants facing Ellis act evictions in addition to those who are elderly and disabled. Ellis Act evictions contribute to the loss of desperately-needed rent-controlled housing in the Hollywood area and most tenants are only given 120 days to relocate, compounding the stress of finding a new, affordable place to live in Los Angeles. This bill will strengthen tenant protections and will hopefully lesson the impact of displacement of those that the Ellis Act displaces

Matt Wait introduced the next council file, explaining that it was in favor of AB 1399 which would strengthen tenant protections. It basically expands on existing protections for certain renters, and does not completely repeal the Ellis Act.

Adam Miller said that as someone who knows a friend currently sleeping on a couch because she could not make market rate rent, the Ellis Act is only adding to the homelessness crisis.

Brandi D'Amore said that it was unanimously voted on in the renters committee.

Sheila Irani said that the bill might be one more barrier to improving their housing stock. She understands that they need to maintain their rent-stabilized stock, but passing this will make it more difficult and technically more expensive to build. George Skarcelos clarified that the Ellis Act involved taking buildings off the market, and was not about creating an opportunity to improve housing. Jim Van Dusen explained that almost all issues that came before PLUM were about booting people out to build, and that the act was not working the way it was intended.

Brandi D'Amore said that the Act was strictly technically a way to get tenants out to charge higher rents.

Motion Made: Motion for a CIS in support of Council File 19-0002-S58, Support for AB 1399

The Hollywood United Neighborhood council supports this resolution in favor of California AB 1399, which would provide a year to all tenants facing Ellis act evictions in addition to those who are elderly and disabled. Ellis Act evictions contribute to the loss of desperately-needed rent-controlled housing in the Hollywood area and most tenants are only given 120 days to relocate, compounding the stress of finding a new, affordable place to live in Los Angeles. This bill will strengthen tenant protections and will hopefully lesson the impact of displacement of those that the Ellis Act displaces

Motion: Margaret Marmolejo **Second:** Luis Saldivar **Vote:** Yes-12, No-0, Abstain-1, Recused-0, Ineligible-1

Yes

Adam Miller	Andrew Chadsey	Brandi D'Amore	Erin Penner	George Skarcelos	Jim Van Dusen
Luis Saldivar	Matt Wait	Michael Connolly	Sheila Irani	Susan Swan	Tom Meredith

Abstain

Margaret Marmolejo

Ineligible

Violet Williams

D) Discussion and possible motion for a CIS in support of Council File 18-0610, Right to Counsel

The Hollywood United Neighborhood council supports this resolution, which call for city staff to develop recommendations on developing and identifying funding for a right counsel for tenants facing eviction. HUNC further would like to specify that it believes that counsel guaranteed by the city should be ensured to be competent. The results of a study by Tenants Together titled "California Evictions are Fast and Frequent" found that from 2014-2016, 162,717 Unlawful Detainers were filed in LA County and that further, 90% of tenants facing eviction to not have representation from an attorney. Legal assistance is not accessible to many tenants due to costs and a lack of knowledge about the complex laws that govern rental in Los Angeles. A potential Right to Counsel would give strong protection to tenants, particularly those who are disadvantaged or are facing unlawful evictions.

Matt Wait explained the council file and HUNC's further specifications regarding the council file. To clarify, he added the motion does not create the right to counsel, but instructs the city to look into what that idea would look like in practice.

Andrew Chadsey asked if the landlords are showing up themselves, or if they are paying for lawyers every time for themselves. Brandi D'Amore said that they were not, based on what they have seen. Matt Wait said that landlords had access to legal counsel and most tenants did not, so this was an effort to level the playing field.

Tom Meredith asked if Mr. Wait knew who wrote the motion, and who "city staff" was referring to. Mr. Wait said that they were his words, and he could replace them with HCID. Jim Van Dusen asked who would pay for it, and Matt Wait clarified that the language in the motion would provide for looking into that.

Brandi D'Amore asked to add that the department for consumer affairs be added to HCID, and George Skarcelos clarified that as a CIS, they had to follow the language of the motion.

Brandi D'Amore added that the city had emailed NC's to say that whenever a CIS goes out, they would like the NC's to provide a community portal for the community to comment on it. George Skarcelos said that they could add it to the latest news, and that it is probably an executive committee issue.

Motion Made: Motion for a CIS in support of Council File 18-0610, Right to Counsel

The Hollywood United Neighborhood council supports this resolution, which call for city staff to develop recommendations on developing and identifying funding for a right to counsel for tenants facing eviction. HUNC further would like to specify that it believes that counsel guaranteed by the city should be ensured to be competent. The results of a study by Tenants Together titled

"California Evictions are Fast and Frequent" found that from 2014-2016, 162,717 Unlawful Detainers were filed in LA County and that further, 90% of tenants facing eviction do not have representation from an attorney. Legal assistance is not accessible to many tenants due to costs and a lack of knowledge about the complex laws that govern rental in Los Angeles. A potential Right to Counsel would give strong protection to tenants, particularly those who are disadvantaged or are facing unlawful evictions.

Motion: Matt Wait

Second: Luis Saldivar

Vote: Yes-11, No-0, Abstain-0, Recused-0, Ineligible-1

Yes

Adam Miller

Luis Saldivar

Ineligible

Violet Williams

Andrew Chadsey

Matt Wait

Brandi D'Amore

Michael Connolly

Erin Penner

Sheila Irani

George Skarpelos

Tom Meredith

Jim Van Dusen

12. Homelessness and Social Services Committee

A) Report by Committee Chair

Adam Miller said that there was no report, but requested they move item C to the front since their representative was here.

B) Discussion and possible motion to approve up to \$500 for toilet kits from Clean Waste Co. to be used in conjunction with The Showers of Hope, First Presbyterian Church and various services for the unhoused.

Andrew Chadsey presented an example of the toilet kit, which are normally for disasters or places where they don't have access to facilities. He believed homelessness qualified as a disaster, and outlined the contents of the toilet kit. It can be used multiple times, and can be thrown in the trash. They have a lot of people going to the bathroom on the street, so it could help with that issues. They would buy 200 kits for \$440, which is a discounted price thanks to Mr. Chadsey's negotiation. He planned to distribute it to public shower programs and Safe Parking programs.

Adam Miller added that a lot of community programs were looking forward to the item's approval.

Andrew Chadsey added that this is an obvious help to issues of waste and cleanliness.

Motion: Andrew Chadsey

Second: Adam Miller

Vote: Yes-13, No-0, Abstain-0, Recused-0, Ineligible-1

Yes

Adam Miller

Luis Saldivar

Tom Meredith

Ineligible

Violet Williams

Andrew Chadsey

Margaret Marmolejo

Brandi D'Amore

Matt Wait

Erin Penner

Michael Connolly

George Skarpelos

Sheila Irani

Jim Van Dusen

Susan Swan

C) Discussion and possible motion to approve up to \$1000 for patio set and equipment for Triangle Square/LGBT Center

Adam Miller explained that Erin Penner was the one who put it up. The representative for the Triangle Square/LGBT Center introduced herself as Keira Pollack, director of services at the center. They operate the Triangle Square apartments which provide 400 units of affordable housing for seniors (they do not have to be LGBT). She added that LGBT seniors experience a higher rate of poverty, homelessness, and isolation than other senior populations. They had created a community garden in conjunction with Erin Penner and were asking for HUNC's help in purchasing patio furniture for the space. They will not have it in their budget to do it this year without HUNC.

Erin Penner added that the space was amazing and that Keira does a fantastic job of running it.

Margaret Marmolejo asked if they were a private company, and Keira Pollack said that they were a non-profit, and outlined some of the medical and social services they provide for seniors. Adam Miller added that they do a fantastic job helping with senior military veterans. Keira added that they have 700 LGBT veterans in their program.

Motion: Erin Penner

Second: Adam Miller

Vote: Yes-13, No-0, Abstain-0, Recused-0, Ineligible-1

Yes

Adam Miller

Luis Saldivar

Tom Meredith

Ineligible

Violet Williams

Andrew Chadsey

Margaret Marmolejo

Brandi D'Amore

Matt Wait

Erin Penner

Michael Connolly

George Skarpelos

Sheila Irani

Jim Van Dusen

Susan Swan

D) Discussion and possible motion to fund up to \$1000 for the sponsorship of the upcoming Hollywood PAL Soccer season

Adam Miller explained that they had supported this in the past, and that it was an effort to give sport opportunities to kids of

parents with less means. It promotes their logo and is a really good program.

Sheila Irani asked how they stand with their budget, and Adam Miller explained that they could cover it, and would go over it in the Finance agenda item.

Luis Saldivar asked if there was an NPG for it, and Adam Miller said that there was. George Skarpelos had not included it in the paperwork. Mr. Saldivar asked how much they spent last year, and Adam Miller confirmed that they spent \$1,000. He also asked if it would pay for people's services or physical stuff, and Adam Miller said that it would depend on the definition of people and stuff. He added that it would go to paying for jerseys and logos.

Motion: Adam Miller **Second:** Luis Saldivar **Vote:** Yes-13, No-0, Abstain-0, Recused-0, Ineligible-1

Yes

Adam Miller	Andrew Chadsey	Brandi D'Amore	Erin Penner	George Skarpelos	Jim Van Dusen
Luis Saldivar	Margaret Marmolejo	Matt Wait	Michael Connolly	Sheila Irani	Susan Swan
Tom Meredith					

Ineligible

Violet Williams

- E) Discuss a HUNC Letter of Support requesting Council District 4, Council District 13, and City Attorney look into the feasibility of crafting and ordinance to restrict encampments between the hours of 9 PM and 6 AM on sidewalks directly adjacent to schools and pre-schools

Adam Miller explained that he has written the letter of recommendation, but there were a lot of different entities that reached out telling him they wanted input on it. He requested that they send it back to committee for that reason.

Matt Wait said that he thought they had discussed the directly adjacent proposal at the last board meeting, and they hadn't had support for it. Mr. Miller said that he does have to respect that they do have people with strong feelings in the community, and had constructed the boilerplate letter to try to represent all viewpoints, and had tried to balance the language to avoid accusations of undue influence from stakeholders and entities in the community.

Jim Van Dusen asked if they had voted on it last time, and Adam Miller said that they had not and kicked it back to committee. He was reluctant to kick it back to the committee. George Skarpelos said that if it can't make it out of committee, it may be dead.

Sheila Irani said they should not kick it back to committee and vote on it, and George Skarpelos clarified that they did not have the letter for the agenda.

Michael Connolly asked if they were voting on it, because it was by far the major issue he had been contacted about. Mr. Miller clarified that taking it to committee would be helpful to modify the language to satisfy all stakeholders.

13. Transportation & Works Committee

- A) Report by Committee Chair

Adam Miller requested to move up item F since they had a representative present.

- B) Discuss City receptacle dumping cycle, how drop spots are selected and whether HUNC can assist with selecting locations

Adam Miller said that they would have discussed it when Shannon Prior was here, but she left quickly. Brandi D'Amore had raised the issue that the trash cans locally had not been emptied often enough. Mr. Miller said the motion would be to ask HUNC if it would be okay to ask Sanitation to have a say in their dumping cycle.

Luis Saldivar added that some of these trash can are emptied daily, not always by Sanitation, but sometimes by local stakeholders or businesses.

George Skarpelos thought they should make a motion regarding this issue for the next meeting. He said that the owners of The Good Greek on Ivar and Yucca asked if he could gain a receptacle in front of there, and said he would absolutely maintain and empty the receptacle. He added that if you put a trash can on the street, it's technically in the jurisdiction of a city entity.

- C) Update on St. Andrew Stairs and discussion of steps forward

Adam Miller explained that it seemed as if the stairs had been professionally repaired. Erin Penner explained that one way to move forward would be to adopt a median. But it would require an ad-hoc meeting to discuss that. Now they can get a trash can and the clean streets team could empty it for them.

D) Discuss DoT's traffic control measures on Ferndell and egress from The Oaks

Susan Swan explained that over the holidays, DOT closed down all right turn traffic and left turn traffic on Fern Dell. They do not know why DOT did it, and have not been able to get answers. Adam Miller explained that they had not heard back yet from DOT. They have also lost their current engineer contact in the DOT. Susan Swan explained that recently the DOT had also parked three vehicles in non-parking spots, which again narrowed the road to one lane. She added that technically they don't own the intersection and had no traffic direction on Western to handle the runoff. Adam Miller added that currently there is no filed plan.

E) Discuss methods to water empty tree wells to be planted with new trees on Franklin Avenue near the 101 Café and 76 Gas Station.

Erin Penner explained that they had met with Shannon Prior about project ideas, and she had written about this potential project idea. She added that the LA Beautification team can be hired to water potential trees to put in the location, and that her council office can possibly match funding. She also showed the council photos of the locations the trees would be put in.

Stakeholder Lee Thompson said that there were no empty tree wells along the 101, and that there were none in front of the 101 Café. There is a 4 by 6 chunk of dirt by the door. Adam Miller clarified that they consider that a tree well, and Mr. Thompson said that it might interfere with ingress and egress to the 101 Café. Sheila Irani suggested they have the business committee talk to the 101 Café's owners to see what they want.

Andrew Chadsey offered to reach out to the 101 Café to see if they want a tree there and whether they would water it.

F) Discussion and possible motion to support tree planting and irrigation as prescribed by CD4 and adjacent communities along Mulholland Hwy

Sheila Irani explained that Mulholland was a red zone, with no parking, and that tourists tend to still park in the red zone in a narrow, two-way street. They met with the local homeowner's association and Rec and Park to set up tree planting in the area along Mulholland that will block the Hollywood sign along the red area. It had to be done because a couple of signs were removed by Hollywoodland that said there was parking ahead. An appeal was filed by HHA and it was determined that they had to go through CEQA. Ms. Irani said the funding is in place, and they are just looking for a motion to support the project.

George Skarpetos asked how much money they'd be spending, and Ms. Irani said they were spending about \$75,000 and it would come from CD4 discretionary funding.

Jim Van Dusen asked if the trees would be on the sidewalk, and Ms. Irani said they'd put them in off the sidewalk. She added that there is a permanent fence being discussed that would potentially push tourists onto the street, so they are only supporting setback trees and a temporary fence to allow them to grow. Mr. Van Dusen added that people had been breaking through his fence and the trees to gain access to the sign or go to the bathroom.

Brandi D'Amore added that there was a fire hazard risk with the new trees, and Ms. Irani explained that there would be a drip irrigation system feeding the trees from a fire hydrant nearby.

Adam Miller asked if they were climate-appropriate plants, and Ms. Irani confirmed they were.

Stakeholder Kristina said that the entire area is a fire hazard, and regarding people climbing on the trees, they won't know if the better shot is down the street, so the trees will help push them there. She also wanted to say that cars are hopping the curb to park on these sub-vistas that are created, so they're looking at more erosion and blight. The signs for "no stopping" are comparatively tiny, so something needs to be done. The appeal is that the HHA is tired of putting Band-Aids on things, but their goal of completely eliminating tourism in the area simply won't happen, so the Band-Aids are important.

Stakeholder Susan wanted to reiterate the same things, and that their area is overrun with tourists, which makes it dangerous for everyone, especially if there is an emergency situation.

Adam Miller asked what are the movements made related to the Deronda gate, and said that he would hate for efforts to move people to another location and burden that location.

Andrew Chadsey asked if the location was the tiny road coming out of the park, and Sheila Irani explained the location of the potential tree planting, that it would only go to the beginning of the north vista.

Tom Meredith said that closing the Beachwood gate to Griffith Park which created the vista problem, and that the trees would push tourists down to blind curves.

Motion Made: Support tree planting and irrigation as prescribed by CD4 and adjacent communities along Mulholland Hwy

Motion: Sheila Irani**Second:** Adam Miller**Vote:** Yes-12, No-0, Abstain-0, Recused-0, Ineligible-1**Yes**

Adam Miller

Margaret Marmolejo

Ineligible

Violet Williams

Andrew Chadsey

Matt Wait

Erin Penner

Michael Connolly

George Skarpelos

Sheila Irani

Jim Van Dusen

Susan Swan

Luis Saldivar

Tom Meredith

14. Finance**A) Discussion of current fiscal year budget and possible motion for adjustment**

Adam Miller explained that they have a disparity in what they have awarded and what they have in fact spent. The portal itself does not show what you award vs what you spend, and he is in the process of auditing all of their receipts. The general idea is to request that he set up a special meeting early next week to present the spreadsheet of all of their receipts. When it comes down to it, they have approved more money than they have in their budget, but they have not paid out a bunch of it. He would like an opportunity for people who've put different approvals in front of their board, and to have names attached to items. He would like to give people another opportunity to come forward before the end of the fiscal year to put in paperwork so they can be paid. So he is trying to figure out disparities, and would like help in going through their receipts.

If they approve item C, there will be over \$11,000 that they still have to spend before July. That's why he would like to do a special board meeting. George Skarpelos said it require a very clear idea of what they would be doing, and Adam Miller assured the board he would put the agenda together.

Tom Meredith asked if the clerks were giving us a grace period to pay down items, and Adam Miller said that he hadn't heard anything about that, and that they are coming down hard this year. Adam Miller said that he above all wants to make sure that people's projects get funded. He wants to go through the receipts to find out who did not submit paperwork as a failsafe.

Luis Saldivar asked if they had gotten their roll-over from last year, and Adam Miller said that they had not. Sheila Irani said she would rather spend it than trust the roll-over. Tom Meredith clarified that their roll-over is in a special account they can access.

B) Update on pending Monthly Expense Reports

Adam Miller summarized that the MERs were mostly operational expenses, and that a lot of purchases were election-related.

1. Possible motion to approve March Monthly Expense Report**Motion:** Adam Miller**Second:** Sheila Irani**Vote:** Yes-13, No-0, Abstain-0, Recused-0, Ineligible-1**Yes**

Adam Miller

Luis Saldivar

Tom Meredith

Ineligible

Violet Williams

Andrew Chadsey

Margaret Marmolejo

Brandi D'Amore

Matt Wait

Erin Penner

Michael Connolly

George Skarpelos

Sheila Irani

Jim Van Dusen

Susan Swan

2. Possible motion to approve April Monthly Expense Report**Motion:** Adam Miller**Second:** George Skarpelos**Vote:** Yes-13, No-0, Abstain-0, Recused-0, Ineligible-1**Yes**

Adam Miller

Luis Saldivar

Tom Meredith

Ineligible

Violet Williams

Andrew Chadsey

Margaret Marmolejo

Brandi D'Amore

Matt Wait

Erin Penner

Michael Connolly

George Skarpelos

Sheila Irani

Jim Van Dusen

Susan Swan

C) Discussion and possible motion to approve up to \$600 for HUNC branded mugs/coffee cups

Adam Miller explained that they would be very nice glass mugs that would have their logo and name on them, and that they would be good outreach gifts to give to city officials. He could not remember how many mugs they would get for \$600. Erin Penner added that she wanted to encourage them to be greener with their meetings.

Motion Made: Motion to approve up to \$600 for HUNC branded mugs/coffee cups

Motion: Adam Miller**Second:** Erin Penner**Vote:** Yes-12, No-1, Abstain-0, Recused-0, Ineligible-1**Yes**

Adam Miller

Luis Saldivar

Andrew Chadsey

Margaret Marmolejo

Brandi D'Amore

Matt Wait

Erin Penner

Michael Connolly

George Skarpelos

Sheila Irani

Jim Van Dusen

Susan Swan

No

Tom Meredith

Ineligible

Violet Williams

- D) Provide overview of HUNC funding remaining and the distribution of funds for the current FY (2018/2019)

Tabled

- E) Discuss a rough budget for spending in the next FY (2019/2020)

Tabled

15. Executive Committee

- A) Report by the President

Motion Made: Report by Committee Chair

- B) Update on meeting with Warner Brothers regarding a project bring people up to the Hollywood sign

Jim Van Dusen explained that the senior manager of Warner Bros facilities was at the meeting, and that he lives in The Oaks and laid out their potential ideas for the Hollywood Sign, including a gondola, drones, and where they would like to put their visitor's center. HUNC representatives laid out issues related to their plans, including when they would be open and the park hours. They accepted that nights would most likely be off the table. They want to run it on the south side of Forest Lawn gate. They want it to go from that parking structure up to the Hollywood sign. They also stressed that they have no final plans. Erin Penner said she had taken pictures of the Warner Bros presentation and would email them to board members. Mr. Van Dusen said that some of the aspects of their plan would increase congestion in the area. Mr. Skarpelos added that they discussed issues of flora and fauna in the area, and commercialization of the park.

Stakeholder Christina explained that in the beginning they were talking about letting the gondola out on a platform, but concerns about smoking and wandering led to them discussing not to let people off of the gondola.

Brandi D'Amore said that their plan has made the Rec and Parks department look into it. Susan Swan said that an issue was that Warner Bros would be controlling access and it would price out lower-income residents. Sheila Irani added that the only way it could work is if they removed free parking in their area, since tourists would most likely not want to pay money to visit the sign if they can park for free in Hollywood and take pictures.

Susan Swan added that one potential option had been that the ticket would be part of the "Warner Bros Experience".

Adam Miller asked if there was some kind of apparatus for locals to see it, and George Skarpelos said they had raised that objection with Warner Bros.

Andrew Chadsey asked if the land was all Warner Bros', and they said they would be profit-sharing with the city. Brandi D'Amore added that at the Oaks meeting they had said they would be charging the city a reasonable fee to use it.

Jim Van Dusen said that it was their project, and that it was their favor to HUNC/stakeholders. George Skarpelos clarified that they had been in that spot for a hundred years and were not going anywhere. Jim Van Dusen said it was his impression that they had all the major decision-makers there.

- C) Discussion and possible motion regarding Business Area A Representative Chona Galvez due to non-compliance with Article V, Section 7 relative to absences (did not attend 5/18, 9/18, 12/18, 2/19 and 4/19 board meetings)

ARTICLE V: GOVERNING BOARD Section 7: Absences Any Board member who is absent for all voting items on three (3) regularly scheduled, consecutive Board meeting agendas or, alternatively, all voting items for five (5) total Board meetings during any twelve (12) month period, will be automatically recorded in the HUNC's meeting minutes as being a "Member Not in Good Standing." An item will be placed on the next Board agenda to address the matter. The Board will

then have the option to censure, by a majority vote, or remove, by a three-fourths vote, the member. If no action is taken, the member will be restored to regular standing. Members may be excused for an absence by the Board President if they provide notice more than twenty-four (24) hours in advance and they provide a compelling rationale. Excused absences will be counted toward the limit of five (5) missed meetings in one calendar year.

George Skarpelos said that the issue was moot since Chona Galvez has resigned, and went over the specific language of the by-laws. He had sent Ms. Galvez an email about it, copying other HUNC board members. She had not responded to it. He talked to the city attorney, who said that his reading of excused absences in the bylaws was valid .

Susan Swan also reiterated the language of the bylaws, and George Skarpelos said there was no board removal happening. He added that the board could censure, remove the board member or do nothing. Susan Swan said that the bylaws say they needed to have consulted with the city attorney first. George Skarpelos said he had emailed the city attorney weeks before and not heard back. He said he made many attempts to discuss it with the city.

George Skarpelos said that he had listened to Ms. Swan, talked to Lorenzo, and discussed with the city attorney. Brandi D'Amore asked why Chona was the only one highlighted, and Mr. Skarpelos said that she was the only one to miss 5 meetings in a 12-month period. He said that the city attorney felt that the part of the bylaws saying that excused absences would be included in the absences was poorly written.

Debbie Wehbe added that the issue is confusing for many neighborhood councils and that BONC is putting together an ad-hoc committee about it.

Brandi D'Amore said that her understanding was not that it was a guaranteed removal, but merely to have a discussion about the issue. She said that it cannot be denied that Ms. Galvez has not been at many board meetings and committee meetings, and that Galvez had been made aware that she was reaching the threshold before, and that they need a clear policy to let people know when they're close to reaching the threshold.

Jim Van Dusen echoed what Brandi said, saying that from a PR standpoint, it would be important to work with anyone having attendance issues to let them know beforehand to make sure they are aware and give them a chance to make the change. He thought it was bad PR to the other board members to phrase an agenda item that seems to indicate immediate upcoming dismissal.

Erin Penner said that they need a retreat about the subject, and her sympathy goes down the tubes when it's clear that a board member just isn't here. She said that Ms. Galvez knew that she wasn't attending.

Adam Miller said that it sounds like Mr. Skarpelos was trying to follow the letter of the bylaws, so they need to take a serious look at their bylaws.

Tom Meredith said that he agreed with Adam's statement, and that in the ambiguity of the current bylaws, he sees no problem in what Mr. Skarpelos did.

Luis Saldivar said that he does not remember when the last time was when he saw Ms. Galvez at a Renter's Committee meeting. He stopped religiously coming to council meetings because he saw how lax things were.

Erin Penner asked to give everyone their attendance records the next meeting.

Andrew Chadsey said there is a relationship here between showing up and working, and seeing that there's people who are doing a lot of heavy-lifting and some who aren't showing up, obviously there is a problem. He thinks it's good and that the topic has come up, but needs to apply equally.

Brandi D'Amore said that they have to worry about quorum, saying that people will now take advantage recognizing that they can't get rid of them in order to maintain quorum. She said they also need to address committee attendance.

George Skarpelos said that he did discuss with the city attorney what the bylaws say. They don't say it should be considered or possibly discussed, and it says it will be addressed at the next meeting. He had sent an email to Ms. Galvez saying she had not been removed. When he talked to the city attorney, they did say HUNC's policy is vague regarding excuses, but said that the excused absences should not be at the discretion of the president, and should be either for a death of the family or serious illness, and only one in a twelve-month period. Further, if you miss 5 meetings, you're close to missing half of the board meetings of the year. Mr. Skarpelos felt that he was doing exactly what the bylaws require us to do.

16. Board Member announcements on items not on the Agenda

George Skarpelos added that executive committee elections were upcoming.

17. Old/Ongoing Business

18. New/Future Business

Adjournment at 10:22 PM

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.