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Noelle North Norris Oliver Alvarez
Paul Barbosa Shane Kalminski

HOLLYWOOD UNITED NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
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BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, March 13, 2023, 6:30 PM
Webinar ID: 828 3698 1526
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82836981526>
Meeting Exhibits: <https://bit.ly/3Jt7itb>

Agenda item order: 1-10, 12, 11, 13, 14-21

Zoom Recording:

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/play/P9c267y6H8RMjEGO5CK7n8cB6B_teczjbtq6RQjbNAX3Di2Y2Y7ict7OsTKE4CR5_Jh8mbTs9UhGKYIF.OIhdCNGxn1ZUppqVT?continueMode=true&_x_zm_rtaid=mVh28xYLQCuTyJGi_wf3yA.1679879356801.6e1614147de35542d9edbd7ee80fcd7c&_x_zm_rtaid=175

Tony Zimbardi indicated not in attendance prior to meeting.
Margaret Marmolejo and Annika Guterma not present at time of roll.

QUORUM NOT MET. Robert Morrison announced after calling to order that meeting will be on discussion items and Public Official/Public Comments on Items Not on Agenda. There will be no discussion of any action/voting items.

Annika Guterma 6:41PM

Welcome

6:35 PM start

1. Roll Call

Attending

Tom Meredith Sheila Irani Brandi D'Amore Michael Connolly Robert Morrison Asher Landau
Chad Manuel Jack Zweig

Absent

Jim Van Dusen Margaret Marmolejo Tony Zimbardi Annika Guterma

2. Approval of Minutes

Unable to be heard; quorum not met. Minutes need to be heard next board.

3. Comments from any City, County, State or Federal representatives in attendance (4 minutes each)

- Anais Gonzalez, Hollywood Field Deputy for Council District (CD) 13 shared information about the LA Marathon taking place on March 19, 2023 and the road closures associated with it. Ms. Gonzalez had a meeting with LA Conservation Corps and let board members and stakeholders know to reach out to her with pictures and locations of any immediate trash pick up needs.

Ms. Gonzalez shared there is a new Homeless Team and she has been communicating with Brandi D'Amore regarding this and can share emails for these team members with the board. This team could be reached out to if there are issues with encampments in the CD13 area.

Brandi D'Amore asked Ms. Gonzalez when Hector (Vega, Homeless Field Deputy) returned from paternity leave. Ms. Gonzales said he would be coming back in April but there was not a specific date yet.

Michael Connolly asked if City officials were prepared to come back to in person meetings starting next month. Brandi D'Amore shared she had after previously advising multiple offices that HUNC would return to meeting in March, she subsequently had to advise everyone for this meeting that it was virtual and April was the expected return to in-person. Robert Morrison said this was a good reminder and that this would be the last regular board meeting taking place on zoom.

Annika Guterman joined the meeting at 6:41pm.

- David Dry, Field Deputy for Supervisor Kathryn Barger, and Natalie Vartanian introduced themselves. Ms. Vartanian introduced Mr. Dry, and explained he was onboarding this week and she was assisting him with the transition. Ms. Vartanian shared that their team moved to a new office in Toluca Lake and invited HUNC board members to attend on Friday, March 17, 2023 from 9-11am for their opening event. Ms. Vartanian shared that the Supervisor had launched a new texting program called "Keeping up with Kathryn", where one could receive text alerts to keep up-to-date on important policy topics, grants, and community resources.

There was a motion passed by Supervisor Mitchell asking a third party consultant to provide analysis on structural changes. There would be an advanced review of motions on the board, additional items could be legally added the Friday before Tuesday meetings now. This new process, gives the public more insight and they will also analyze potential changes to the structure of the board including expanding the board to more than 5 members. She also reminded everyone that the public health emergency order was terminated, effective March 31, 2023.

Ms. D'Amore indicated that she had emailed Ms. Vartanian so that Ms. Vartanian could send information on the Open House (as board did not receive) and included how to participate in meetings in the future.

- Zac Gaidzik, from Supervisor District (SD3, LA County Supervisor, Lindsey Horvath's office, introduced himself. Mr. Gaidzik was with LA County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl previously. He discussed the emergency declaration on homelessness. This action was taken so that the County could move into lock step with similar action by the City and will have a powerful effect in addressing homelessness in a more holistic manner. He discussed addressing encampments, mental health, and substance use, and being able to hire more people for all of these services. Mr. Gaidzik also shared that during their last meeting, they passed a motion to raise the progress pride flag at all Los Angeles facilities.

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Josef Siroky, Council District (CD4 Hollywood Field Deputy, shared his phone number: 213-573-3226 and email: josef.siroky@lacity.org. Mr. Siroky shared that board members and stakeholders can share 311 requests with him so he can assist with expediting them. Mr. Siroky shared that he can send requests to LA Conservation Corps for beautification issues in the neighborhood. This can include many issues like palm fronds and loose debris in the streets after storms in addition to other basic repairs or cosmetic issues. Mr. Siroky also shared that CD4 would be having a Compost Pail giveaway event in Beachwood Canyon on March 23, 2022.

- LAPD Senior Lead Officer (SLO) Mika Gonzalez, who covers the area south of Franklin, shared that in basic car six Adam 49, violent crime was down 25%. In six Adam 15, violent crime was down 45% compared to this time last year. As a whole, violent crime was down 26%. The replanting of the Franklin/Wilcox triangle began today and was expected to be completed this week. SLO Gonzalez said the Major Crimes Division was beginning to put on Active Shooter training. She suggested emailing SLO Mata if one is interested in setting up a training. SLO Gonzalez said there was an uptick in burglary and theft of motor vehicles and that volunteers would be distributing "lock it, hide it, keep it" fliers in the area to the community and to local delivery services, as they have been especially hit by these crimes.

Brandi D'Amore asked SLO Gonzalez if they needed more fliers and suggested that she reach out to Robert Morrison if they needed more.

4. Community Updates and Questions about Public Officials' Comment (up to 5 minutes)

Questions were asked during Item 3.

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

- Lionel Mares shared his phone number: 818-237-7543. Mr. Mares said he looked forward to working with the neighborhood council for many months to come and encouraged the board to keep fighting and not give up. Mr. Mares said he was keeping himself up to date on Council File 22-0560 and implored Councilmember Nithya Raman to not cave in on this issue.

- John Dotto asked about the left-hand turn signal on Western from Franklin. He said he was unsure of the right person to address this but the intersection backs up a lot. Robert Morrison asked if this was while traveling eastbound on Franklin. Mr. Dotto said yes.

- Janet Akpobome shared concerns about the building she lived in with exposure to mold. She has filed complaints with the Building Department, Health Department, and State Contractors board. The building has given 24 hour notice and then taken over apartments for 3-7 days. Ms. Akpobome said she had sent an email to CD13 Hollywood Field Deputy Anais Gonzalez.

Robert Morrison asked Ms. Akpobome to send him an email so he could follow up with her to help.

Anais Gonzalez said she was in contact with two tenants of the building and asked Ms. Akpobome to contact her with her case ID so she could find out who her inspector is. Janet explained that her issue was not knowing the rent control rules. Anais Gonzalez said she would assist Ms. Akpobome with getting an update. Robert Morrison suggested Ms. Akpobome email him so he could support with this.

- Kay Tornborg shared she was a big believer in the broken windows theory of policing. She shared that she is a busy body on the block

and tries to attend to issues as they arise. Ms. Tornborg shared a story about a mobile car washing service that was servicing a few cars on her street, parked on the wrong side of the street, and creating debris in the road. She also mentioned issues with a small dumpster. Ms. Tornborg thanked Brandi D'Amore because she solved these problems in under an hour and appreciated her assistance with this.

6. Conflict of Interest and Meeting Decorum Announcement

Robert Morrison said there was not a reason to discuss conflicts of interest tonight as there were no voting items being discussed. He reminded HUNC board members to raise their hand and wait for Mr. Morrison to call on them when asking questions or discussing any items.

7. Presentation from Los Angeles Unified School District Board Member Nick Melvoin (up to 5 minutes)

Nick Melvoin, Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) board member for District 4, shared some updates. Mr. Melvoin discussed giving out 100k grants to local schools for greening. He has also been focusing on wellbeing and wellness and said he is working on a project to get every 5th grader the opportunity to have an overnight immersive camp experience.

There has been a lot of progress to early education. Everyone in the district will be eligible for TK (Transitional Kindergarten). In terms of college readiness, they are working on getting students to complete the Free Education for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and necessary college prerequisites, overall increasing the number of students going to college.

Mr. Melvoin discussed streamlining the organization of the district, saving \$40 million a year in reorganization and that the district was decentralized into 44 communities of schools. Hollywood High School is leading in the arts and media. They have a new state of the art production studio that Mr. Melvoin invited HUNC to reach out to him to use for any media needs. Mr. Melvoin said Fairfax High School is currently undergoing a modernization project, Fairfax High School is over 100 years old and they were working with the community to complete plans. Mr. Melvoin also shared that their office is here to help cosponsor events.

A) Discussion and Questions from Board Members

Brandi D'Amore asked how Cheremoya Elementary is doing. She mentioned the mural project there had expanded, there was a large area of artificial turf on the parkway that gets too hot, and was wondering whether or not the school would stay open. Nick Melvoin responded that over the last 20 years, LAUSD has seen a decline in projected school attendance. Mr. Melvoin shared that there were fewer students who left LAUSD schools this year than last. He also shared that Cheremoya is a small gem of a school but is no longer in his district, so he was not too familiar with what was currently happening there.

He also indicated that he is no longer the Supervisor for this school; Supervisor Goldberg now handles this area.

Tom Meredith thanked Nick Melvoin for attending the meeting. He said in all of his time serving on the board, he had never seen a presentation by anyone from LAUSD. Nick Melvoin shared that they had a biweekly newsletter his office put out and a quarterly column in the local neighborhood newspapers. He said he would be happy to update what was happening with LAUSD schools at any time and mentioned that they were moving into creating affordable housing as well.

Robert Morrison reminded Mr. Melvoin that Neighborhood Councils would be moving to in-person meetings in April. Mr. Morrison mentioned a case a few months ago about fentanyl in the schools and asked if Mr. Melvoin could share more information about this. Nick Melvoin said there was a horrible overdose after school hours at Bernstein High School. Since then, they have invested in more psychological case managers and counseling and resources for students on how to make other choices. Additionally, Mr. Melvoin said every school is now stocked with Narcan and students and staff are trained on how to use it and can carry Narcan. They have already seen lives saved as a result of this and this was the biggest intervention made in the schools. Mr. Melvoin also mentioned providing fentanyl detection kits and said they were focused on students' safety and knowledge of the risks.

Brandi D'Amore mentioned "tranq" (xylazine) that she wanted to ensure the schools were aware of. Mr. Melvoin said he was aware of this and explained their approach was "just say know" as opposed to "just say no" to drugs.

8. "Safer from Wildfires" Presentation by Arminé Sargsyan of California Department of Insurance

This item was skipped because Arminé Sargsyan was not in attendance.

A) Discussion and Questions from Board Members

n/a

9. Report from Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate (NEA) Marilú Guevara (up to 5 minutes)

Marilú Guevara said DONE has been lending support to Neighborhood Councils with the transition back to in-person meetings. She

said HUNC was one of the first NCs she worked with to get done with securing an in-person location.

Michael Connolly asked if local offices were aware Neighborhood Councils would be going back to in person meetings. Ms. Guevara said they had a meeting with the Mayor's office and have shared communication with other city departments regarding this.

Marilú Guevara said the Community Impact Statement (CIS) portal is being updated, they will be completing a beta test in the next few weeks. Ms. Guevara said she would send out information about this and workshops scheduled reviewing these updates. At this point, there would be opportunities for feedback and to actually enact change before the changes to the CIS portal go fully in effect.

Marilú Guevara also shared that there were changes in the department. Raquel Beltran had resigned and left the department late last week. The interim manager taking her place would be Vanessa Serrano, who will now oversee Ms. Guevara's councils. Nothing would change in regard to Ms. Guevara's support.

Marilú Guevara shared that HUNC's election was not triggered because there were not enough candidates and too many seats on the board that would remain empty. Because of this, come July, there would be no quorum. Ms. Guevara said she would make sure to provide this information to the board members in writing. Ms. Guevara said DONE was working on taking the lead with the Neighborhood Council to do candidate recruitment. Ms. Guevara said she and other supporters would be doing outreach to find stakeholders to be appointed to HUNC board seats. Ms. Guevara had an appointment last week with the Hollywood Del Civic Association and two upcoming presentations with Beachwood Association and Argyle Civic Association. Ms. Guevara also offered to provide materials to board members interested in assisting with recruitment of new board members. All terms would begin in July.

Ms. Guevara would look into if they can make appointments before July with the understanding that individuals would have to be reappointed in July to continue serving on the board.

Brandi D'Amore asked if DONE was recruiting only for seats that were up for election or all empty seats. Ms. D'Amore also asked if more than one candidate applied, how would DONE make the appointment. Ms. Guevara said they would be recruiting for seats that were vacant. Ms. Guevara also asked board members who were currently in seats that were up for election, if they had not filed their candidacy but would like to, they could contact her directly.

Robert Morrison asked if he could receive the candidate information of those who registered as well. Marilú Guevara replied that DONE would take the lead in contacting the candidates. Mr. Morrison invited Ms. Guevara to the outreach meeting to review how Outreach could assist.

Tom Meredith asked if an individual did not file for candidacy, would they have a full 4 year term or would they be re-elected at the next election period. Ms. Guevara replied that this depends on the seat and when it is typically up for election. Because HUNC had a clause regarding appointment, Ms. Guevara would have to check with the city attorney's office. Everyone who was appointed could potentially need to run again because of the stipulation in HUNC bylaws.

10. Hollywood Sign Report Updates

Item 10 in its entirety not heard due to lack of quorum.

Board moved to item 12.

A) Report by Sheila Irani on response to report

B) Discussion and possible motion to add appendix to report including written communications received from stakeholders by Hollywood United Neighborhood Council by March 12, 2023 (Compiled Communications in Exhibits Link in Agenda Header)

11. President's Report

Board moved to Item 11 after Item 12.

A) Schedule and priorities through end of fiscal year

Robert Morrison asked the HUNC board about everyone's availability in April and through the rest of the year.

Tom Meredith and Michael Connolly both said they would be unavailable on April 10.

Sheila Irani said she would not be available in June. Asher Landau said he had no upcoming conflicts.

Asher Landau also reminded the board that Neighborhood Purposes Grants (NPGs) would need to be submitted and the money granted would need to be spent by the end of June 2023.

Robert Morrison asked committees to give up time to be able to schedule a full board meeting and also said it looked like HUNC would be rescheduling April's meeting in order to get the NPGs done.

Mr. Morrison asked HUNC board members to mark May 8th on their calendars for the May meeting and to look out for scheduling emails regarding the April meeting, to ensure the NPGs can be processed in time.

Brandi D'Amore added that there was also a need to ensure committees could attend their in-person meetings against current scheduling and adapt accordingly.

B) Elections Update and Discussion of Candidate Engagement and Elections Budget Reallocation

Item was skipped.

Board moved to Item 13.

12. Youth Representative Update

Board moved to item 12 from 10 (to accommodate the request of the Youth Rep to exit the meeting early).

Jack Zweig shared that he had restocked the two dog waste bag dispensers at Lake Hollywood Park.

Mr. Zweig also shared that he would not be renewing his term but enjoyed his time with everyone and would not be continuing his time on the HUNC board due to his heavy school workload.

Tom Meredith thanked Mr. Zweig for all his efforts, contributions, and reliability. He also asked if Mr. Zweig would reach out to other youth who may be interested in serving on the HUNC board. Mr. Zweig said he would reach out to other kids in the neighborhood about this opportunity. Robert Morrison indicated that it was another topic to cover in Outreach.

Jack Zweig left the meeting at 7:52.

Board move back to Item 11.

13. Finance and Operations

Board moved to Item 13 after 11.

A) Treasurer Report

No report.

B) Discussion and motion to approve January 2023 Monthly Expenditure Report

Items 13 B, C, D, and E were skipped because there was no quorum.

C) Discussion and motion to approve February 2023 Monthly Expenditure Report

D) Discussion of Returning to In-Person Meetings

E) Discussion of schedule through June 30, 2023

14. Outreach and Event Promotion

A) Report by Outreach Chair (up to 3 minutes)

Tom Meredith shared that the Outreach Team met and intended to present the motion of next item regarding purchasing swag.

B) Discussion and possible motion to approve up to \$1848 for swag items including, but not limited to, HUNC branded

hats, dog-safe 9 inch flyers and Cubano pens from 4Imprint.com (price quote in meeting exhibits link)

Item 14B was skipped because there was no quorum.

15. Transportation & Works

A) Report by Committee Chair (up to 3 minutes)

Brandi D'Amore shared that Streets LA presented their Tree Survey to the Transportation and Works Committee. Additionally United 4 LA presented on their lawsuit on trees and sidewalk repair. The Transportation and Works committee also addressed the non-compliant mural on Yucca and Tamarind. It had HUNC's name affixed to it as though they had sponsored the mural. Other entities were listed as sponsors and had no idea the mural would be there.

The previous CD13 administration did not take on sponsorship duties, and the current CD13 is not sure it can agree to sponsor the current mural, so it may be taken down.

Ms. D'Amore said the committee will not be meeting this month and would need to have a meeting sometime in the following quarter when Ms. D'Amore would no longer be on the board.

B) Discussion and possible vote to change Standing Rule to temporarily remove Transportation & Works as a standing committee, with a requirement to be reassessed in July 2023.

Items 15 B Through D were skipped because there was no quorum.

C) Discussion and possible vote of board member(s) to committee

D) Discussion and possible vote of board member as chair/co-chairs and or vice-chair

16. Secretary Report (up to 5 minutes)

A) Solicitation of board members interested in assisting Exec Committee with administrative responsibilities; discuss training if necessary

Brandi D'Amore shared that everyone was up on their training and said to continue to ensure this was true as she won't be at the next meeting to check. Ms. D'Amore said if people were interested in learning some of her duties, she would be happy to schedule time to show members how to complete her responsibilities over the next two weeks.

B) Digital Media Administration: solicit board members with interest in assisting in digital media

Brandi D'Amore shared that as she would be leaving and Asher Landau was currently occupied and wouldn't be able to continue digital media duties. She indicated that she would technically be able to continue them as there is no prohibition if not a board member, but she would decline that. If anyone was interested in taking over digital media, they could reach out within the next two weeks to learn about these processes.

Robert Morrison asked Brandi D'Amore about her resignation notice as not yet received. She indicated she had not sent yet, it is coming, and she will no longer be on board after March '23.

17. Reports by Committee Chairs

A) Community, Cultural and Volunteer Services (CCVS) Chairs

Michael Connolly and Chad Manuel jumped in to indicate no report before Sheila Irani spoke.

Sheila Irani said CCVS was hoping to have a meeting this month but wasn't sure she would have quorum and wants to schedule something for a community clean up. She asked the board to come up with areas that need cleaning. She would then coordinate with the appropriate CD accordingly.

Brandi D'Amore said CCVS, RH and PSEP committees are required to me in March as none had met yet this quarter and per bylaws must meet once per quarter.

She advised that Community Cleanups are technically "events" which would require an event certification process if meant to

include community and not just board members.

B) Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Chair

No report

C) Renters and Housing Chair

No report

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

Brandi D'Amore points out that Cole from Hollywood Partnership is in attendance, and would technically qualify under this agenda item if wished to do so.

19. Motion to Extend Meeting by 30 Minutes to 1 hour

There was no report.

20. Old/Ongoing Business

Robert Morrison asked for both old or new business at same time.

There was no report.

21. New/Future Business

There was no report.

Adjournment at 8:05 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.