Welcome

6:35 PM start

1. Roll Call

Attending

Susan Swan  Tom Meredith  Sheila Irani  George Skarpelos  Jim Van Dusen  Margaret Marmolejo
Erin Penner  Brandi D'Amore  Matt Wait  Andrew Chadsey  Andrew Chadsey  Michael Connolly
Fouzia Burfield  Marshall Cobb  Robert Morrison  Maureen Diekmann  Tony Zimbardi  Bianca Cockrell

Excused

Luis Saldivar  Coyote Shivers  Theresa Gio

Absent

Cesar Cervera  Cesar Cervera  Angel Izard  Angel Izard  Ellah Ronen  Ellah Ronen
Jennifer Davis  Jennifer Davis  Stephanie C. Rowe  Stephanie C. Rowe  Everett Cobb  Everett Cobb
Rosalind Helfand  Rosalind Helfand  Lisa Zaripov  Lisa Zaripov

2. Approval of Minutes

Brandi D'Amore asked if they are permitted to remove comments that should not have been permissible from the minutes, since they should not have been permitted during public discussion. George Skarpelos said that they will leave them in the record but crack down on comments like them in the future.

Jim Van Dusen noted that the second paragraph on page 7 is a duplicate of the same paragraph on Page 6.

Tom Meredith said in the review of councilmember Nithya's area on page 2, the second paragraph up, she's referred to as Sarah Dusseau, when the correct spelling is Sarah Dusseault.

Motion Made: Approval of December Minutes

Motion: George Skarpelos  Second: Brandi D'Amore  Vote: Yes-15, No-0, Abstain-0, Recused-0, Ineligible-1

Yes

Andrew Chadsey  Bianca Cockrell  Brandi D'Amore  Erin Penner  Fouzia Burfield  George Skarpelos
Jim Van Dusen  Margaret Marmolejo  Matt Wait  Maureen Diekmann  Michael Connolly  Robert Morrison
Sheila Irani  Tom Meredith  Tony Zimbardi

Ineligible

Marshall Cobb

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

Stakeholder Bill Anderson thanked the board and addressed the city, asking why the trash and junk in the street of Bronson is not being cleaned up. He has seen city trucks and LAPD on Vine and Lexington doing spot cleanups and seen a couple city trucks on Carlos, but Bronson seems to be hands-off. He would like to see if the city can address that.
SLO Heather Mata explained that she missed last month’s meeting due to being out with COVID. She hopes everyone is staying safe and healthy as things are spiking within their department. Close to 2,000 sworn officers have tested positive since the start of the pandemic, and there have been 3 deaths within LAPD, not including several other police officers and command staff that had just retired. On the ending numbers for 2020 for crime stats: overall, north of Franklin up to Barham in her area, ended the year 13% down from 2019. The hard shutdown in March/Beginning of April drastically affected those numbers, and they are trying to stay positive on how those crime numbers are going to show for 2021. She missed the last meeting with Nithya Raman speaking but did have conference calls last week with their staff, and she is pretty excited to see how they’re going to be running their administration. They will have issue-specific field deputies: one dealing with homelessness, one dealing with landlord disputes, etc. Also, she was sad to say that this is Officer Gonzalez’s last week with HUNC covering for SLO 49; there’s a hard freeze on all promotions and hiring until further notice. With that being said, HUNC will see a temporary SLO approximately every three months until that’s lifted.

Stakeholder Seth said that he appreciated SLO Mata checking in on that and extended condolences for those officers catching COVID. But he wanted to state from his experience that over this COVID year, he constantly saw officers especially in their neighborhood not wearing masks, hanging out in groups, so maybe that’s an opportunity to enforce mask-wearing among officers. SLO Mata acknowledged that the LAPD’s policies have recently gotten even more strict, so if there’s specific incidents that need to be addressed stakeholders can email her if it’s something that’s recurring. If LAPD officers are not at their workstation sitting at their desk, their mask has to be on.

Stakeholder Kristina O’Neil said that regarding crime in this area, they have been having a hard time getting ahold of someone right away when they need an SLO. She asked if SLO Mata will be leaving in 3 months and SLO Mata said no; she explained she was out for a month and has only been back the last week and a half, two weeks. So, if there’s something that needs to be addressed, they have her contact info, and officers also have 3-4 days off in the week. Ms. O’Neil said they had 2 cars stolen in the last few weeks, and a lot of smash and grabs are happening in the area again. SLO Mata said she can give them a better update tomorrow after she is in the office.

Erin Penner thanked SLO Mata for being here and noted that HUNC approved a letter a month ago to ask Captain Lurie if they can avoid these transitions because it’s been a rotating door with SLOs. After this 3-month rotation is over, she asked if they could push the proposals in the HUNC letter because it’s been so frustrating, and Officer Gonzalez has been so wonderful in her short time with HUNC. SLO Mata seconded that, having worked with her for 6 years; unfortunately, this position is coming from the mayor and the chief of police. It’s a budgetary issue. She said they are all very sad too and it is hard for the community and senior lead office. She wishes there was something they could do, but until that moratorium is lifted LAPD will not be able to do anything. SLO Mata added that the last freeze lasted 2 years.

Brandi D’Amore asked if SLO Mata could tell the board what she and Officer Mata have discussed with police changes in respect to Gascon as the new city attorney. Officer Mata said there has been a lot put out publicly about changes: for example, crimes like prostitution, trespassing, 6-8 crimes, that are no longer going to be filed on. That person will still be arrested, but no criminal charges following after the fact. The hills have a big problem with trespassing. A lot of other gang enhancements are going away as well. So, it’s going to be interesting to see how it affects this year’s crime rates. She would predict they will see numbers higher than they did, not necessarily in the HUNC area, but city-wide. She will keep HUNC posted and would be happy to discuss these things further with the board or the Public Safety committee.

Matt Wait wanted to point out that, while he understands Officer Mata has a view on Gascon’s reforms, not everyone shares the view with regard to gang enhancements, and he thinks it is far from a matter of fact what the effect will be on the crime stats. That is less a statement of fact than an opinion, to which the officer is entitled. Officer Mata reiterated that those enhancements have been taken away, which is a fact, and they allow police to keep dangerous people in prison longer. Mr. Wait added that there were a number of people in the gang enhancement database that were found to not be gang members after an investigation, which may be why those enhancements were removed.

Sean Starkey introduced himself as a field deputy for Councilmember O’Farrell’s office. He recapped some of the top things his office did in the field last year: they extended the YWCA to 120 beds, for people who identify as female, secured the funding to extend the Salvation Army winter shelter to August 2020, and are working on making it a year-long shelter. They are also working on expanding Safe Parking. They installed digital parking signs at garages in Hollywood and grew the Walk of Fame walkability program to assist pedestrian access. They installed an LGBT Pride Plaque to commemorate the first pride walk, and a commemorative mural is coming. They also worked to install a Black Lives Matter tribute in June. They also planted 120 trees around the Cole rec center and installed lighting around Dorothy Smith Park. Lastly, the design portion of the Walk of Fame improvement project is done and has already won an award.

Erin Penner thanked Mr. Starkey for being there and asked, since she does HUNC’s Instagram account posts: she does follow Councilmember O’Farrell’s projects on social media, and a lot of times she sees street improvement projects and they seem to be often located in certain locations repeatedly. She asked if there was any way HUNC can ask for the councilmember’s help in this area. Mr. Starkey explained that the reason she is probably seeing more on the IG page from the east area is because, full disclosure, he does not find those projects that exciting, and does not take photos and send them to the communications team. But he can send them updates about those.
Sheila Irani asked Mr. Starkey about Stakeholder Anderson’s question of why Bronson’s trash pickup wasn’t being taken in. She added that there are a number of piles very close to Bronson and RV’s are in the way. Mr. Starkey explained that the Sanitation teams are moving very slowly through neighborhoods because of the Pandemic. He has switched this week’s schedule to address Bronson first, and added that they have tried multiple times.

LAPD Officer Gonzalez said she is very sad to be leaving, and it has been a pleasure serving everyone. But there’s a few things to address regarding the Bronson trash, she has been putting in 311 requests for Bronson, and they have been showing up and cleaning up, but as soon as they do, more trash gets dumped. Last week was the only week they missed, and she put in a request for trash and for one of the RV’s that has been illegally parked there for 2 months and is leaking biohazard material. She wants to get that done before she leaves. Also, Hollywood Division is hosting a blood drive on the 19th at the Hollywood Police Station. If you would like to participate, she has sent Ms. D’Amore the flyer and she can distribute that out to everyone. Again, it has been a pleasure serving HUNC and its stakeholders. George Skarpelos said that they have heard nothing but good things about Officer Gonzalez’s interactions with their neighborhood.

Ms. D’Amore just wanted to add that Officer Gonzalez has actually been able to obtain rapport with the homeless on Bronson and has gotten them to actively gather their trash from one side of the street and put it on the other. She and Officer Gonzalez have met almost every business in Area B, and she has been intrepid and dedicated in a way Ms. D’Amore has not seen in a long time in this area.

Andrew Chadsey thanked Officer Gonzalez for being a positive influence in their community during such a challenging, divided time.

Mr. Skarpelos read a note from Erin Seinfeld, field deputy from Supervisor Kuehl’s office, who was not able to attend: The Department of Health has a homepage for vaccine distribution outlining phases and tiers, and she suggests signing up for the vaccine newsletter for updates from vaccinatelacounty.com. Every minute, 10 people test positive for COVID. She emphasized that people need to stay home and stay safe.

5. Community Updates

A) Report by the Youth Representative

Marshall Cobb reported that he is still working on the proposal he mentioned last time, a school-based drive for homeless items during COVID. He cannot stay the entire meeting, since this is his finals week, but he has a break coming up and will try to finalize the proposal then.

B) Report by the Budget Advocate representative

Daniel Perez introduced himself as HUNC’s Budget Advocates representative and wanted to hop on because the City Administrative Officer released a status report. They have gone from being in a terrible budget situation to being in an even worse budget situation. The CAO’s recommendation for eliminating the budget gap has included tapping reserve funds and budget stabilization funds. The big one is layoffs, and the recommendation was to layout 4S animal service employees, 340 city attorney employees, 951 LAPD officers, and 728 civilian employees. City Council did not accept the CAO’s recommendation to lay off those LAPD employees. They decided to lay off about 600 employees including officers. Unfortunately, the last Federal CARES act didn’t include support for local governments. Also, the mayor issued a rare veto a couple weeks ago about the 150 million dollars that was reallocated from mostly the LAPD. The LAPD intended to advance racial equity and underserved communities, while City Council motioned that $80 million of that go to needed infrastructure in cities. City Council passed that to get various improvements, and the mayor vetoed it, saying this is not what this money was intended for.

Erin Penner thanked Mr. Perez for being here, and as curious if the option of subtracting from NC budgets had come up. Mr. Perez clarified for attendees that this year’s NC budget has been decreased by 10,000 dollars. He has heard rumors that the city might not allow NC’s to roll over funds into their next fiscal year.

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

Rosalind Helfand, who is the stakeholder representative to the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance, gave an update: the SA met last night, there are over 60 NC’s in the alliance and about 67 people attended. 9 reporting groups for the alliance were there to speak on topics from advocacy to energy, and they talked about efforts to support LA’s Green New Deal. They are working to help businesses get certified as sustainable. The main focus of the meeting was a presentation on trees and urban forest. The city needs about 30% tree canopy for full cooling benefits: Beverly Hills has about 50% tree canopy, while the rest of the city has about 20% tree canopy, so there’s deep inequity. There’s also a brand new City Forest Officer named Rachel Malarich, and a new City Community Forest Advisory Committee that people can start attending meetings. Some issues: they need more incentive for trees and better community education for urban forests.

Brandi D’Amore said that she attended meetings for LANC and BONC. Last week Raquel Beltran met with the NC coalition about
modifications to Zoom protocols to incorporate items that would improve Zoom experience. The following weekend, LANC met and they had the Director of Sanitation there to talk about sanitation issues and food recycling programs, and she got the director to agree to meet with HUNC regarding possible PSAs about illegal dumping. They also talked about digital media policy: BONC holds that it is an extension of the ethics code. Also discussed at LANC, NC’s money was given to the federal government for some side of the COVID provision, and they should be getting that money back.

7. PLUM Committee

A) Report by the Committee Chair

Jim Van Dusen reported that they have had a problem with Zoom: the committee gets planning documents mailed to them, and they get a lot of oversized docs, which can’t be scanned in properly. And today they got ahold of planning and the person who manages this and found a way to access documents online, so someone online will send the instructions out to the entire board. They will be able to access Planning’s plans to see what HUNC sees. Since the start of 2020 they’ve been scanning documents in. So, a lot of adjusting to new ways of doing things. But it will streamline PLUM issues at board meetings.

Motion for Reconsideration of the Vote taken at December 14, 2020 Board Meeting regarding item number 8B:

Review and motion to approve: Project: 5600 Franklin Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90028. Project Description: Proposed 5 story 41 Units over subterranean Garage, 35 Units market rate & 6 Units VLI. Parking stall provided as follow 44 std+19 compact=60 stall. Project has 3 incentive, 1. 25% open space reduction 2. 22’ Height increase 3. Side setback 30% reduction. Requested that developer also review architecture and vegetation so that project is consistent with the area

Jim Van Dusen explained that they were asking for a reconsideration because the last time they went through it, when they were looking at the very low income housing, they did not notice the other units because of the oversize plans. Brandi D’Amore said that there are board members that have to recuse themselves from listening to this.

Mr. Van Dusen explained that there is a 4-unit house that has to be demolished for the project. The new project will have 6 very low-income units, but because they did not have a chance to discuss that house, he asked for reconsideration. His intent was not to rehash everything they went over last time because they approved it with some no votes, but to review the house demolition and the RSO incomes and very low income housing issues. Essentially, the request is to rescind the prior motion, review the 2-story house and issue a new motion. A “no” vote means they do not want to reconsider it. George Skarpelos added that under item C, it should read “to add to prior approved HUNC motion”.

Ms. D’Amore said that there are people in that home who were not made aware properly.

Andrew Rubin explains that he works with Ilan Gordeski who HUNC had talked about this issue with the last two times. Mr. Rubin is not as familiar with the project as he is, but he is available to try to answer any questions regarding that housing that’s on-site.

Stakeholder Seth said that he lives in 5640 Franklin, a building built before 1920 with over a hundred apartments, and he can guarantee no one there knows about this project and what’s going to be involved. No one living nearby and impacted by projects like this and others were made aware. This process has not been very inclusive of the people who actually live nearby.

Motion: Jim Van Dusen Second: George Skarpelos Vote: Yes-9, No-0, Abstain-0, Recused-3, Ineligible-5

Yes
Andrew Chadsey Fouzia Burfield George Skarpelos Jim Van Dusen Margaret Marmolejo Michael Connolly
Sheila Irani Susan Swan Tony Zimbardi
Recuse
Bianca Cockrell Erin Penner Maureen Diekmann
Ineligible
Brandi D’Amore Marshall Cobb Matt Wait Robert Morrison Tom Meredith

Project: 5600 Franklin Avenue. Review and possible motion to add to prior approved HUNC motion (December 14, 2020) regarding the housing to be torn down for this development. New motion to include prior motion and any new additions.

Mr. Van Dusen read the email that Mr. Gordeski sent when he was informed about their potential reconsideration. He apologized if there was any confusion about the project. The residential building has been in all of their plans, and they understand that the units will have to be replaced. HCID made the determination to have them be 1 very low, 1 RSO, 1 low, 1 extremely low unit. 4 market rate units are currently on the site, with none covenanted as affordable.

Mr. Rubin said that of the four units in the building, only 2 are currently occupied, and they have made both of those tenants well aware of the project as they have gone through the various stages. They are currently working with each of those tenants directly
the point of a TOC project, and she is glad Stakeholder Seth brought up neighbors not being told.

Ms. Cockrell commented as a member of the public that this project seems not great, there is way too much parking which negates
will have that in their ear all day.

process. Also, the construction noise for this will be insane and interminable. And everyone who's stuck here trying to quarantine
be filled. That's how all the projects on all his adjacent blocks have gone. He also does not trust the city's seismic assessment

Stakeholder Seth wanted to note that Mr. Gordeski said he is offering the current residents of the 4-unit property “more than they
derive”. He said that it is a large building with very few low-income units and believes that at market rates this building will not

Mr. Rubin said he has personally met building managers for buildings near the project.

Mr. Gordeski is now on the call. He explained that they lowered the unit sizes to make it more affordable, it’s less 3-bedroom units
more 2- and 1-bedroom. They sent HUNC the rendering. As he said before, the entire building will be electrical-use and solar
panel with extra parking. They are working with the tenants, and one is almost in an agreement. They are just not in a rush and
they will do everything they can to work with them.

Mr. Van Dusen asked if Mr. Gordeski can explain the 4 market rate RSO units on the current property, asking to confirm that the
new one’s going to have 1 extremely low, 1 very low, 1 low, and 1 RSO. Mr. Gordeski said that the building at the moment is rent
controlled. The other 2 units are vacant.

Ms. D’Amore said he did not answer Mr. Van Dusen’s question, it’s unclear as to why despite their market rate they’re RSO. She
said he has one person on her property paying $678, very low income. She asked why the whole building is not RSO.

Mr. Gordeski explained that the building will be RSO, with 5 very low income units. The Department of Housing can explain it
better. The entire building will have to be RSO compliant, with 5 very low income units. The city will determine how much that is.
Covenant is for 55 years.

Ms. D’Amore asked if he was aware that he cannot engage in relocation and buyout in an RSO property unless you’ve filed the
paperwork with downtown LA and said that has not been done with these. Mr. Gordeski said he is aware. Ms. D’Amore asked if
there was a reason the tenants weren’t offered an apartment in the building. Mr. Gordeski said that they were offered
apartments. One verbally accepted to be put into a new building, but the details are confidential with the resident and he cannot
disclose them. Ms. D’Amore asked, when he goes to knock down the building that’s currently there, what kind of COVID
protections or LADBS protocol will he do, and how close to the building next to it will the property be. Mr. Gordeski explained that
the LA Department of Housing and Construction gives you guidelines for COVID. But they are also looking to do it in 10-12 months.
He is hoping they will have good results with the vaccination, but they will need to wear masks and test every day. As far as how
close, it’ll be the same setback there is right now, a 10-15 foot setback. Ms. D’Amore said that what Mr. Gordeski is telling them is
different than what the residents have told her about the property. Her understanding from the residents is that they were not told
about this meeting. Mr. Gordeski said that they did tell residents about the meeting, adding that this is the third time he is meeting
with HUNC. He asserted that they came to the residents from day one and always shared everything with them.

Mr. Rubin said that as manager, both of the occupants know him directly and he can assure HUNC that they have been made
aware. One of them does not use any kind of modern communication device. The other family, as Mr. Gordeski stated, didn’t want
to wait around in limbo for the project to get built. So, they are very close to finding them a superior apartment for their family,
and they are going to keep their rent the same. He cannot give specifics to the deal, but he can assure HUNC that they know about
the project, and even though he is not there every day, they know him. COVID has been a blessing and a curse in that it has ground
everything to a halt but has given them more time to ask what the residents wanted and work on it. Ms. D’Amore asked if the new
unit they are moving them into is RSO. Mr. Rubin said that he cannot give specifics about it for their own privacy and protection
because they are still working it out.

Mr. Skarpelos asked if, when the residents return, they will be offered one of the very low income units, and Mr. Rubin said they
would.

Stakeholder Kristina O’Neil said that she is not hearing a lot of the concerns if HUNC is readdressing this, and she has a lot of notes
from the last meeting. There was a discussion on the parking spaces vs the number of units, and she believed someone had said
something about less parking now and more storage. She wanted to make sure this is all being considered. Mr. Gordeski said that
she may have misheard him. They have the same amount of parking but are adding more storage to the building. The property is
TOC which is superseding SNAP. They are entitled to build this building with 14 parking spaces but are building over 60. They have
a lot of 1-bedrooms, and to have a building on Franklin with 60 spaces is unheard of. And it is something that will be important to
the neighborhood. He lives in Hancock Park, and knows how important parking is.

Ms. D’Amore asked what rent they will be offering these units at, and Mr. Gordeski said he has no idea yet. Ms. D’Amore asked
Mr. Skarpelos to pull up what she sent him about the statistics.

Stakeholder Seth wanted to note that Mr. Gordeski said he is offering the current residents of the 4-unit property “more than they
deserve”. He said that it is a large building with very few low-income units and believes that at market rates this building will not
be filled. That’s how all the projects on all his adjacent blocks have gone. He also does not trust the city’s seismic assessment
process. Also, the construction noise for this will be insane and interminable. And everyone who’s stuck here trying to quarantine
will have that in their ear all day.

Ms. Cockrell commented as a member of the public that this project seems not great, there is way too much parking which negates
the point of a TOC project, and she is glad Stakeholder Seth brought up neighbors not being told.
Ms. Penner commented as a member of the public who is a neighbor of this development and who is on this board, that she is stymied about how in the dark people are. There is someone in this building who works at the Rite Aid and did not know it was being torn down. From developers, the public is not only not being informed, but being fed misinformation. They are not being shown photos to show the impact on people in the area. Ms. Penner’s unit is literally 15 feet from the 4-plex; her building will have blocked sunlight and construction noise for 2 years. There are going to be people leaving her building because they can’t be bear this happening 20 feet away.

Mr. Skarpelos screen shared a picture of the 4-unit building next door. Mr. Gordeski said that they believe they have a setback of 10-15 feet; right now, it’s very narrow, so there will be more space. Mr. Skarpelos asked if there was anything from these plans they should show, and Mr. Van Dusen said no.

Mr. Skarpelos screen shared statistics sent by Ms. D’Amore. Ms. D’Amore said that she has permission from the current tenants to discuss that they have not had communications from either gentleman about relocation since June. The affordable income apartments are based on an average median income of $6,300. Extremely low is based on 0-30% of that amount, etc. Real income stats are the average AMI is less than $40,000 a year and per capita is less than $36,000 a year. She has no idea what rent rate they’ll start it at. COLA has only been going up 1.3 percent. So, a rent of $2500 means a renter is cost-burdened and severely cost-burdened if they make $50,000. She thinks the community needs a little bit more than just a building of units, and this has the potential to be a building that’s empty. There has also been a 33% reduction in transportation use since TOCs came in.

Also, she explained that TOC provisions can be disputed, they are not automatically given. She would dispute the height, the number of units, and that negotiations have not been done legally. The form has not been submitted to HCID in a cash for keys conversation. The ALICE Act is currently on hold. The woman upstairs was offered roughly what the HCID allowance would be, which is about 21,000 dollars because of her age. Neither tenants have leases or security deposits. So, there is no way she’ll have someplace to live on her income. And there’s no way the woman downstairs can afford to move into an apartment that is not RSO. So there needs to be more protections for them. This is a situation to create homelessness.

Robert Morrison asked to clarify what the unit count is, how many 1-bedrooms, 2-bedrooms, 3-bedrooms there are, and how many are affordable vs market rate. Mr. Skarpelos said there are 35 market-rate units and 6 very low income units as he sees it, but all will be RSO housing.

Mr. Rubin said that homelessness is not an option for them, and he is not alone when they have heard stories of 20, 30 units being vacated all at once. They have two here and they have a year at least before they have to do anything with this project. Peggy, for example, doesn’t drive. She needs to be near transit. Having either of these two residents end up on the street is not an option. They will subsidize local housing if they have to, and they have a lot of time to empty this unit right. It is his goal and Mr. Gordeski’s goal to make sure it happens. COVID threw a wrench in this, but they are not doing anything illegal or unethical. They found housing for the family downstairs that they will subsidize for an extended period. Mr. Rubin said they are confident they can do that for the senior citizen upstairs. Mr. Skarpelos asked what an “extended period” is. Mr. Rubin said they are still talking about it. Mr. Skarpelos asked if it meant 9 months or 2 years, and Mr. Gordeski said it is more than a year and a half, which is how long it will take to build. They will make sure that the tenants will get whatever they’re entitled to.

Ms. D’Amore said that she wants all of what the developer and their representatives just said covered in Mr. Van Dusen’s new motion.

Jim Van Dusen motioned to modify the prior motion slightly, to approve the 5600 Franklin Ave Los Angeles project, adding that the applicant has agreed that the current residents will be housed at same or best rates at same quality or better accommodation with a guaranteed right of return to one of the very low income units in the new project. And that all units in the new project will be RSO-compliant.

Brandi D’Amore requested that compensation be discussed for the property next door for the potential loss of tenants during construction and the loss of view and light on the east side of that building. George Skarpelos said that they could add that they “further request compensation be discussed with 5640 Franklin in light of the loss of height and the impact of construction.”

Andrew Chadsey asked what board members’ votes mean: if they vote “no”, do they vote down the project overall? Mr. Skarpelos said that if they vote “no”, they vote down the project.

Ms. D’Amore asked if they are requiring that it is not just the rent rate, but that they have RSO protection, and if no matter where the tenants go, can HUNC indicate that whatever rent they’re confirmed at, that they’re placed or registered in an RSO unit. Mr. Skarpelos said that they limit the number of options they have, and Ms. D’Amore said that they may not opt to move into that apartment, which is the point. Mr. Van Dusen said that if the developer’s offering to pay for a year and a half, they would be offered to move into the new building. Ms. D’Amore said that one of the tenants is not comfortable moving back into a property owned by the current owners, because their existing facility is substandard. Mr. Skarpelos said that he thinks what they have written covers what they have talked about and making it more byzantine will be more confusing.

Motion Made: Motion to approve the project , to approve the 5600 Franklin Ave Los Angeles project, as the applicant has agreed that the current residents will be housed at same or better rates at same quality or better accommodation with a guaranteed right
of return to one of the very low income units in the new project. And that all units in the new project will be RSO-compliant. 

HUNC further requests compensation be discussed with 5640 Franklin in light of the loss of height and the impact of construction.

Motion: Jim Van Dusen  
Second: Susan Swan  
Vote: Yes-9, No-4, Abstain-0, Recused-3, Ineligible-1

8. Finance

A) Report by the Treasurer

Sheila Irani said that the MERs will cover a lot of things, and the board will see two items in the MERs for A Million Drops and ICF which Robert Morrison was looking for. The important thing is to see the net available, and they have $22,000 still available. She said the board would like to spend it before June 1, so she encouraged them to put on their thinking caps and talk to their non-profits. They have spent a lot of money recently on the elections. There are some outstanding things: they still have the mailer they approved last month for seniors, and they attached $1400 for that. An $800 receipt is missing for an election item. Presbyterian notified HUNC that they will not have a winter shelter there, so the NPG for the money HUNC earmarked for them will be closed.

B) Discussion of current fiscal year budget and possible motion for adjustment

There was no discussion.

C) Discussion and vote to approve December 2020 Monthly Expense Report for submission

Motion Made: Motion to approve December 2020 Monthly Expense Report for submission

Motion: Sheila Irani  
Second: Tom Meredith  
Vote: Yes-16, No-0, Abstain-0, Recused-0, Ineligible-1

9. Transportation & Works Committee

A) Report by the Committee Chair

No report.

B) NCSA Electronic Vehicle (EV) Workshop

1. Presentation by Lisa Hart of Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance (NCSA) of electronic workshop on the LADWP Electric Transportation Program

Rosalind Helfand presented for Lisa Hart, who is in another meeting. She is the stakeholder representative of HUNC to the NCSA. She has been working with Ms. Hart on the idea of hosting an EV Incentives workshop to provide for the community. Ms. Hart would organize the workshop, and she has been working to host them at different NC’s around the city. Each contains info about EV incentive programs and what’s coming up as far as potential for adding infrastructure to support EVs to neighborhoods. Each workshop can be tailored to the needs of the neighborhood. At the Transportation and Works Committee, Brandi D’Amore brought up a lot of good ideas for HUNC-specific topics.
2. Discussion and possible motion that HUNC sponsor an electronic broadcast as early as Spring 2021

Brandi D’Amore explained that as of right now, it’s an electronic presentation, with no requirements on HUNC’s part. It’s prepackaged, all HUNC would have to do is provide exposure, but HUNC would have to indicate that they are not sponsoring or promoting any of the projects within it. The first decision on HUNC’s part is whether they want to sponsor it, and the second part is whether they want to reach out to other Hollywood Coalition NC’s. She explained that the committee agreed to recommend “yes” on both items.

Motion Made: Motion that HUNC sponsor an electronic broadcast as early as Spring 2021

Motion: Brandi D’Amore Second: Bianca Cockrell Vote: Yes-16, No-0, Abstain-0, Recused-0, Ineligible-1

Yes
Andrew Chadsey, Brandi D’Amore, Erin Penner, Fouzia Burfield, George Skarpelos
Jim Van Dusen, Margaret Marmolejo, Matt Wait, Maureen Diekmann, Michael Connolly, Robert Morrison
Sheila Irani, Susan Swan, Tom Meredith, Tony Zimbardi

Ineligible
Brandi D’Amore

3. Discussion and possible motion that HUNC solicit any or all of the other Hollywood Coalition Neighborhood Councils to also participate to expand outreach

George Skarpelos asked if this would be different from them doing the presentation in item 1, and Brandi D’Amore said it would be the same presentation as in item 1, but other NC’s would get sponsorship on graphics and they would put it out to their channels as well. It would get a larger mix of people. Mr. Skarpelos asked if it would happen under HUNC’s Zoom account or the NCSA’s account. Rosalind Helfand clarified that the NCSA will provide the Zoom links and manage it.

Motion Made: Motion that HUNC solicit any or all of the other Hollywood Coalition Neighborhood Councils to also participate to expand outreach for a HUNC sponsorship of the NCSA electronic vehicle workshop

Motion: Brandi D’Amore Second: Tom Meredith Vote: Yes-16, No-0, Abstain-0, Recused-0, Ineligible-1

Yes
Andrew Chadsey, Brandi D’Amore, Erin Penner, Fouzia Burfield, George Skarpelos
Jim Van Dusen, Margaret Marmolejo, Matt Wait, Maureen Diekmann, Michael Connolly, Robert Morrison
Sheila Irani, Susan Swan, Tom Meredith, Tony Zimbardi

Ineligible
Brandi D’Amore

C) Caltrans sanitation

1. Discussion of and identification of the most problematic areas of Trash accumulation that are in need of immediate care

Brandi D’Amore explained that if anyone attended the board meeting last month, Seamus Garrity indicated that Caltrans has abdicated their responsibilities for trash and sanitation on their property due to COVID, staffing issues, and encampment issues. So a lot of these areas have become dumping areas. George Skarpelos shared pictures of the trash locations.

Ms. D’Amore said that several people including herself have seen rats there. This area has several service requests that have asked to fix the gate. There are also fires that have happened at these locations. If this had been LA City, it would have taken a while, but they would have cleaned all this up. She explained that unfortunately, it requires the governor to force CalTrans to act on it. So, they can only solicit their council members to solicit the governor.
2. Discussion and possible motion to that HUNC write a letter to CD4 and CD13 asking that they contact the CA governor directly to enforce Caltrans cleanups

*George Skarpelos explained that Brandi D’Amore had written a letter for this motion and read from the letter.*

*Matt Wait said that the letter mentions that the area under the Argyle underpass is all trash with no encampments, and he thinks it would be clearer if they wrote something to the effect that they understand clearing out personal property from encampments is against CDC guidelines, but that clearing garbage is different.*

*Josh Kurpies, District Director for California Assembly member Richard Bloom, said that his office is happy to write a letter to the governor like HUNC is discussing, and they are also in the process of scheduling a meeting with the new CalTrans director and the assembly member, and they will be raising this issue.*

*Tom Meredith asked if they could also include the Franklin underpass, which is CalTrans property, and underneath the Vine St. exit. Ms. D’Amore said that the reality is that significant portions of the freeway are covered in trash. She does not know if they want to just have blanket stuff, or specific areas. Mr. Meredith thought that having targets is helpful.*

*Jim Van Dusen would maybe change the last paragraph: instead of having the governor force CalTrans, maybe rephrase it as “issue a directive to CalTrans to do its duty”.*

*Ms. D’Amore said that CalTrans would also need to secure the gate areas that have service requests. The gate area on the west side of Bronson has permitted not only trash, but potential jumpers. The board suggested adding state senators and other elected officials as the recipients: Senator Anthony Portantino and others.*

*Motion Made: Motion to that HUNC write a letter to CD4 and CD13 asking that they contact the CA governor directly to enforce Caltrans cleanups*

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<th>Motion</th>
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<tr>
<td>Brandi D’Amore</td>
<td>Maureen Diekmann</td>
<td>Yes-16, No-0, Abstain-0, Recused-0, Ineligible-1</td>
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- **Yes**
  - Andrew Chadsey
  - Bianca Cockrell
  - Brandi D’Amore
  - Erin Penner
  - Fouzia Burfield
  - George Skarpelos
  - Jim Van Dusen
  - Margaret Marmolejo
  - Matt Wait
  - Maureen Diekmann
  - Michael Connolly
  - Robert Morrison
  - Sheila Irani
  - Susan Swan
  - Tom Meredith
  - Tony Zimbardi

- **Ineligible**
  - Marshall Cobb

D)  Golden Crest 1825 N. Bronson
1. Discussion of continued illegal parking in red zone by shuttle drivers, the traffic hazard it is causing and what so far has been done to remedy the situation

Brandi D’Amore explained that they have had a problem for several months at this property. She explained that the property is kind of like a hotel for Scientologist students to stay there while they receive instruction at the Pacifica Bridge. They have a shuttle van that transports the residents back and forth and for months, the shuttle has been parking in the red zone directly in front of the entrance of 1825. The vans are 6-7 feet high and quite blocky, so people travelling east on Yucca as it hits Bronson cannot see around the trucks. There have been multiple attempts by local residents to ask the drivers to refrain from parking in the space, since it’s an illegal space.

George Skarapelos screen shared a map of the area and Ms. D’Amore explained the parking conditions in the area. When some residents travel north on Bronson at night, the van lights can also blind them. You can also barely tell what’s a white curb if you’re parking at night, so you wind up with people parking in the white illegally, which takes up the space. They need to keep the space open and prevent vans from parking in red spaces. Ms. D’Amore has asked Sean Starkey from Councilmember O’Farrell’s office to look into painting the white curb more visibly and asked via Margaret Marmolejo to ask Scientology to look into this.

Ms. Marmolejo said that she is interested in helping this get handled, and she has done a lot to get the drivers not to park there anymore. They are all handled except for 1 person, who she is hot on the trail of. There’s also a driveway into one of the Centre’s parking lots, and they’re welcome to stop there. What they have observed along with security personnel is that 1 driver is still parking in red zones. If there’s other handlings that can be done, making it nicer in the white zone, that’s great, but there will need to be a pathway where it’s welcoming to the people coming and going off these vans. There will also need to be more signage done, which she has been looking for. DOT also has enforcement officers, so local security has been calling for an officer to come out and ticket the car.

Stakeholder Christopher Parkinson said that he has asked politely dozens of times, and he knows all their guards there, they all nod politely and do nothing. The drivers don’t acknowledge his existence. Even today there was one; he has seen once or twice there was compliance so he is encouraged, but he will believe it when he sees it. He has nearly been hit twice, and he will be very glad if HUNC can wrangle this under control.

Stakeholder James Patterson said that it sounds like now HUNC is aware of it, which is good. He suggested that the security guys can also alert the driver when they see them. Even the security guy can knock on the window and tell them to back up. Nobody can park in a red zone, and it’s there for a reason.

Stakeholder Michael said that he lives on the southwest corner of Bronson and Yucca, and his experience with it is it’s difficult to make that left hand turn. But he thinks the most concerning thing to him is the safety of people in the crosswalk. There have been times when it’s been hard to see because of the lights or it’s been hard to go around the vehicle because of its size. Living in his building, you hear car screeches all the time because the crosswalk is difficult to see, and only harder to see if a vehicle’s there.
2. Possible motion that HUNC write a letter to all applicable organizations and advise them of the issue and stakeholder efforts to utilize LADOT

Tabled: Brandi D’Amore explained that she wrote the letter based on 2 different possibilities of what HUNC was going to do, and the board may vote to table it. One is contacting Scientology to work on their end of the problem, one is contacting the city. George Skarpelos asked when Margaret Marmolejo was able to begin these kind of discussions, and Ms. Marmolejo said she began them about 2 months ago, but in recent weeks, one of the main drivers of the van said he knows this red zone has been there, it shouldn’t be parked in, and he’s over the other motor pool drivers and he’s for not parking there anymore, so she just has to get him to make sure to get to this last driver.

Stakeholder Ben G. said that these are bullies so it’s a strong letter, but asked Ms. Marmolejo could put a sticker on the van and say it’s not supposed to be parked here.

Mr. Skarpelos thought that they should table this until next month, since they have a Transportation and Work Committee next week; and if it still seems to be a problem, they should bring it back to the board in February. They’re clearly not making the kind of strides to resolve this problem.

Tom Meredith asked if it would not be helpful for Ms. Marmolejo to show this letter has been submitted by HUNC to encourage them being more compliant vs waiting another month. Mr. Skarpelos said that that is fine, but he would like to have 1 real letter instead of 2. Ms. D’Amore said that she provided 2 letters based on the avenue or direction HUNC wanted to go in: did they want to be more neighborly and not get the city involved, or did they want to get the city more engaged. Mr. Meredith asked Ms. Marmolejo if letters would be helpful, and she said she already has communications going on with these people and to their bosses, so she would rather just try to handle it internally.

Erin Penner added that HUNC had an issue a year ago where Scientology staff were on motorcycles that were taking up a lot of parking spots on Bronson that stakeholders were being concerned about. Ms. Marmolejo was helpful for that, but it seems like it’s a constant issue in this area. Ms. D’Amore said she is trying to help by making sure that white space is open, and that this is a Pacifica Bridge problem, not a Center problem, so they need to enforce it with their people.

Stakeholder Christopher Parkinson said that his experience and understanding about Scientology is they love to do things internally. He believes they need a proper communication on record explaining what needs to be done so they can refer back to it later.

Mr. Skarpelos pledged to stakeholders that HUNC will bring this up next month to see if it’s a problem. But he would also like to see efforts to resolve these things without getting into an enforcement thing with the NC. He asked if people want to motion to write the letter or table it to see if there’s any improvement.

Michael Connolly asked Ms. Marmolejo what she thinks is the right approach. She said she wants just to handle it, and it doesn’t have to take a month to do that. There are several things that have to be done, the main concern is the parking in the red, which can be done within two weeks, and that she also wants to set up the white zone more conveniently.

Ms. D’Amore wanted to remind everyone that the white zone is a city white zone, it is not Scientology’s space.

Mr. Skarpelos thought it behooves them to move this to the February meeting, and it can be addressed in one week at the Transportation and Works committee. The board concurred.

10. Outreach Committee

A) Report by the Committee Chair

No update.

11. Ad Hoc Elections Committee

A) Report by the Committee Chair

Tom Meredith reported that the election committee has crafted a 3-message approach for the period of Nov 15 through Dec 28th: “Be part of your neighborhood council” was an outreach to file to be a candidate that was supported by bus bench PSAs and yard signs. There were 13 open seats, for which they garnered 22 candidates, which is 1.692 candidates per seat. He is not happy with that sort of outcome to be honest; when they did it for the 2016 election they had 2.7 candidates per seat. HUNC has several areas with multiple candidates, like Geographic Area 4. They have 0 for Business Area A and the Non-Profit or Faith-Based Org Representative 1. It will be incumbent on all of HUNC to find individuals who could be appointed into these positions. They do not want to have vacancies on their board, since they want to make quorum.
The next messaging will be about making sure stakeholders apply for their vote by mail ballot, beginning January 15 to March 9. The bus bench PSAs have been swapped out. The banners need to be swapped out. They also have to swap out yard signs, and social media is ready to go. There will be also be candidate workshops sponsored by DONE.

12. Homelessness and Social Services Committee

A) Report by the Committee Chair

No report.

D) Discussion and possible vote to approve up to $1000 for 2 canopy tents for The Center in Hollywood for their weekly outreach events for the unhoused community

Tabled: George Skarpelos screen shared the NPG. He said that the rainy season is on the horizon, and they will need tents for participants to wait. Sheila Irani asked Erin Penner if she was on the board at the Center. Erin said she was not; she used to volunteer there and is still friends with the leadership there. Ms. Irani advised that Ms. Penner should recuse.

Ms. Penner recused herself.

Ms. Irani said that the item is pretty self-explanatory, for canopy tents with side walls and windows. The question she has is what happens after the rainy season, and whether they would have a use beyond COVID. Mr. Skarpelos noted that the NPG says that in the summertime it’ll also provide shade.

Stakeholder Patti said that she was calling in to support this, the Center in Hollywood is a solid organization doing really good work for many years. She would ask HUNC to support this. Unlike the NPG last month for that group which seemed kind of sketchy that ended up not having a winter shelter, so they ended up doing it for nothing, this is a solid bet.

Mario Hernandez, representative from DONE, said he was covering the meeting with Lorenzo Briceno (also from DONE) tonight, and said that just looking at the agenda and the action HUNC is considering tonight, they do not have the NPG on the agenda. Mr. Hernandez recommended postponing the item until it’s agendized properly, since HUNC could cause a Brown Act violation. Mr. Skarpelos noted that they did have an NPG and it was reviewed correctly in the committee, and asked Ms. Irani what she wanted to do. Ms. Irani said she would rather not push the item to next month considering the weather and the potential that they need it now. She noted that they do have a motion to support up to a thousand. Mr. Skarpelos asked Mr. Hernandez if they should not move forward with the motion, and Mr. Hernandez said that that would be the recommendation. It should have said “discussion and possible vote to approve an NPG for…” This way it tells the reader what you’re going to be taking action on.

Tom Meredith said to Mr. Hernandez and Mr. Briceno that the NPG was part of the packet of attachments that are associated with this meeting and the agenda items, and asked if that makes a difference. Mr. Hernandez said that it has to be listed on the agenda. Mr. Skarpelos said that HUNC regularly says that they cannot buy things and give them to organizations. They have to get an NPG, in which it says what they are going to spend $1000 on, and the fact that it comes in an NPG package, he does not think that it makes any difference. Brandi D’Amore said she thinks Mr. Hernandez is talking about the ambiguity of the motion, considering they have an agenda item on here tonight plus the potential of invalidating the agenda item if they pursue this. Ms. Irani suggested that they have the ability to charge the amount to the board’s Visa card. She asked, if they support this motion, if they can purchase the items and donate them, since she has an estimate from Amazon, and she can take the tents to the center. Mr. Skarpelos asked, if they approved it that way, if it would be compliant, and Mr. Hernandez said it would not, since it would be a gift of public funds. Mr. Skarpelos said that they are going to table it to February then, and that he was very disappointed.

Michael Connolly asked if they vote to approve and go through the process, if Mr. Hernandez would decline it, and if he declines it, whether they can just do it anyway in February. Mr. Skarpelos said that the City Clerk might give HUNC a hard time. They are very picky about this kind of stuff, and they could go through this again and get dinged again. Mr. Hernandez confirmed that it would be the City Clerk that would stop this, but again, that is just his recommendation, and it is at the board’s discretion.

Ms. Irani recommended that they go forward and take it up on the next agenda if it’s rejected.

Mr. Skarpelos thought that if they give us a hard time they give us a hard time and Ms. Irani said she was not even sure we’ve always said the words NPG.

Stakeholder Garry Fordyce said that the start date was January 4, 2020 and the completion date is January 4, 2021 on the NPG, and said if anyone attended the City Clerk funding workshop for NPGs last week, they would realize that you cannot backbill something that’s past the date, and HUNC has missed the date and the deadline. Mr. Skarpelos said that the NPG isn’t right. It says 1/4/2020. Stakeholder Fordyce also said that recusing is a personal decision, not a board decision, and Mr. Skarpelos clarified that people have been forced to recuse in strict circumstances.

Mr. Briceno emphasized that there can be no discussion back and forth with stakeholders, and they should stay with the topic at
hand. After seeing the completion date, he said that funding would definitely reject that.

Mr. Skarpelos said that they have to table the item and get a proper NPG from the organization.

13. Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness Committee

A) Report by the Committee Chair

No report.

14. Non Profit, Education & Arts Committee

A) Report by the Committee Chair

Margaret Marmolejo reported that they had a meeting in December and got to know more about Maureen Diekmann and Tony Zimbardi and what their careers have been, which was great. They also shared past projects that are non-profit projects or arts projects to give them a flavor for what they have done as HUNC.

15. Renters and Housing Issues Committee

A) Report by the Committee Chair

Matt Wait reported that they did not meet this month, and he forgot to submit their agenda items that did not get submitted last month including filming permits on RSO properties. He said it was his fault, the reminder went to the wrong folder because of how he had his Gmail set up. They will be meeting this month and those items will still be transferred to the next board meeting.

16. Executive Committee

A) Report by the President

George Skarpelos reported that LA lost 3 souls recently including Tommy Lasorda, Tom LaBonge, and Wilshire the fire dog, who was there when HUNC was named honorary battalion fire chief in 2018.

B) Discussion and possible motion to censure Board Member Francis “Coyote” Shivers for his violation of the code of conduct that Neighborhood Council Board Members should treat other Board Members and members of the public with respect regardless of the other’s political affiliation

Lorenzo Briceno provided an overview of BONC’s censure policy. The purpose is to place a board member on notice of misconduct and provide the board member to correct the misconduct. It can apply to conduct contrary to rules or conduct that impede board operations. Including but not limited to: violations or abuses of board’s bylaws or rules, disrupting meetings, and acting without board authorization. The censure motion shall contain factual statements that contain conduct only and are not intended to embarrass.

George Skarpelos explained that a motion to censure a board member may be initiated by any 3 board members that shall not constitute a majority of a quorum of a committee. The motion shall be in writing and provide facts and grounds for proposed censure. This motion was submitted to him, and he emphasized that he had to bring this to the board. He was given a letter from Tom and Michael and Luis. Mr. Skarpelos read the letter explaining that Coyote spoke at length about his support of the campaign of Donald Trump and his efforts working for the president.

Brandi D’Amore said that she had spoken with Mr. Briceno and he indicated that incidents that occurred with her fall under this guideline. She asked if she should present those now or later. Mr. Briceno clarified that no new information should be brought forward. If it’s relative to the bullet points that were highlighted that led up to the motion, then she can express that. But this will not be used as an opportunity to bring up different allegations. So of course, she can bring it up if it’s relevant. Ms. D’Amore asked if Mr. Briceno meant that her incidents would have to be on one of the four dates in the motion to be brought up. Mr. Briceno said that it would be limited to the dates on the motion, and they would not want to open it up for discussion about different allegations on different dates.

Tom Meredith wanted to bring to attention, while the motion to censure by any 3 board members has been processed appropriately, that Article V, Section VIII, Item IV in our bylaws says that the board subject shall be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard prior to the board’s vote to censure. He asked if they are prevented from moving forward on a motion to censure and does that mean they cannot even discuss it.
Mr. Skarpelos said that he has a response from Coyote Shivers from when Mr. Skarpelos sent the motion to him and asked if that would work. Mr. Briceno said that really depends; he believes the response should have been provided to the entire board. Mr. Skarpelos said that it was shared in the exhibits, and he gave it to everybody, though Mr. Shivers addressed the response only to him and a few others.

Mr. Briceno asked if the board would feel comfortable to say that that would have been his response. Mr. Skarpelos said that if somebody says, “Well, I won’t come to the meetings”, that’s an easy way out. Mr. Meredith pointed again to the language in the bylaws, “at the meeting”. Ms. D’Amore noted that Mr. Shivers opted out of it. Mr. Briceno’s recommendation would be if the board provided ample time, the 30-day notification and that he had the opportunity to be heard at the meeting but opted not to attend, that shouldn’t impeded the board from taking action. Mr. Skarpelos noted that Mr. Shivers did receive the notice. He forwarded the confirmation he received the notice, and Mr. Briceno has seen that, so he clearly had since December 11 to reply to know this was coming and this would be heard at this board meeting, and Mr. Skarpelos only heard today that he wasn’t going to come because he wanted to do something else.

Ms. D’Amore said that for several hours over the weekend Mr. Shivers contacted her alternately saying this item was illegal, invalid, etc. and she kept telling him to present this at this meeting.

Mr. Skarpelos read out Mr. Shiver’s response, which also alleged other “crimes” and “violations” of other board members. Matt Wait clarified that Mr. Shivers attributed a quote to Mr. Wait that he did not say.

Mr. Skarpelos said that there are two parts to this item: did he do these acts, and do they constitute censurable acts. They do have evidence the acts were made, since they have the minutes with Mr. Shivers asking Theresa Gio what political affiliations she had. And Mr. Saldivar and Mr. Connolly were at this Arts Committee meeting when he was talking about this stuff. He asked if this happened there, which Mr. Connolly confirmed, and added that 3 other board members besides Mr. Shivers were there. Mr. Skarpelos added that when they were trying to get a HUNC retreat going, Mr. Shivers talked about working for the president in that capacity after being told AGAIN that he wasn’t supposed to talk about that.

Erin Penner said she would just like to not table everything, and said who’s to say Mr. Shivers wasn’t actually in the start of this meeting on a cell number that magically disappeared. She asked the board to put this to rest.

Ms. D’Amore asked Mr. Briceno how this censure works going forward in a future election, and how it affects the board member censured in a following term. Mr. Briceno said that censures do not necessarily carry over to the next term. He wouldn’t be coming back to a new term being censured, but obviously it will be part of the public record.

Mr. Skarpelos noted that you cannot censure somebody within 60 days of an election, so there’s no consequences to this. He sees that as a problem and it’s the kind of thing that BONC needs to address. If censured acts happen you shouldn’t get a free act if it’s close to elections.

Mario Hernandez from DONE concurred with Mr. Briceno that as long as Mr. Shivers was noticed and the board followed process, if he didn’t show up, the onus is on him.

Stakeholder Garland said that he was at the last meeting where Francis was intermittently attending the meeting shirtless sometimes. Mr. Skarpelos clarified that they have to focus on the incidents they are talking about here, not other grievances no matter how bad they are. Stakeholder Garland said that action needs to be taken, and concerns about him not being here are silly. Someone could intentionally not attend board meetings to avoid censure. He totally supports the censure and thinks Mr. Shivers does not take his responsibilities seriously, he has disdain for everybody, so please vote yes.

Stakeholder Seth said he thinks it’s interesting that the board is treading so lightly when it comes with this one man and with a lead foot when it comes to keeping stakeholder comments to 1 minute. He said Mr. Shivers stumped for Trump on the Franklin Village Facebook page. He said that Mr. Shivers also intimated that he was acting on behalf of the NC to discuss disputes with Stakeholder Seth. He thinks it is insane that HUNC lets Mr. Shivers get away with not voting on anything and never showing up when it counts.

Stakeholder Kristina O’Neil wanted to say it sounds like the question at hand is, has HUNC done everything as a board to make sure they are moving in the right direction so there is no back end coming at them. She thinks they have done their due diligence, what they are putting in the motion to have him be censured, because it gets to the point without getting to the petty stuff that they are all aware that he did. She asked, in these dates, if there was something at a main, full board meeting, which Mr. Skarpelos confirmed.

Stakeholder Garland said that Mr. Skarpelos already called on him, but thought it was pathetic to the end that they are sticking up for this complete clown 4chan edgelord, and they should get him off the board and censure him.

Stakeholder Nigel said that the item was not worth tabling: he had a chance to come here, he’s not serious; it’s one thing to have a difference of opinion politically, it’s another to use your position on an NC to launder those beliefs.
Stakeholder Brenda Smith thought that HUNC should not table this; she thinks that all members of the community deserve to be treated with dignity and respect and it’s on the members of the board to uphold that. What they do for the least of the community reflects on all of them.

Mr. Connolly wanted to clarify that the HUNC board IS voting on this and does not know why it keeps coming up that for some reason they might be tabling it.

Stakeholder Jessica J said that she supports HUNC on this motion and thinks that with DONE on the phone, you tend to second guess yourselves. She thinks Coyote Francis Shivers is a terrorist who’s probably on Parler somewhere, in an FBI jail in Washington, or terrorizing local government officials.

Stakeholder Patti said that she really supports the board’s motion to censure, not to delay or put off. She thinks Mr. Shivers’ behavior is reprehensible the way he treats his stakeholders and fellow board members. HUNC’s meeting place has to feel safe and comfortable for everybody. Mr. Shivers threw it in your face last month by showing up shirtless and eating a cheeseburger from the beach.

Ms. D’Amore asked if they could keep the censure up on the screen share and pointed out to attendees that because this is a legal issue it has been vetted through multiple offices. It’s not about the HUNC board favoring him, it’s just that they are very restricted on these topics. She has information that she would love to bring forward on this same topic, but not on the specific dates in the censure.

Mr. Meredith motioned that they move forward on the censure as detailed in the document on the screen. Mr. Connolly seconded.

Ms. Penner wanted to ask Mr. Briceno and Mr. Hernandez, as someone that has suffered the consequences of this kind of stuff, is there any way to put in this motion that whoever votes “Yes” will be protected from threats as a result of this censure. They know they will get threatened and she has firsthand experience with it, and it makes it hard for board members to be vocal.

Mr. Briceno said that they have to be careful and proceed with caution with what they say, but the department takes all complaints and allegations very seriously, so he wouldn’t want any board members to feel that they can’t vote their conscience. If any board member has those concerns, reach out directly. They can discuss issues outside the scope of this motion elsewhere.

Matt Wait said that his comment is a personal opinion, but the parallels between this motion vote and the impeachment vote of the president are numerous: they have someone who has for years neglected public duty, committed egregious offenses in his private life with no retribution, and here we have him wrangled on one technicality, and he urges the board not to get this bogged down in procedure. His heart goes out to Ms. D’Amore, Ms. Penner, and Mr. Shivers’ ex-wife who have been victims of his behavior. He’s guilty of everything laid out in this letter, the motion is appropriate and should be carried through.

Andrew Chadsey said he does not think they should be comparing Mr. Shivers to other people, they should look at him on the merit of his own behavior on these dates. Mr. Chadsey asked if it was possible to do a physical vote with hand raising to protect people who think they might be too scared to vote. Mr. Skarpelos said that he thinks they have to have it on the record in the minutes.

Mr. Connolly asked a procedural question: his understanding is that you can’t censure somebody 60 days out from an election and they are 5 days outside of that. He asked, can you censure a person again for something they did in December in April if they win again for new charges? Mr. Briceno said he is more than happy to go back and get clarification, but once the term ends, the censure ends, and if it’s a new term, any new motions brought forward would have to be applicable to that term. But he will confirm and let them know.

Ms. D’Amore said that the issue is whether or not these things happened, and she wanted it on the record that throughout this process Mr. Shivers has contacted her to say these issues are invalid because of his issues with other board members. She encouraged him to follow the same process, because censure is available to him. If that’s what he believes, he’s got a process to follow. He doesn’t take any of this seriously, so something has to now be done. She is sorry she is rendered speechless because it’s hard to keep it in the scope. The reality was these were the only things that were problematic and could be brought to the attention of the board. Discussions about these things yielded a blasé attitude that these things don’t matter, and they do matter. They need to address this and vote yes on it tonight.

Susan Swan wanted to point out that upon election, every board member is subject to ethics training, and it is not new to any of us these restrictions of political action.

Ms. Penner piggybacked on Ms. Swans comment, saying that Mr. Shivers was 4 months late on ethics or code of conduct training, so she does not know why they are still discussing this because nothing has been taken seriously with him.

Mr. Skarpelos said that there are no warnings with the Code of Conduct. Board members sign it every year. It is their responsibility to know what’s in that Code of Conduct and what they should not be doing. A censure is the official reminder that a board member broke that Code of Conduct, and only then does the board move past that and consider removal. Unfortunately, they cannot
consider removal in the next 60 days because they have to have another act and then do this again. Censuring him is worth it from Mr. Skarpelos’ perspective and they should move through this.

Motion Made: Motion to censure Board Member Francis “Coyote” Shivers for his violation of the code of conduct that Neighborhood Council Board Members should treat other Board Members and members of the public with respect regardless of the other’s political affiliation

Motion: Tom Meredith  Second: Michael Connolly  Vote: Yes-14, No-0, Abstain-1, Recused-0, Ineligible-1

Yes: Andrew Chadsey, Margaret Marmolejo, Tom Meredith, Fouzia Burfield, Ineligible: Marshall Cobb

Motion: Tom Meredith  Second: Michael Connolly  Vote: Yes-14, No-0, Abstain-1, Recused-0, Ineligible-1

17. Board Member announcements of items not on the Agenda

None

18. Old/Ongoing Business

None

19. New/Future Business

Brandi D’Amore said they have an issue regarding digital advertising at bus stops and asked if it should be brought to the PLUM or Transportation and Works Committee. Jim Van Dusen said it sounds like Transportation and Works, but it’s a toss-up, and George Skarpelos said they will reconnoiter and find out.

Mr. Skarpelos said he has gotten at least 70 emails regarding a 7-11 proposed on Franklin Blvd. It will be considered at the February 4 PLUM meeting and then at the February 11 board meeting. Mr. Van Dusen said he has sent out his initial email inviting them to the meeting, and gave them the option of the February 4 or March 4 meeting. Mr. Skarpelos said that they responded that February 4 would probably be okay, and thought he saw something from one of their people. Mr. Van Dusen thought Mr. Skarpelos was thinking of Meg, the new planning director for CD4.

Adjournment at 10:09 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.