

# CITY OF LOS ANGELES

## HOLLYWOOD STUDIO DISTRICT NEIGHBORHOOD

### OFFICERS:

### COUNCIL

### BOARD MEMBERS:

CALIFORNIA

#### Steven Whiddon

Chair

#### Tom Meredith

Vice Chair

T.B.A.

Treasurer

#### Jenny Weatherholtz

Recording Secretary

MAIL: P.O. Box 85098

Los Angeles, CA 90072

PHONE: 323.461.0773



ANTONIO R. VILLARAIGOSA  
MAYOR



Alex Alferov

Andy Schwartz

Bill Zide

Felipe Corrado

Efrain Gonzalez

Frank Valenti

Jennifer Moran

Jenny Weatherholtz

Juri Ripinsky

Kenneth Ostrow

Luke Vincent

Leila Forouzan

Manny Rodriguez

Narine Chobanyan

Nathan French

Steven Whiddon

Thomas Meredith

## HOLLYWOOD STUDIO DISTRICT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (HSDNC)

Monday **February 13, 2012**, 6:30 p.m.

Santa Monica Blvd. Community Charter School, 1022 N. Van Ness Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90038

### REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

1. **Meeting called to order at 6:34 pm.** by Vice Chair Tom Meredith, welcome remarks. Community members attending for the first time were introduced: Britney Witt on behalf of a neighborhood volunteer program, Brandie Gordon on behalf of the Thai Community Center, Adam Smith from the Reality Church of Los Angeles.

Steven thanked Adam Smith for attending to discuss parking for the church services at Helen Bernstein High School, which will come up later in the meeting.

- Introduction of stakeholders/visitors
- Reminder - HSDNC Bylaws require each HSDNC Board Member to take training; we are close to 100% compliance
- HSDNC Office space update
- Reminder to take Mayor's Budget Survey
- HBHS FIRST Robotics Team Update – Team Captain Maria Yepremian noted there are three major components in the competition, and thanked the HSDNC for its support in purchasing needed equipment. HSDNC will be recognized with the name/logo displayed prominently;

Discussion ensued re the possibility of providing transportation for the team to the Competition in Long Beach; Steven will contact CD 13. Alex said he is writing a story for the website

Maria was asked if she might be interested in becoming an HSDNC Board member, and she replied she is; said she didn't know there were people who would listen to the voices of the people with different perspectives.

2. **Roll Call – Present:** Alferov, Avanian, Corrado, Forouzan, French, Meredith, Moran, Ostrow, Ripinsky, Rodriguez, Schwartz, Valenti, Vincent, Whiddon, Zide  
**Absent** - (all excused) Gonzalez, Hamilton, Weatherholtz
3. **Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items** (2 min. per  
H. R. Price spoke about concerns of parking on 700-900 block of Van Ness
4. **Meet – Greet -- Enjoy Refreshments**
5. **Approval of Minutes for Board Meeting of 1/9 and Retreat on 1/15**  
January 9 Minutes tabled.  
**Motion** by Meredith, second by Whiddon, that the Minutes from the January 15 Board Retreat be approved. **Unanimous** vote.
6. **Report by City Officials – CD 13 –** Angela Motta noted that the Youth Policy Institute Offers tutoring after school and free tax preparation; phone is 323.836.0055; LAPD is Hosting Town Hall at the Santa Monica Blvd. Community Charter School on March 14, 6:30 p.m. The Captain and Senior Lead Officers will be present.

Steven asked that the Council office update the HSDNC at the next meeting re the Western Avenue Streetscape and that Angela ask Ryan Carpio for an update on Lemon Grove Restroom refurbishing

7. **Board member resignation** and discussion and possible action re filling vacancies vacancies
  - Steven said that Stan Hamilton tendered his resignation, noting other commitments prevented his attendance at meetings.
  - Discussion and possible action re consideration of candidates Narine Chobanyan and Laurie Goldman. Ms. Goldman was not present but Ms. Chobanyan said she lives in the area and is very interested in serving on the Board. She has another commitment until May on the day our Board meets, but could probably attend committee meetings in the meantime.

**Motion** by Whiddon, seconded by Zide, and unanimous vote that Narine Chobanyan fill one of the Board vacancies

Steven noted that going forward, vacancies will be handled/processed by the Bylaws / Election Committee

8. **Treasurer –** Update on Reconciliation of funding and Budget and Finance
  - Steven said we have made strides in reconciliation of finances and that it will be important to agendaize and decide in March re projects going forward
9. **Outreach Committee:**
  - a. Discussion and Possible Action re identification/finalization of contacts at the approved HSDNC Agenda Posting Locations
  - b. Discussion and Possible Action re request to fund up to \$1,000 in support of Thai CDC effort to provide both EBT and a health booth at the new Hollywood and Western Farmer's Market for low-income residents to access nutritious food and health services.
    - Brittany Witt said that the Thai Community Development Center had received a grant but it did not fund the farmers market.

**Motion** by French, second by Ostrow that up to \$1000 be allocated to fund the EBT booth at the Hollywood Farmer's Market.

YES: Corrado, Forouzan, French, Meredith, Ostrow, Ripinsky, Rodriguez, Schwartz, Valenti, Whiddon

NO: Alferov, Moran, Vincent

ABSTAIN: Avanian, Zide

Motion passes.

- c. Lemon Grove Park Survey Results 2011 vs. 2010 – L. Forouzan
  - Leila reported an increase in number of people taking the survey; 71 in 2011 vs. 53 the previous year, of which 42% were Spanish speaking. A majority said they were “somewhat” familiar with the NC, which was an increase over previous year.
- d. Presentation of new HSDNC email and email protocol – L. Forouzan
  - Leila said she will be sending out an e-news letter 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday each month
- e. Neighborhood Reports
  - 5<sup>th</sup> Sub-district (NU-LA) – Jose Torres said there is a Town Hall meeting on 2/21 at the charter school. He said he is interested in filling a vacant seat on the NC
  - Juri Ripinsky asked that a report be given at the next meeting on the Town Hall
  - 6<sup>th</sup> Sub-district – Melrose Hill – Tom said he had attended a meeting at Ed Hunt’s home and the big issues were the Hollywood Redevelopment Plan, parking, traffic.
  - Alex noted an event at the Fountain Community Garden
  - Next Outreach meeting: last Tuesday of the month, February 28, 6:30 at Denny’s

10. **PLUM Committee**

- a. Discussion and possible action re proposed conditional letter of support for Target Stores project at Sunset/Western

**Public Comment:** Stakeholder **Doug Haines** said the previous HSDNC Board voted to oppose the project, mainly because of the proposed height and that the developer didn’t want to work with the community and its concerns; two intersections will be impacted that need mitigation; should address exception re SNAP. This will be one of the largest Target Stores in California.

**Juri Ripinsky** noted there are 9 variances requested around building height/loading; this is important to note because the Draft EIR has been published.

**Steven Whiddon** said we have an obligation to our stakeholders to be diligent and cognizant of their concerns.

**Motion** by Valenti, second by Ostrow, that HSDNC send proposed letter of support for Target project, with conditions, most importantly that the parking be placed underground.

YES: Corrado, Forouzan, Meredith, Ostrow, Ripinsky, Rodriguez, Schwartz, Valenti, Whiddon

NO: Alferov, Moran, Vincent

ABSTAIN: Zide

Motion passes.

Steven suggested the next letter should include the closure of De Longpre and creation of a park.

- b. Discussion and possible action re letter of support for Mayer Building Project  
This item will be tabled until next meeting.

11. **Bylaws/Elections Committee** (view Bylaws at [www.HSDNC.org](http://www.HSDNC.org))
  - Report, Discussion and possible action re approved Bylaws revisions
  - Discussion and possible action re proposed revision to Article X, Section C.,  
Officers:
    1. After the election and appointment of Board Members, the Board by simple majority will vote to elect from among its Members the following officers, at a public meeting: Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Treasurer. The Officers will serve for a term of two (2) years or until the next regularly scheduled election has been certified and Board Members seated and will serve at the will of the Board.  
**Proposed new provisions:** "To qualify to serve as such, the Chairperson must have served as a Board member for at least one year prior to being elected by the Board. All other Officers may serve without having previously served on the Board."
  - Ken noted the next Committee meeting will be on April 3 at 6:30 pm
12. **Transportation and Parking Committee**
  - a. Update on communications with LA Reality Church re parking
    - **Adam Smith** thanked Steven for reaching out and inviting him to the meeting. The Church has been trying to find additional parking for the congregation which has grown beyond expectations; they want to participate and be of service to the community. They have a history with LAUSD in Hollywood and provide volunteers. He is very grateful for HSDNC's support.
    - **Juri Ripinsky** offered the use of the Sears parking lot; they will discuss afterward.
    - **John Travis**, Director of Operations for the Church, said the services have grown in numbers to between 2,800 and 3,000 parishioners in 3 services.
  - b. Update on communication re proposed letter to the City requesting that it creates and paints designated parking spaces for each vehicle to encourage drivers not to take up more than one space, starting in a 4-block radius, outward from the HBHS. This item was tabled.
13. **Proposed Agenda items for next Board meeting on March 12**
14. **Adjournment** at 9:58