

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

HOLLYWOOD STUDIO DISTRICT NEIGHBORHOOD
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CALIFORNIA

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HOLLYWOOD STUDIO DISTRICT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (HSDNC)
Monday, January 13th, 2013, 6:30 p.m.

Assistance League of Southern California
1360 N. St. Andrews Place, Los Angeles, CA 90028

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Items are listed for reference only and may be discussed out of order

1. **Meeting called to order**, welcome remarks by Chair
 - Introduction of stakeholders/visitors
2. **Roll Call – 16/4**
 - Orletha
 - Christina
 - Don
 - Tom
 - Charles
 - Juri
 - Jose
 - Luke
 - Maria
 - Bill
 - Alex
 - Jennifer
 - Jirair
 - Drew
 - John
 - Meredith
3. **Approval of Minutes** for Board meeting of December 9th, 2013
 - Bill – Item 4 – change language from “disapproval” to “did not approve and asked the representative to come back with more information”. It will actually come from the board, not from bill as stakeholder
 - Orletha/Meredeth – Motion Passes 12/3/0
4. **Public Comments** on Non-Agenda items (2 min. per)
 - Nathan French – Works for The Center at Blessed Sacrament. Announcement that next Tuesday they are hosting a lunch as a part of a campaign for taking care of the business of ending homelessness in Hollywood. Open to anyone with an invested interest in the businesses in Hollywood. There is an effort right now along with PATH and My Friend’s Place to create the coordinated entry system, a system to identify who is

chronically homeless in our community, who is vulnerable, and how to connect those individuals to resources. They are doing a push this week to get as many people assessed as possible.

- Ramona Patrick- Citizens of the World Silver Lake Charter School – Wants to become active in the community and solve some problems children are encountering as they go to and from school, including illegal activity such as drinking on the street. The school is enthusiastic about being a part of the solution to making pathways to and from school safer.

5. **Meet & Greet**

6. **Report by Government Agencies**

- Greg Bartsz – from LADWP – GM Ron Nichols has resigned. He will retain position through end of January then the mayor will make appointments. In the past, there has been an interim appointed, which may happen. Greg provided a copy of a synopsis of what was accomplished by the department in 2013. Different things going on include going to renewable energy, and getting off coal as an energy source. Looking for suggestions from HSDNC for things the LADWP can do better. Regarding rate increases, the LADWP does extensive outreach prior to making changes. Rate increases are something that is going to be happening annually, 4% - 6% annually.

- Sylvan De La Cruz – Community organizer Councilman Mitch O'Farrell. Organizing events, outreach events, helping underserved community members get more representation and involvement in community. Organizing a community walk in two weeks (on January 25th) in the area of Santa Monica to Fountain and Western to Bronson. This walk will be an outreach effort to meet neighbors and pass out information. Two weeks after that, there is a cleanup happening in the same area.

- Aaram Taslagyan – East Hollywood deputy of parks of Hollywood. Neighbors of the Sealy/Rodriguez park have been complaining about noise and illegal activity at the park. Council approved that the basketball courts be removed and replaced with workout equipment. LAPD to increase patrols at the park at night. This is an effort to change the demographic of people who use this park. Barton and Western intersection – constituents have called councilman's office regarding the marijuana dispensaries on that corner. With help of LAPD, two of the three dispensaries have been shut down. They are also trying to trim the trees on the corner to make it a more visible corner.

- Steven Whiddon – There was a previous commitment to work with the assistance league to get rid of trees on the sidewalk. The area has more recently been having more gang problems and homeless encampments. Assistance league has recently removed the trees, increasing visibility. Councilman's office is also working with Captain Darcony to issue a letter to LADWP regarding increasing lighting in the neighborhood. Target is offering a space for a drop in station for LAPD. They brought in Aztec Rising to do some intervention and talks in the neighborhood because Home Depot said MS13 has been in the area making threats. Carlton and Western has had a problem with trash and graffiti, and the councilman's office has spent time cleaning it up and planted 25 vines along the wall to hopefully eliminate graffiti. Asphalt repairs have happened to make the streets more pedestrian friendly. Stakeholders can submit requests to Aida.valencia@lacity.org for sidewalk repair requests. Promise Zone – last week a sizeable investment is being made in LA, which will bring a large amount of funding (up to \$500 million) to CD13. These funds will be used as resources for long term growth and sustainability. WiFi project – Steve thanked Bill and Nathan for pushing it forward. Steve encouraged Bill and Nathan to move forward with receiving support from YPI.

- Yeghig Keshishian – Mayor's office – hosting budget town hall on January 21st from 6-8PM. The mayor's budget team will be there to hear from the community and to give an overview of how the mayor's office is going about creating a sustainable budget. The Mayor had a press conference earlier today that crimes have dropped to the lowest rate since 1966. Promise Zone – There has been some mischaracterization in the press about what the promise zone does. It makes LA competitive to receive federal grants and tax incentives. It is not a guarantee that the \$500 million will be attained, but gives LA a chance to obtain it in a 10 year span. Overall goal for the promise zone is to address lifting individuals out of poverty.

- Tim Pershing – Field Deputy for Assemblyman Bloom. The tax incentives are not for film producers and actors, but for the day laborers and average people making \$60,000 per year approximately. The incentives are trying to keep middle class jobs here in LA. Bike share program – trying to create a large one that spans LA so that you could ride a bike from Santa Monica to East LA and leave it there.

7. **Holiday Party 2013:**

a. **Report on party's success and review of its management** – Ziggy

- Absent

b. **Discussion and update on thank you letters from HSDNC to persons and institutions contributing to make the Holiday**

- Bill – Must draft thank you letters to all key contributors to party.

8. **Presentation regarding New York Life's Free Child ID Program (also for Seniors)**
- Jennifer R. Davis - Absent
9. **Presentation by LA County Bicycle Coalition regarding getting HSDNC Support (up to \$250) to produce 'pocket guide' w/ discussion and vote – Colin Bogart**
- Absent
10. **Presentation of (and Vote to approve HSDNC signing on) draft of letter in support of Fountain Community Gardens' petition to the City of LA for a 22-Year Lease for their current space – Dan Fujiwara - Absent**
11. ***Bylaws/Elections Committee***
 - a. **Discussion and Update on progress of adhoc Election Committee to handle publicity and management of HSDNC Election – Jirair**
- Tried to contact the HSDNC bylaws committee members and only heard back from 1 person, so they were unable to meet. Scheduled joint meeting with bylaws/elections and outreach committees for Thursday the 16th at 6PM.
 - Bill – Reminder of DONE having a negative impact on last elections. Stressed importance of HSDNC being attentive to getting candidates, voters, and getting the word out about the elections.
 - Orletha – It's important to have DONE's approval of our bylaws before the elections on March 30th.
 - Bill will agendize a vote to approve changes in bylaws for February's meeting.
 - b. **Introduction of Jay Handal and presentation/discussion as his role for DONE as Election Coordinator for Region 5 NC Elections**
- Absent
12. ***PLUM Committee***
 - a. **Update, Discussion & possible Vote regarding Administrative Matters**
 - b. **Discussion, selection/vote and/or confirmation/re-confirmation of committee members, Chair and Co-Chair**
- Current HSDNC Board PLUM committee members – Juri, Bill, Luke, Don, and John.
- Non Board members – Courtney Tossounian, Jackie Shabel, Jackie Ruez.
- Juri/Jirair Motion to ratify committee members, Juri, Bill, Luke, Don, John, Jackie Ruez, Shannon Muir, Pablo Ruiz, and Courtney Tossounian.
- Motion carries 14/1/1 (Orletha abstained, Jose voted no)
 - b. **Review, consideration & discussion of PLUM and HSDNC's function, process, mission and mandate for the HSDNC and its stakeholders – including member responsibilities**
- Courtney Tossounian – Interested in chairing the PLUM committee.
- Jackie Ruez – Current Co Chair of the PLUM committee. To her knowledge, the meetings have not occurred because a large majority of development applications have not been submitted to the city. Is interested in chairing the committee, but recommends Juri also remain active on the committee. Communicated the PLUM committee requires some administrative support in order to function.
- Juri – HSDNC needs to go over what needs to be done in order to have a functioning PLUM committee, irrespective of who the people in leadership are. PLUM is the most important committee because it processes a lot of business for the city, and a lot of potentially controversial issues such as traffic and parking. PLUM needs to demonstrate consistency and fairness in what it does. It was always compelling to have a person who works for the committee because he/she was a paid person who had no agenda. So it was a good thing to have someone who could process applicants on the agenda so there would be a constant perception of fairness. This has deteriorated since Harry left because they have lost the ability to fund such a person. Juri is not interested in running for chair of the committee again, but is still interested in being on the committee. The PLUM committee has degenerated the past few months because votes don't get followed through on and have not yielded the results they were intended to create. It is every board member's responsibility to attend PLUM meetings to receive information. The PLUM committee needs to be recreated. The functions that need to be handled by board members on a regular basis include:
 - There must be at least one board member at every meeting every month
 - There needs to be a record keeper – someone to keep files for every project presented to the committee. The files must be kept in the offices of the HSDNC and must be available for the public.
 - There needs to be 2 record takers so that minutes can be recorded at meetings. A major reason for this is so letters of recommendation can be recorded exactly in the record.

- It is important committee members be able to attend certain public hearings, such as city or other neighborhood council meetings that deal with projects in our NC.

c. Notice of next meeting and upcoming projects and presentations

- January 25

13. **Budget and Finance**

a. **Outstanding Business** – Orletha

b. **Status of Outstanding Invoices and Obligations**

- In the July expenses, the HSDNC translation services were for youth committee meetings.

- the \$20 reimbursement to Jirair was paid

c. **Approve all outstanding reconciliation reports for FY 2013/2014**

- Jirair/Bill Motion to approve December expenses

- Motion passes – 15/0/1 (Drew abstained)

14. **Outreach Committee**

a. **Update On Outreach Activities, especially as related to voters for NC Elections** – Jennifer

- Having first meeting on Thursday at 6PM

b. **Progress and Update on the HSDNC Website and Facebook Page** – Shane/Jennifer

- Jennifer has been adding things to the website, and Jirair has been adding things to the Facebook page.

15. **Discussion and possible Vote regarding duties, responsibilities and/or reconfirmation of current (or new candidate(s)) for Board Secretary.**

- Jirair – Suggested the responsibilities of the secretary be to take notes during meeting, administer grievances, and communicate to the public.

16. **Discussion, Re-Confirmation and/or Election/Selection of Representatives to LANCC, DWP, Budget Representatives (2)**

- Table

17. **New Business**

18. **Adjournment**