

HUNC OFFICERS

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CITY OF LOS ANGELES



HOLLYWOOD UNITED
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Certified Council #52
P.O. Box 3272 Los Angeles, CA 90078
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HUNC Board Members:

Debbi Aldahl
Robert Abrahamian
Jordan Birnbaum
Bechir Blagui
Andrew Ettinger
Rodney Hargrove
Scott Larson
Bree Long
Jamie Rosenthal
Hilary Royce
Erik Sanjurjo
David H. Schlesinger

Monday, November 17th, 2008
Full Board Meeting at 6:30 pm
First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood
Community Room – Upper Terrace, 6054 Yucca St. (East of Gower)

The public is requested to fill out a "Speaker Card" to address the Board on any item of the agenda prior to the Board taking action on an item. Comments from the public on Agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the Agenda that is within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Comment period. Public comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker, unless waived by the presiding officer of the Board. Agenda is posted for public review at Cheremoya Ave Elementary School 6017 Franklin Ave, First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood 1760 Gower, Beachwood Market, 2701 Beldon Dr, Sabor & Cultura Cafe, 5625 Hollywood Blvd., Counterpoint Records & Books, 5911 Franklin Ave. As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting the Neighborhood Council Project Coordinator Naheed Qureshi, email: Naheed.Qureshi@lacity.org phone 213-473-5391)

AGENDA ITEMS: ALL ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

1. Welcome and Roll Call

Present were Bechir Blagui, Robert Abrahamian, David Schlesinger, Erik Sanjurjo, Charles Suhayda, Ryan Hass, Susan Swan, Scott Larson, Jamie Rosenthal, Rodney Hargrove
Excused: Debbi Aldahl, Bree Long, Andrew Ettinger
Absent: Hilary Royce

2. Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Scott Larson
SECOND: Robert Abrahamian
VOTE: 9- Yes, 0-No, 1- Abstain

3. LAPD and LAFD Updates

Hollywood Santa Parade on Nov 30th

The Hollywood division is shrinking, losing 2 SLO's and 40 police officers: area So. Of Willoughby, W of Seward So of Melrose, E of Seward

Scott wanted to make the board aware of the crime on Taft bringing to their attention that there was recently a rape on Taft and Foothill.

He also mentioned three recent break-ins in that area.

Scott said that to his knowledge break-ins have occurred three times in the last 30 days and that the rise in crime has really shaken the community. He asked that everyone be aware of this rise and suggested that residents may want to consider establishing a neighborhood watch.

Ryan noted that for several months the CPAB meetings have been canceled. He said that there won't be another one until January of 2009.

4. Los Angeles City and County Updates including but not limited to:

- A. Mayor's Office Updates
- B. City Council Office Updates

CD4: No representatives present.

CD13: Helen Leung gave an update on the City mentioning that there is a new captain named Beatrice Girmala

Email Beatrice.Girmala@LACity.org

Helen also mentioned the numerous Proposition 8 protests that had been going on.

Referring to Halloween night, she informed the board that next year the Dept of Transportation and Caltrans will be brought on board and that LAPD will come to explain the logistics of closing down the streets.

To this same issue, Robert described Hollywood Blvd. being shut down on Halloween as “chaotic.”

Helen touched on the City’s effort to determine the demand for the Red Line, mentioning that lots of meetings were to be held to help in determining this.

She also brought to the board’s attention the Increase in parking meters costs and conversion of meters Hollywood Blvd and LaBrea into Pay stations – you can pay by credit card

Next step get them other places in Hollywood

She informed the board that the change in parking meters went through the whole public process.

C. DONE Updates

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

“Melrose” Larry Green spoke to the Board recounting to them the time he met Eric Garcetti at this church and expressing his opinion that the HUNC organization is as important as the City Council.

Courtney Kanagi of the Hero team at PATH addressed the board and thanked HUNC for support as the organization passes its one year mark. She extended an invitation to the members to come to a workshop to see the benefits of renting to someone with a section 8 voucher or with a low income-type housing opportunity.

Susan mentioned to her to work with Ryan on this – that he would be in the process of electing a new Renter’s committee.

Robert Akhavan spoke to the board about a new project at the corner of Argyle and Yucca. Speaking about the “old glass building sitting there vacant,” he said that a 16 story hotel is being proposed - a 3rd grade type of hotel. Akhavan spoke to his concern of losing a residential community and stressed the importance of objecting to this project and preserving the residential integrity of that area.

He urged the board to not only attend a meeting concerning the project on Dec. 3rd but to also object publicly to the project.

Nyla Arslanian member of GGPNC board

Addressed the board about high-rise development in the community, specifically the 16 story tower at Edgemont and Hollywood Blvd. Specifically, she’s concerned about the height and whether the building is a hotel or full of condos. “It’s about preserve or perish,” said Arslanian to the board.

6. Hollywood Chamber of Commerce updates, Chamber President Leron Gubler: update on Transportation Bond measure/routing

Nicole Shahemian VP for Public Policy, direct line 323 468 1373 nicole@hollywoodchamber.net

Nicole informed the board of the status of the Metro (feds provide 75% of subway funding. They provide more support for subways than light rail) and what’s going on in terms of funding some of their projects.

She said that the Red line extension had been narrowed down to possible alternatives and that both of them involve the line going down Wilshire

She said she hopes people will go to next Metro meeting and said that further information can be accessed at www.metro.net/Westside.

Ryan reminded the board that it had supported the Metro system connecting Hollywood to Highland

Erik explained to the board that for consistency purposes, the line has to go all the way to Wilshire and that since the board supported the Hollywood line, it should also support the Wilshire line.

Realistically, the money from MTA will only stretch far enough

Nicole informed the board about a letter supporting the line and explained that the Metro Board’s next step is to authorize money for the study

She urged the board to not necessarily take a position at this time but to support the idea of a study being formed

Charles suggested drafting up a letter requesting support

7. Update on current vacant Renters seat (areas 1,2,3,and 4, as outlined in HUNC Bylaws, online at www.MyHUNC.com), requirements/responsibilities, nominations for eligible stakeholder to fill seat, 2-3 minute presentations by eligible stakeholders interested in the seat, and vote by Board to fill the seat.

Erik moved to nominate Don Paul, a long-time resident of the Hollywood area for the Renter’s seat. Seconded by Ryan. Ryan said he’s a great choice. He also brought up the lack of participation Erik and he had been experiencing regarding the Renter’s meeting and mentioned that he thought the committee should reach out side the church and occasionally host renter meetings at Villa Carlotta.

Susan reminded them it has to be ADA accessible.

Scott said that one of the positive things to come out of a previous meeting was that Don stood out as someone very committed to the community. He strongly urged the board to approve Don’s nomination.

Don spoke and said that as a board member, he'd try to be in attendance as much as possible and that it would be a learning experience for him.

Rodney asked if Don had any ideas about the parking situation around Franklin and Don suggested to expand the preferential parking boundaries.

He said he and Scott had talked about Canyon and the idea that if tenants could part on Canyon, the people with homes there would know they were neighbors taking up those spaces instead of kids just parking for a night out.

Don's seat would be until spring 2010.

MOTION: Erik Sanjurjo

SECOND: Ryan Ole Haas

VOTE: 11- Yes, 0-No, 0- Abstain

8. Update, if any, on Council File 08-0351, a proposal to require Neighborhood Council board members to submit a financial disclosure form in advance of opening a Council File. New HUNC Standing Rule established last month: "Motion that financial information specific to the Agenda Item before the Neighborhood Council be disclosed."

A. Update on Board completion of Ethics Training course available through DONE (completion requested every 2 years)

Bechir is working on it. Susan asked for it to be completed by all board members by January.

9. Executive Committee Reports including but not limited to:

A. President

B. Vice-President

1. Update on NBC/Universal Project Working Group

Maurece explained to Don Paul the NBC/Universal MTA project and that it's the scale and size of the project that is being opposed.

A new tower is being built across from Campo de Cahuenga as a residential/hotel project.

HUNC provided \$2,000 for an EIR study for this project as part of NBC Universal working group. The group is morphing into a 501C3. NC's cannot participate in 501 C3's.

C. Treasurer

1. Budget update

Ryan: No shift in the budget for the last month

2. Vice-Treasurer position/responsibilities, possible assignment

Ryan: would like to transition out of the treasurer position in the next year. Scott Larson is the assistant treasurer.

Scott said he is willing to continue on in the position and will consider the position but said he needs to get his work on the historic district done

3. Approval of funds up to \$500 for HUNC Holiday Party/Board Meeting Dec 15th

Jamie will work on putting together the food and necessities

MOTION: Ryan Ole Haas

SECOND: Scott Larson

VOTE: 11- Yes, 0-No, 0- Abstain

4. Approval of 2nd HUNC Credit Cardholder to assist Treasurer

MOTION: Ryan Ole Haas

SECOND: Scott Larson

VOTE: 11- Yes, 0-No, 0- Abstain

D. Update on workshop proposed for 12/15 as part of Board meeting preceding Holiday Party

10. Committee & Liaison Reports/Updates including but not limited to:

A. PLUM

1. From Ctte meeting 11/12: item #8. Joseph's Cafe - North Ivar at Yucca. Proposed night club in existing restaurant. Conditional Use Permit Robert Abrahamian

PLUM voted to recommend a letter from the HUNC Board to the City approving Robert's request for relief from certain restrictions on parking for Joseph's----with certain conditions.

David explained the letter regarding Robert getting 35 parking stalls. David said there was a presentation from Robert Regarding his counter proposal outlined in the letter –

It was decided that the "Minutes" from this meeting should show that he did recues himself from the vote.

David – the ruling that he have 35 stalls and that he lease them and that they be in legal distance of the establishment.

It's an issue because he's getting the renewal of his license for his supper club
He's asking for the ability to contract with a valet company for 40 parking spaces.
(Approved letter is copied at bottom of these minutes)

MOTION: Bechir Blagui

SECOND: Jamie Rosenthal

VOTE: 11- Yes, 0-No, 1- Abstain

David mentioned two other projects: the conversion of a security bank on north east corner of Cahuenga and Hollywood Blvd. to a hotel. The other building is over on Argyle right up against the 101 freeway which has been vacant. It's on the NE corner of Yucca and Argyle. It came before the board a month or two ago and it's not a hotel. The concern about this was that it's 16 stories with no community plan. This project is not any where near a written approval. It was made known that the board ought to be aware that this property is zoned to include a hotel.

B. PS&T

1. Update, if any, regarding timetable for removal of No-Parking signs on Bronson north of Foothill
Susan asked Erik and Ryan to draft a letter regarding this.

2. Hollywood BID: NavigateLA website. proposal for HUNC to assist with funding up to \$1000
Erick is postponing this until December.

11. New Business/Announcements

Susan reminded committee that if they want notes from other committees you need to submit them

12. Old Business

Ryan mentioned the bags which are on order

13. Submission of proposed Agenda items for December

ADJOURNMENT

Process for 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.

Letter referenced agenda item 10 A 1:

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David H. Schlesinger

18 November 2008

Zoning Administrator
Department of Planning,
City of Los Angeles City Hall

200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Case #ZA2003-8170(CUB)(CUX)
1775 North Ivar Avenue

This is to inform you that at a regular Board meeting on 17 November 2008, the Board of Directors of the Hollywood United Neighborhood Council voted to support the petition of Robert Abrahamian* concerning parking requirements at the subject address, where he proposes to operate a supper club. The vote was unanimous.

The Board grants its approval contingent upon the prior approval of the Los Angeles City Police Department being obtained by the appellant and confirmation by the LAPD that this business has been in good standing for 2 years.

The Board considers that a signed contract between the appellant and an automobile valet parking company, licensed and currently doing business in the Hollywood area, the contract guaranteeing that the company shall provide parking for not less than 40 automobiles of patrons of the appellant, should be an acceptable substitute for the City requirement that the appellant secure the use of 35 parking stalls located as required by Item 40 Case #ZA2003-8170(CUB)(CUX), for exclusive use of his patrons, evidenced by a notarized document.

At any time that the valet parking company should fail to provide the promised accommodation for 40 automobiles during the hours of operation of the supper club, the City permission to operate the club should be withdrawn.

Subject to the above conditions, the Board begs your favorable consideration of the appellant's application.

*Note: Robert Abrahamian recused himself and was absent from the room during the vote and discussion.

SUSAN SWAN,
President

DAVID H SCHLESINGER, RA, MA (Arch)
Planning, Land Use & Management Committee