

DRAFT

Hollywood United Neighborhood Council Board Meeting
Minutes for April 18, 2006
6:30—8:30 PM
Community Room
First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood

Agenda Item 1---Roll Call & Approval of Minutes from March 20, 2006 Meeting.

- **Roll Call: Present:** Robert Abrahamian, Jordan Birnbaum, Ann DeBello, Russell Brown, Maureen Chesse, Andrew Ettinger, Joel Fisher, Norma Foster, Scott Larson, Susan Polifronio, Hilary Royce, David Schlessinger, Charles Suhayda, Susan Swan.
Excused: Viktoria Gaw.
- Minutes from the March 20, 2006 board meeting were approved after review and corrections. **Motion:** Joel Fisher: To approve the minutes. **Second:** Norma Foster.
VOTE: Yes - 14 No - 0

Motion: By Norma Foster: "To remove item C (re: LANCC) from the agenda under new business because it was connected in the second agenda e-mailed without board approval.
Second: Jordan Birnbaum. **Vote:** Yes--14 No--0.

Agenda Item 4—Public comment: **Items not on the Agenda.**

- Anastasia Mann, President of Hollywood Hills West Neighborhood Council (HHWNC) made a presentation on an outreach event being planned by HHWNC and invited HUNC to participate. HHWNC is organizing an outreach event---"The Hollywood Big Bash." The event date is June 22, 2006 and the time is from 7:00 to 10:00 PM. The event will be held at the Hollywood & Highland Complex. The purpose for the event is to help facilitate outreach by the Neighborhood Councils in Hollywood to the stakeholders of Hollywood. Thus far, the idea has been well received and has support from DONE, CD-13's Eric Garcetti, CD-4's Tom LaBonge, the Mayor and the Governor. Hollywood & Highland is also supporting the event. Thus far HHWNC and Hollywood Central NC will participate. Regarding the costs, the total funds needed from all of the NC's would be between \$25,000 and \$30,000. Hollywood & Highland would also bear some of the cost.
- **Questions:** Norma Foster—What kind of commitment are you looking for financially? **AM**—We're not putting up a figure. We want you to be part of it. It's up to you to vote on what you feel is comfortable. **Hilary Royce**—Can you give us an estimate? **AM**—The number we're looking at is \$5,000. **Andrew Ettinger**—How will you measure the impact of your outreach? **AM**—We're committed to outreach because we had an election turnout of 200 last time. We are committed to outreach and with this outreach event we are committed to spending up to \$23,000. **Norma Foster**—We've got many programs ongoing and we're doing outreach. **Hilary Royce**—I would be happy to work on this and help represent HUNC. We need to do more outreach. \$5,000 would be a good investment. **Anne DeBello**—Spoke in favor of this outreach event and thinks we should support it. She doesn't believe that we've done enough outreach. She recommends that we adopt about 1/3 of the cost (\$7,500).

Russ Brown—This event was referred to our outreach committee. He stated that even today, he's getting positive feedback from the HUNC outreach event held at his home in Bronson Canyon. Russ favors doing more community outreach. Maurence Chesse—We can technically afford \$25,000. We need to put our faces (HUNC) where we can be seen. Susan Polifronio—Anastasia, Debbie, myself and Ziggie were to meet on this in January but I wasn't able to meet with the. I would suggest that we confirm a couple of people who want to be involved and have them return in May with an update. **Motion:** Joel Fisher—"Moved that HUNC approve the concept of the event. That the President appoint a sub-committee to work with Anastasia and Debbie on organizing this event and report back to the Board." **Second:** M. Chesse. **Amend:** Russ Brown—"That we approve \$5,000 for this event." Amendment accepted by J. Fisher. Anne DeBello stated that we should cap expenses for the event at \$7,500. **Discussion:** Gary Slossberg—recommends that stakeholders give input on this matter. John Farion (HCAN)—HCAN is a partner with Hollywood Healthcare Partnership and has petitioned HUNC on several occasions to provide some funds for bus tokens. This money, \$2,500, could provide bus tokens for a year. Richard McNaughton—Since this event is taking place outside our boundaries, it would make more sense to spend \$5,000 inside our boundaries. The need is here. Andrew Ettinger—Borders can't restrict us. We are part of Hollywood. **Vote:** Yes--14 No--0. The HUNC sub-committee designated to work on "The Hollywood Big Bash" consists of: Norma Foster, Andrew Ettinger, Hilary Royce and Anne DeBello. They will also work on an itemized budget for the event.

Agenda Item 6 (I)—Vacation of Easement along 5527 Green Oak Drive, Letter to Postpone (for action).

Susan Swan spoke on this issue. She stated that the owner of the property at 5527 Green Oak Drive requested a vacation of a city easement along the property that provides the city access to Griffith Park. The letter written by Susan on behalf of HUNC requests that the city postpone action on this vacation and allow this matter to go back to the Neighborhood & Environment (N&E) Committee of HUNC. **Motion:** Susan Swan—"That the HUNC Board approve the letter to CD-4 Council Member Tom LaBonge asking that the matter of the vacation of the easement along 5527 Green Oak Drive be postponed until an adequate investigation into its impact on public safety is evaluated." **Second:** Norma Foster. **Discussion:** Jerry Hans (Oaks HOA)—The original request was made by CD 4 in October 2005. The Engineering report was published in January 2006. The Oaks HOA letter asks that the Dept of Recreation & Parks provide an impact statement to the Bureau of Engineering. Requesting postponement of this matter because there has not been enough community discussion on this matter between our residents. Historically, the Oaks has not looked favorably upon the City giving away easements. The Oaks Homeowners Association has adopted a resolution of principles:

- (1) Safety—access for emergency vehicles
- (2) Residents have access to the area—in this case a city park

Richard McNaughton—gave a recap of this matter. Susan Swan—We are not saying whether this is good or bad. But we need input from the community. So this matter should go back to the N&E Committee. It's not just this particular easement, but also

others like it as you move North of this easement. Andrew Heckler (owner 5527 Green Oak)—This easement is a 65-yr old future street easement, including future sewer and drain. Asking for a vacation proceeding because this is no longer needed for drain and sewer. Parks & Recreation doesn't care about this matter. LAFD's response has been eliminating this easement is not a fire hazard; the fire road going up into the hills is not public, its private. The only reason people now care about this easement is because he's already stated construction. For his safety and the safety of his family, he's requesting a vacation of the easement adjacent to his property. Susan Swan—We would like to get more input. Recreation & Parks said that they're using it for brush clearance. We now know of 3 easements in this area that no one knew were being vacated. Richard McNaughton—He was asked to give an attorney's opinion. It's a can of worms. We need to look at this with some consideration. We don't want to interfere with brush clearance. Doug Mensman (CD-4 Planning Deputy)—(1) We postponed this matter last week; its on informal continuance, (2) Reason for lack of notification—Notification Process is not a 500 ft notification requirement, only required to advise adjacent property owners. It was introduced by the Chairperson of Public Works and seconded by Tom LaBonge. (3) This is a somewhat different matter. If the property is vacated, the underlying property belongs to the city. The underlying property is private property. This doesn't belong to the Dept of Recreation & Parks; Rec & Park property cannot be vacated. We'll have a meeting on this on may 4th to fully understand this issue. When Departments don't respond, then silence implies consent. Anne DeBello—How many times has the Dept of Recreation & Parks cleared brush? Andrew Heckler—They cleared brush last year. Jim McQuiston—We've got to get into issues of vacation of easements early. **Vote:** Yes—11 No—1 Abstain—1.

Agenda Item 3—Presentations & Discussions

A) Mary Richardson: Hollywood Community Plan (HCP) Update for Discussion.

At this point all of our proposals are preliminary. An EIR is now in process. In September, we'll have a public hearing on the EIR. At this point the HCP is a very fluid document.

Handouts:

- Map—"Proposed Land Use Changes in the Hollywood United Neighborhood Council Area," (with color shaded areas)
- Table—"Proposed Land Use Changes in the Hollywood United Neighborhood Council Area," (key for understanding the map). 1-page

The time line for approving the Hollywood Community Plan: The proposals are preliminary and the plan is fluid. The EIR (Environmental Impact Report) is in progress. There have been public meetings held at HPC and there will be more this summer. In September 2006 there will be a hearing on the EIR. The Plan will then go to the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners, and finally to the LA City Council for approval.

Proposed Zoning Changes:

- 1) Gray areas: This is a **transportation-oriented plan**. Regulations come from the Vermont/Western Plan and there are many qualifying conditions for development. SNAP regulations apply.

- 2) **Green areas:** Propose **increases in building height** districts. Removes the d limitation (restricting floor-area ratio FAR). Increases building heights from Gower to Ivar along Hollywood Blvd. FAR of 1.5:1. The Hollywood/Vine metro stop development will have an FAR of 4.5:1.
- 3) **Red areas:** Proposed around transit infrastructure to facilitate **Mixed-use development** (combination of commercial retail and housing). By right the FAR here is 3:1.
- 4) **Yellow areas: Increase in height district and change in land use.** Change land-use from limited commercial (most restrictive) to neighborhood commercial (allows auto uses and larger retail). FAR here is 1.5:1.

Discussion:

Richard McNaughton—SNAP (Station Neighborhood Area Plan) covers a lot more than you have showing on the map. Is there SNAP on Western from Hollywood Blvd to Franklin Ave? Mary—We'll check on that.

Question—FAR 4:8 (yellow area)—This intersection is already bad. How can you increase density here. Keep the zoning here right where it is; don't increase it.

David Schlessinger—There was an earlier presentation here at Hollywood Presbyterian Church. At that earlier meeting you were asked whether DOT was asked the question—"How will all the people coming into this area get in here?" My questions now:

(1) What does DOT have to say about this?

(2) At that time you made comments---we have a wonderful public transport system and it will take care of all that. What is being done by Public Transit?

Mary—There will be a Transportation Impact Mitigation Report. There is a consultant working with DOT to come up with a model. We have not submitted our final recommendations. DOT is in the loop.

David Schlessinger—We've seen a number of redevelopment proposals in this area. They've come to us piece by piece. No one has addressed this redevelopment with an all-inclusive EIR. For example, on Vine Street & Hollywood Blvd, you'll have a tremendous development on the SE corner.

Mary—On February 22, 2006 I covered the whole HCP area. Tonight, I'm covering your area (HUNC) in depth. We are addressing the overall framework for projects. Our transportation system has improved:

(1) subway has 2 stops in Hollywood

(2) Metro-Rapid bus comes through Hollywood

The challenge is to improve the connectivity between transit systems. There are some ideas to consider here:

(1) Station access plans

(2) Park-n-Ride lots

(3) Dash bus system

KC Schmidt: There's no parking at Hollywood/Western. No Park-n-Rides. How do we address that? Isn't that against SNAP? (less parking around Metro Stops).

Mary—SNAP doesn't address parking specifically for Metro Rail.

Russ Brown—Our intent tonight is not to make specific decisions but to have a presentation and form an ad hoc committee. This HCP will become the master plan for Hollywood for the next 40 years. We need to look at density near the freeway.

Mary—Actually, it will be the plan for the next 20-25 yr. We can look at density near the freeway.

Jim McQuiston—You're finally making an EIR. In 1988 the EIR transportation Consultant said there's unavoidable congestion. I guess that will happen because there's no street widening. Could you also explain the d restriction.

Robert Abrahamian—We need housing units—there are 5,000 to 7,000 residential units planned for the area between Gower and Cahuenga. How will you move all the cars associated with residential units?

Mary—Our challenge is—how to make our transit system more attractive and comfortable. We have a subway, buses and a Dash system. We want to do a survey to improve walkability. We are looking for your creativity.

Richard McNaughton—Are you familiar with the San Jose Transit Study of 2001? The assumptions under SNAP are dead wrong. People don't take kindly to being forced onto mass transit. Hollywood is nice, we don't want to see an increase in density.

Susan Polifronio—We want to wrap this up now and say thank you to Mary. If you are interested in being on the committee looking into the HCP then give your name to Russ Brown.

Russ Brown—The area we'll be looking at more closely is bounded by: Franklin to Western to Sunset to Cahuenga. We'll look at entertainment uses and transportation uses in particular.

Agenda Item 6 (F)—Hollywood Hospitality Motion to Restrict Dance Hall License Establishments for Discussion & Action.

Susan Polifronio: Board members with a conflict of interest, according to the City Attorney, cannot be involved with discussion or vote. You need to leave the room.

JimMcQuiston—According to the City Attorney, you need a letter to stay in the room during discussion.

Trish LaBelle (HHA)—There's an over saturation of nightclubs in Hollywood. We are concerned about dance halls. HHA presents the following **Motion**: (see attached sheet). The goal of this motion is to deal with the issues related to dance halls. On April 9th at about 1:30 AM there was an incident at Club Excess on Cahuenga which was hosting Armenian Night. Nearby, the White Lotus was hosting Latino Night. A near riot/riot broke out as patrons of the two clubs exited these establishments. LAPD dispatched 100+ officers in riot gear and 53 police vehicles. There was one stabbing. This problem could recur or worsen if we continue to allow promoter driven dance halls. This moratorium is not permanent, only until concerns around the dance halls are addressed. **Second**: Norma Foster.

Discussion:

Russ Brown—This item came through the PLUM Committee, after seeing the presentation on "Shelter" and the impact of huge night clubs, as well as the bar and liquor licenses for the Clarett Project and the W-Hotel.

Andrew Ettinger—Wasn't aware of the incident between the 2 clubs.

Trish—There are presently about 30 night clubs along Hollywood Blvd between LaBrea and Vine. We want to put a moratorium on promoter driven dance halls.

Eric Sanjurjo—In a meeting of the CPAB Nightclub committee, Captain Sanchez said he will use tough love on Night Clubs. He opposed the opening of a large new club on



Hollywood Hospitality Association Position on new CUPs in Hollywood

The Hollywood Hospitality Association would like to recommend to all Hollywood Neighborhood Councils - HUNC, Hollywood Hills West, Hollywood Studio District, Central Hollywood Council, CD13, CD4, that upon notification and/or presentation of any new entitlements, **Conditional Use Permits ("CUP")**, for the purpose of **Dance Hall licensed establishments only**, that a moratorium be in effect so to limit the current saturation of such licenses to the current level. Such moratorium is requested for the boundaries of La Brea Boulevard - Sunset Blvd - Gower Avenue - Franklin Avenue until the following issues can be mitigated:

- 1) the planned residential affecting the same boundaries has been developed whereas to show impacting issues that may or may not be effected, if any, by the current Licenses,
- 2) current nightlife saturation has created traffic congestion problems impeding public safety along the boulevard and side streets with no current plan to be corrected, and
- 3) the lack of parking and oversold parking lots within the boundaries is a serious problem and has no current plan to be corrected.

After such residential, traffic and parking issues have been caused, effected and resolved, then Conditional Use Permit(s) to include Dance Hall use, upon full review, including but not limited to the following should be considered:

- Maintains the Balanced Growth of day-time and night-time business use,
- The business establishment is providing its own parking - not a parking lot lease from surrounding lot owners,
- The business establishment's capacity does not grossly effect traffic therefore impeding public safety along Hollywood Boulevard and the main arteries into and out of Hollywood (Vine, Cahuenga, Wilcox, Highland), and
- Review of CUP/Building & Safety Code Requirements

The Hollywood Hospitality Association wishes to maintain the integrity of our industry through quality patronage and Balanced Growth of day-time and night-time business use improving the quality of life through retail, restaurant and entertainment.

Yucca. Perhaps we've reached a tipping point. We're looking at making Night Clubs more responsible.

Vote: Yes—11 No—0 Abstain—2. (Note: Joel Fisher and Robert Abrahamian did not participate in the discussion or vote. Jordan Birnbaum was not present). It was also requested that a letter be sent notifying CD 4, CD 13 and the Neighborhood Councils in Hollywood about the action taken by HUNC on the Hollywood Hospitality Association motion.

Additional comments:

Jim McQuiston—I've revised this motion to try to make it constitutional. In Tom LaBonge's CD-4 there is a moratorium in the Wilshire area, but owners get relief. The price for relief—about the same as CUP. I don't see how a judge will uphold this if its just on Dance Halls. You have to put a moratorium on everything else.

Mike Miller—He lived at 1716 Cahuenga. There was loud noise from a bar underneath the hotel. Is this where the incident occurred?

Agenda Item 4—Public Comment: Items not on the agenda.

- Ellen Shi Au (USC)—She is working on a survey of NCs. Her department surveyed the NCs in 2003. They are conducting a new survey. You can take the survey by internet, phone, or complete a paper copy. Presently, there has been a 30% response from the NCs looking for a 65% response.

Agenda Item 5—Executive Committee Reports.

- Treasurer—The City is holding \$116,880 for HUNC. Some of the costs for the HUNC office: (1) rent at \$400/mo, signed a lease on Friday, (2) Phone & Internet at \$96/mo. **Motion:** M. Chesse—"That the Board authorize the payment of one year's rent (\$4,800) to Hollywood Presbyterian Church. **Second:** J. Fisher. **Vote:** Yes—12 No—0. Also the Board needs standing rules for operations manual for the office assistant. Need to make procedures available. Jennifer is paid by PDQ, which is now being replaced by Apple One. We have funds to provide additional training to the office assistant. With the funds at hand, we can participate in the big outreach event proposed by HHWNC. Some other areas where we might use our funds:

- (1) Project on the Argyle/Yucca asphalt island
- (2) Bus stop awning near the retirement home (Franklin)
- (3) Membership in AFI
- (4) Adopt FS 82—assist with needs
- (5) Advertise in the local paper—1 yr.
- (6) Advertise in Theater Programs/Brochures
- (7) HUNC sponsor an event at a local theater

Motion: M Chesse—"That the Board vote electronically to approve an operations manual for the office assistant to be completed one week prior to the next meeting of the Board. **Second:** S. Swan. **Vote:** Yes—12 No—0 Abstain—0

Committee Reports:

- Upcoming LA River Clean-up. Date is May 6th.

- Grievance Committee—If you're interested in having your name included in a pool for consideration for this committee, please give your name to the Recording Secretary—Charles Suhayda. Names submitted Adam Kear, Susan Swan, Stephen Box.
- Sexual Assault Awareness Day—Gary Slossberg reported that this is Sexual Assault Awareness month.
- Bronson/Canyon Triangle Intersection—Susan Swan reported that progress was being made. Also reported that the Greater Griffith Park Master Plan is also moving forward.
- HUNC Elections—Gary Slossberg announced that there would be a meeting for revision of by-laws on April 29th from 1:00 to 5:00 PM at the Community Room of Hollywood Presbyterian Church. Russ Brown—There is a minimum 150-200 day period from the time that election procedures are submitted to DONE before you can have an election.
- Mobility Action Report: M. Chesse—(1) Work will begin in May on the intersection of Franklin & Highland. On week days avoid this intersection, (2) Griffith Park Observatory—There are plans to charge \$5 to \$7 per person to get up to the observatory. You also pay for parking. Parking will be at the LA Zoo and the Greek Theater. People will need reservations and will pay \$5-7 to ride the Trolley. June 2006 is the target date for the re-opening of the Observatory.
- Earth Day Fair @ Cheremoya Elementary—**Motion**: Susan Polifronio —“To approve a request for \$300 for the purchase of food for the Earth Day Fair.” **Second**: J. Fisher. **Vote**: Yes—12 No—0 Abstain—0.
- Park Rangers request for letter from HUNC—**Motion**: Susan Swan—“That HUNC send a letter in support of maintaining Park Rangers in Peace Officer status as opposed to Public Officer Status.” **Second**: Andrew Ettinger. **Vote**: Yes—11 No—0 Abstain—0.
- Town Hall on the Gower Street Project & Permanent Supportive Housing—Susan Polifronio reported that planning for this event continues and it will move forward. The date is April 25th. Richard McNaughton—I've sent e-mails on this matter to some HUNC Board members. Mike Miller—Please give this serious consideration.
- Coalition for the Preservation of Open Reservoirs (CPOR)—Andrew Ettinger requested that mediation between CPOR and LADWP continue until an MOU is agreed upon. He presented a **Motion** (see attached) in writing. **Second**: J. Fisher. **Vote**: Yes—11 No—0 Abstain—0.
- Mayor's Day of Service—Hilary Royce reported that the event was transferred from the Girl's camp in Bronson Canyon to Cheremoya Elementary.
- N&E Committee—A subcommittee on the Early Notification System is being set up.
- PLUM—Russ Brown—We need a cooperative set of guidelines for all Hollywood NCs in dealing with incoming restaurants, clubs, etc.
- Homeless—Norma Foster—We've talked about the homeless situation and the need for bus tokens. Please put this on the next meeting agenda.

Additional Public comment:

JimMcQuiston—See his statement on HUNC Agenda contents (handout).

Adjourned.

18 April 2006

RE: Hollywood United Neighborhood Council, Board Meeting

This memo is further to my previous memos on the subject of the LADWP and CPOR (Coalition to Preserve Open Reservoirs) and their MOU process...dated 9,13,21 February and 20 March...which all HUNC board members received. Please refer to them for additional background.

Reproduced below is a revised motion drafted by Chris Hesse and members of the CPOR, as a result of discussions at the last HUNC board meeting on 20 March.

I concur with this new language and trust that it reflects the various suggestions made at that meeting. Please read it carefully. I thus move that the HUNC Board of Directors approve it:

MOTION

by Andrew Ettinger

It is moved that the Hollywood United Neighborhood Council (HUNC) recognize, support and endorse the continuation of the long-standing working relationship between the Coalition to Preserve Open Reservoirs (CPOR) and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) for the betterment of the Hollywood communities. The CPOR has proven its value over the past 16 years in negotiating on behalf of the communities with respect to Lake Hollywood, and on behalf of other neighborhoods respecting other LADWP reservoirs. Through this Resolution, HUNC authorizes its appointed Board representative to work with the CPOR and the LADWP to finalize the Common Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and the Hollywood MOU as they exist as of _____, 2006. The HUNC Board representative and CPOR representatives shall report back to the HUNC Board not less frequently than semi-annually until such time as they present final drafts of the Common MOU and the Hollywood MOU for the consideration of the HUNC Board. The appropriate approvals of the respective homeowner associations shall first be obtained. HUNC further affirms support for the continuation of the mediation process that will enable the CPOR representatives and the LADWP to complete the two agreements.