#### **CITY OF LOS ANGELES**

**OFFICERS:** 

# [HO]LLYWOOD STUDIO **DISTRICT** NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

**BOARD MEMBERS:** 

John F. Sierra, Chair Keith Cornella, Vice-Chair Anthony Conley, Treasurer Damien Burke, Secretary

5500 Hollywood Blvd., #313 Los Angeles, CA 90028 Email: info@hsdnc.org Website: www.hsdnc.org



**Property Owner** Alex Alferov Kate Pynoos Craig Cox

**Business Tenant** Keith Cornella Milton Cruz Guy Langman Michael Tessler

At-Large Jonathan Bayley Grace Cotangco Doug Haines Bill Murphy

Residential Damien Burke Anthony Conley Dasler Jimenez Theodore Wachtel Nelly Platero Benjamin Rosen John F. Sierra Rosalinda Sierra

## **Board Meeting Minutes** Monday, February 10, 2020

Louis B. Mayer Building Suite #308, 5500 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood, CA 90028 DRAFT Minutes [to be replaced by "Approved [Month] [date], 202 [year] "]

HSDNC (and all other) Meeting Minutes are a summary; Minutes were not, are not and are never meant to be an exact, verbatim, word-for-word transcript or comprehensive record of what was said at a Meeting. Exceptions: Motions/Resolutions (as stated at the Meeting, which take precedence over versions written on the Agenda, if different); quotes (words that have quotation marks ("") at the beginning and ending of a word or words); and other wording from the Agenda such as the first paragraph(s) of some Items. Items are listed in and match the same order as on the Agenda.

#### I. OPENING CEREMONIES

- A. Call Meeting to Order Chair John Sierra called the Meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.
- B. Seating of the Board This already had been done.

#### C. Board Roll Call

Roll Call was taken by the Secretary. Twelve of the 18 Board Members were present at the beginning of the Meeting: Alex Alferov, Jonathan Bayley, Damien Burke (Secretary), Craig Cox, Doug Haines, Dasler Jimenez, Guy Langman, Kate Pynoos, Benjamin Rosen, John Sierra (Chair), Rosalinda Sierra and Michael Tessler. Anthony Conley (Treasurer) and Bill Murphy arrived later. Tabitha Yelos had resigned.

Excused absences: Keith Cornella (Vice-Chair), Grace Cotangco and Theodore Wachtel.

Unexcused absence: Nelly Platero.

The HSDNC quorum (the minimum number of Board Members needing to be present to take binding votes on Agendized Items) is 11 (see https://lacity.quickbase.com/db/bj3apxsp3?

a=q&qid=32&qskip=0&qrppg=1000&dlta=su46~), so the Board could take such votes. Eighteen of the 20 Board Seats were filled (by election or appointment) (Milton Cruz was appointed during below Item #VIII). Two Board Seats were vacant [including Business/Tenant; to apply, see https://www.hsdnc.org/join-the-hsdnc]. Also attending: 17 Stakeholders and Guests.

#### II. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

Mr. Sierra reported.

# **III.** COMMUNITY/GOVERNMENT REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS. Representatives from government offices and community-based organizations

A. LA City Council District 13, Mitch O'Farrell

[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #VIII.] Sean Starkey, Field Deputy for L.A. City District 13 Councilman Mitch O'Farrell (213-207-3015; Sean.Starkey@LACity.org; www.CD13.com), listed Metro Bike Share locations to be established. The Walk of Fame Master Plan is moving forward; he encouraged taking a survey. They will plant 120 trees around the Hollywood Recreation Center.

#### B. LAPD

Jesse Rubalcava, an LAPD Hollywood Division Senior Lead Officer [office 323-871-4068; 38655@LAPD.online; http://www.lapdonline.org/hollywood\_community\_police\_station], gave a homeless issue update. He reported that "we are pretty much overwhelmed every Thursday" by the amount of trash to clean; volunteers with trucks are needed – "we will provide the police presence... RVs, we still have a big problem." He reminded that, if a vehicle is parked in the same place for more than 72 hours, it can be cited. "Unless they commit a crime... we can't transfer them... We offer them outreach." He encouraged viewing Hollywood Division social media outreach.

C. Other Government Departments/Agencies
There were no other reports or announcements.

The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #XVI.

# IV. <u>COMMITTEE REPORTS</u>. Reports from standing and ad hoc Committees

A. Outreach

Mr. Rosen reported that the Committee set annual goals.

B. Bylaws, Selection, & Election

Mr. Burke reported that the Committee met February 3, made "great progress,"

and will make recommendations at the next Board meeting.

#### C. Budget & Finance

Mr. Conley later indicated that there was no report.

D. Planning & Land Use Management (PLUM)

Mr. Haines reported that the Committee tried to meet January 16 but there was no quorum; it will meet next week.

#### E. Public Safety

Mr. Bayley reported that the Committee will meet.

Board Member Anthony Conley arrived around this time (6:39), making 13 Board Members present (the HSDNC quorum is eleven).

#### F. Youth

There is no Youth Committee at this time.

G. Other standing and ad hoc Committee reports Mr. Langman is meeting monthly with the DWP.

V. <u>LIAISONS, ALLIANCES, AND COALITIONS</u>. Reports from liaisons and alliances and coalitions HSDNC is a member of.

Copies were distributed of a "CD 13 Alliance Report"; Mr. Burke reported.

Board Member Bill Murphy arrived at this time (6:41), making 14 Board Members present (the HSDNC quorum is eleven).

#### VI. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS.

There were no public comments at this time.

#### VII. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

A. Approve the December 9th, 2019 meeting minutes.

Copies were distributed of the draft Minutes. The following correction was requested: page seven, Item #XVI., "Mr. Haynes" should be "Mr. Haines."

**MOTION** (by Mr. Sierra): The Hollywood Studio District Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its December 9, 2019 General Board Meeting as corrected.

**MOTION PASSED** by a voice vote; zero opposed; one abstained (Pynoos).

B. Approve the Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) for December 2019. Copies were distributed of the HSDNC "Monthly Expenditure Report."

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Sierra): The Hollywood Studio District Neighborhood Council approves its December 2019 Monthly Expenditure Report.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 13 eligible voters present with all 13 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Alferov, Bayley, Burke, Conley, Cox, Haines, Jimenez, Langman, Murphy, Pynoos, Rosen, John Sierra and Rosalinda Sierra); zero opposed; zero abstained. Mr. Tessler was ineligible to vote due to not having current Ethics Training and/or Funding Training.

C. Approve the Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) for January 2020. Copies were distributed of the HSDNC "Monthly Expenditure Report."

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Sierra): The Hollywood Studio District Neighborhood Council approves its January 2020 Monthly Expenditure Report.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the [*DB CONFIRM:* \_\_\_ YOU STATED "14" BUT MY COUNT AND THE BAC SHOW 13; THE BAC SKIPS FROM "11" TO "13."] 13 eligible voters present with all 13 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Alferov, Bayley, Burke, Conley, Cox, Haines, Jimenez, Langman, Murphy, Pynoos, Rosen, John Sierra and Rosalinda Sierra); zero opposed; zero abstained. Mr. Tessler was ineligible to vote due to not having current Ethics Training and/or Funding Training.

[*This paragraph is copied from the Agenda.*] Board meeting minutes are available from the HSDNC website at https://www.hsdnc.org/agendas-and-minutes/.

[This paragraph is copied from the Agenda.] Monthly Expenditure Reports are available from the Neighborhood Council Funding DashBoard at https://cityclerk.lacity.org/NCFundPortal/DashBoard.html.

The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #XV.

VIII. <u>Appoint Milton Cruz to vacant at-large seat on the Board.</u> The HSDNC Bylaws, Selection and Election Committee found that Mr. Cruz meets the criteria to fill the vacant at-large seat and recommends appointing Mr. Cruz to the vacant at-large seat.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Burke, seconded by Mr. Sierra): The Hollywood Studio District Neighborhood Council appoints Milton Cruz to the Board in an At-Large Seat.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Cruz described his background and experience. His priorities include affordable housing and outreach "especially to the Latino community" to "get them involved in local government."

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a voice vote; zero opposed; zero abstained.

New Board Member Milton Cruz was Seated at this time, making 15 Board Members present (the HSDNC quorum is eleven). The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #III. A.

### IX. <u>Authorize up to 5 Board members to submit Community Impact Statements.</u>

[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #XVI.]

**MOTION** (by Mr. Sierra, seconded by Mr. Bayley): The Hollywood Studio District Neighborhood Council authorizes Jonathan Bayley, Anthony Conley, Keith Cornella, Doug Haines and John Sierra to submit Community Impact Statements on behalf of the HSDNC Board.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Sierra clarified that "it's just submitting; the Board still has to authorize" the Statements.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a voice vote; zero opposed; zero abstained.

The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #XII.

#### X. Ratify appointments to Committees.

[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #XII.] Mr. Sierra clarified that "the Chairs have to propose new members" and reminded that "Committees must have at least three members."

**MOTION** (by Mr. Sierra, seconded by Ms. Sierra): The Hollywood Studio District Neighborhood Council ratifies the appointments of Craig Cox and Jonathan Bayley to the Public Safety Committee.

**MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION** (by Mr. Sierra); **PASSED** unanimously; zero opposed; zero abstained.

**MAIN MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a voice vote; zero opposed; zero abstained.

XI. <u>Appoint a primary signer, secondary signer, and alternate secondary signer.</u>
Mr. Sierra clarified that the HSDNC already has Primary and Secondary Signers.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Cox, seconded by Mr. Conley): The Hollywood Studio District Neighborhood Council appoints John Sierra as the Alternate Secondary Signer.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the 12 eligible voters present with 12 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Alferov, Bayley, Burke, Conley, Cox, Haines, Jimenez, Langman, Murphy, Pynoos, Rosen and Rosalinda Sierra); zero opposed; one

abstained (John Sierra). Mr. Cruz and Mr. Tessler were ineligible to vote due to not having current Ethics Training and/or Funding Training.

The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #XIII.

#### XII. Appoint Committee chairs.

Mr. Cruz volunteered to chair the Youth Committee.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Sierra, seconded by Ms. Sierra): The Hollywood Studio District Neighborhood Council appoints Milton Cruz as Chair of the Youth Committee.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Cruz explained that the plan is to get youth more involved in government. Mr. Alferov explained previous Youth Committee activity.

**MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION** (by Mr. Sierra); **PASSED** unanimously; zero opposed; zero abstained.

**MAIN MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a voice vote; zero opposed; zero abstained.

The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #X.

## XIII. <u>Discussion and possible action regarding a neighborhood survey.</u>

**MOTION** (by Mr. Sierra, seconded by Ms. Pynoos): The Hollywood Studio District Neighborhood Council directs its Outreach Committee to report back to the Board.

**MOTION PASSED** by a voice vote.

# XIV. <u>Discussion and possible action regarding a Community Impact Statement on Council File 20-0070</u>, providing basic hygiene services for unhoused residents of Echo Park Lake.

Mr. Burke explained the need for the services and that the Council File "already passed."

**MOTION** (by Mr. Burke, seconded by Mr. Conley): The Hollywood Studio District Neighborhood Council will issue a Community Impact Statement in support of Council File 20-0070, providing basic hygiene services for unhoused residents of Echo Park Lake.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Haines wanted to know the position of the Echo Park Neighborhood Council.

**MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION** (by Mr. Sierra, seconded by Mr. Burke); **PASSED** by a hand vote with eight in favor; seven opposed; zero abstained.

**MAIN MOTION PASSED** by a hand vote with seven in favor; five opposed; two abstained (the HSDNC counts abstentions as neither "yes" votes or "no" votes).

The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #XVII.

XV. <u>Discussion and possible action regarding a request for a Conditional Use Beverage permit</u> to allow the on-site sale and dispensing of a full line of alcoholic beverages, dancing, and live entertainment in conjunction with a proposed 3,000 sq. ft. banquet hall with 102 seats and 16 shared parking spaces located at 1627 N. Gower St. Case Nos.: ZA-2019-5616-CUB-CUX; ENV-2019-5617-CE. Applicant: John Tilley. The project site is in the C4-2D Zone. Hours of operation are proposed to be 9AM to 2AM daily. The proposed 3,000 sq. ft. banquet hall is within an existing 7,000 sq. ft. building on a 16,644 sq. ft. lot that is shared with three other businesses. There is no proposed off-site parking. Note: The site is in census tract 1910.00, which allows 3 on sale alcohol licenses. Currently there are 34 on-sale licenses in the census tract.

Copies were distributed of project information. Mr. Haines reported and described site history. Representative Janet Rodriguez described the project the owner founded Shakey's pizza; she noted his long community involvement. She stated that she is "well versed in the responsibility... Of alcohol sales." Mr. Haines gave information regarding alcohol sales license details. He said "it's within a confined area, a gated area." He was believed that a 20-year tenant was evicted without negotiations.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Haines, seconded by Mr. Cox): The Hollywood Studio District Neighborhood Council opposes the CUB application for the project at 1627 N. Gower St.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Rodriguez said "we are looking into valet" parking. Attendance "depends on the event." The music volume "probably wouldn't be a concern" because the venue is small. The owner's son said "we're not going to be throwing events all the time... We're calling it a 'banquet hall." He described challenges dealing with two tenants; one is staying; one expired "and they have not been very good tenants... [there has been] misuse... and abuse of community areas ... They decided not to exercise their option" to renew. Ms. Rodriguez said the valet "wouldn't necessarily charge" attendees. Mr. Burke reported that "there are 16 spaces on site." Ms. Rodriguez said the site is .18 miles from a Metro station; Mr. Burke said that is "about a three-minute walk." Mr. Cox believed that "nobody's going to take the train who's going to a wedding... There's hardly any parking in Hollywood." Mr. Haines believed the tenant was not given enough time to move.

**MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION** (by Mr. Sierra, seconded by Mr. Burke); **PASSED** unanimously; zero opposed; zero abstained.

**MAIN MOTION PASSED** by a hand vote with seven in favor; five opposed; one abstained.

The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #VIII.

# XVI. <u>Approve up to \$5,000 for the Los Angeles Community Garden Council</u> <u>Neighborhood Purpose Grant (NPG).</u>

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Tessler, seconded by Ms. Pynoos): The Hollywood Studio District Neighborhood Council approves up to \$5,000 for the Los Angeles Community Garden Council Neighborhood Purpose Grant (NPG) for the purpose of buying garden supplies.

**DISCUSSION**: Copies were distributed of an NPG application. Andrew Gorski, Landscape Architect, explained that funding for the 11-year-old Garden would be to maintain and upgrade it. It is open on first Saturdays and there are monthly special events. Dan Fujiwara, a "Master Gardener," explained that they all are volunteers and that all funding for supplies such as wood is to replace dry rotted wood. He said "we don't hire anybody outside. We do the work ourselves. We hold a lot of workshops." A number of local college groups visit the garden. Their used chairs and "all our tools are very old." The Garden has received small donations from local businesses. "We have 60 odd plots... [and] a 90% occupancy... Probably 100 people" use it. Mr. Starkey indicated that CD13 may be able to help with funding.

**MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION** (by Mr. Sierra); zero opposed; zero abstained.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 11 eligible voters present with all 11 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Bayley, Burke, Conley, Cox, Haines, Jimenez, Langman, Murphy, Pynoos, Rosen, John Sierra and Rosalinda Sierra); zero opposed; zero abstained; two recused (Alferov and Conley). Mr. Cruz and Mr. Tessler were ineligible to vote due to not having current Ethics Training and/or Funding Training.

The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #IX.

#### XVII. Set date for HSDNC retreat.

**MOTION to REFER to COMMITTEE** (by Ms. Pynoos, seconded by Mr. Burke): The Hollywood Studio District Neighborhood Council refers this Item to the Executive Committee.

**MOTION to REFER PASSED** unanimously by a voice vote; zero opposed; zero abstained.

#### XVIII. Approve up to \$500 for HSDNC retreat.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Sierra): The Hollywood Studio District Neighborhood Council approves up to \$500 for HSDNC retreat.

**DISCUSSION**: Mr. Conley explained the purpose to decide the Board's vision.

**MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION** (by Mr. Sierra); zero opposed; zero abstained.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 13 eligible voters present with all 13 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Alferov, Bayley, Burke, Conley, Cox, Haines, Jimenez, Langman, Murphy, Pynoos, Rosen, John Sierra and Rosalinda Sierra); zero opposed; zero abstained. Mr. Cruz and Mr. Tessler were ineligible to vote due to not having current Ethics Training and/or Funding Training.

**XIX.** <u>Send a letter to Home Depot corporate offices</u> to request a meeting with the general manager of the Hollywood Home Depot, regarding security concerns at that location.

Copies were distributed of a draft letter from the HSDNC to Home Depot CEO Craig Menear.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Haines, seconded by Mr. Cox): The Hollywood Studio District Neighborhood Council will send a letter to Home Depot corporate offices to request a meeting with the general manager of the Hollywood Home Depot, regarding security concerns at that location.

**DISCUSSION**: Mr. Haines explained that "there's no security" and described regular violence perpetrated against day laborers. Mr. Cox reported that the Police indicated that day laborers and people preying on them are causing problems. Ms. Sierra and others were concerned about the validity of some of the letter wording. Ms. Pynoos requested and Mr. Haines agreed to have Public Safety Committee Chair Mr. Cornella be the HSDNC liaison for this.

**MOTION to REFER to COMMITTEE** (by Mr. Tessler, seconded by Mr. Burke): The Hollywood Studio District Neighborhood Council refers this Item to the Outreach Committee to re-draft the letter in coordination with the Public Safety Committee and to bring the draft letter back to the Board at the Board's next meeting.

**MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION** (by Mr. Sierra); zero opposed; zero abstained.

**MOTION to REFER PASSED** unanimously by a voice vote; zero opposed; zero abstained.

XX. Discuss a regular schedule of clean ups.

Mr. Tessler expressed interest. Mr. Burke noted that cleanups already are funded. Mr. Rosen announced the next cleanup will be the third Saturday, March 21st. Edward Stapleton, President of the L.A. LGBTQ Coalition, announced an opportunity to participate and be one of their Board Members. He also expressed interest in joining the HSDNC Board.

#### XXI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Burke explained that Board applicants can download an app from the website and submit it to the Bylaws Committee.

#### XXII. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Tessler proposed creating a standing Economic Development Committee. Mr. Burke recommended creating it as an ad hoc Committee which the Bylaws Committee can consider including in the Bylaws as a Standing Committee. Mr. Sierra reminded that an ad hoc Committee "has to have an end goal in mind."

#### XXIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Sierra declared the Meeting **ADJOURNED** at 8:48 p.m.

Minutes written by DL, possibly edited by HSDNC. *The first paragraph of some Items, Motions/Resolutions and other wording may have been directly copied from the Agenda.* The HSDNC Minutes page is https://www.hsdnc.org/agendas-and-minutes.