

HOLLYWOOD STUDIO DISTRICT NEIGHBORHOOD

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COUNCIL

Board Members:

Steven Whiddon
Chair

Thomas Meredith
Vice Chair

Felipe Corrado
Treasurer

Charles Puree
Recording Secretary
1375 N. St. Andrews Place
Los Angeles, CA 90028
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MAYOR

CALIFORNIA



Alex Alferov
Bill Zide
Christina Derenthal
Efrain Gonzalez
Felipe Corrado
Jirair Tossounian
Jose Torres
Don Durkee
David Bell
Vacant - 1

Juri Ripinsky
Luke Vincent
Maria Yepremian
Steven Whiddon
Thomas Meredith
Sun Yu
Orletha Andersen
Charles Puree
Drew Peterson
Vacant - 2

HOLLYWOOD STUDIO DISTRICT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (HSDNC)

Monday, May 13, 2013, 6:30 p.m.

Assistance League of Southern California

1360 N. St. Andrews Place, Los Angeles, CA 90028

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

1. Meeting called to order, welcome remarks by Chair

6:37

- Please place all electronic devices to off or silent so as to not disturb the meeting. If you must answer, wait until you are outside to start speaking
- Introduction of stakeholders/visitors
- Please follow our Facebook page and press "Like"

2. Approval of Minutes for Board Meeting of April 8, 2013

Alferov/Peterson moved to approve the Minutes. Motion passed 11-0-2. (Abstentions: Bell, Derenthal)

3. Roll Call

Alex Alferov

Orletha Andersen

David Bell

Felipe Corrado - excused absence

Christina Derenthal

Don Durkee

Efrain Gonzalez – excused absence

Tom Meredith

Drew Peterson

Charles Puree

Juri Ripinsky – excused absence

Jose Torres

Jirair Tossounian
Luke Vincent - absent
Steven Whiddon
Maria Yepremian - excused
Sun Yu
Bill Zide

4. **Public Comments** on Non-Agenda items

Bob Blue suggested moving up the Bylaws Committee report.
Ziggy Kruse also suggested moving up the Bylaws Committee report.
Bell announced that he needs to resign from his current committee assignments.

5. **Report by Government Agencies**

Senior Lead Officer Julie Nony announced the Senior Lead Officer Summit on May 22, 6:30-8:00, Temple of Israel on Hollywood Blvd. They will be sharing info on terrorism and the LAPD's goals for the year. The dept. is being blasted with property theft crime; people are still leaving things in plain view in their cars. Lock It/Hide It/Keep It flyers are available. The phone list for the Hollywood Division is available. They are also engaging more in Social Media. She also reported that there has been an influx of homelessness and they are not allowed to go into the underpasses, so they have begun beautifying the areas around them. There has been some continuing problems with MS, an El Salvadorean gang, extorting from Hollywood businesses, especially the illegal vendors.

6. **Discussion and possible action and vote** for HSDNC to create a joint ad hoc Public Safety Committee with East Hollywood NC
Alferov met with her and she gave him some forms to complete. Bell said it's an active committee, sometimes 70+ people are attending a meeting. Tossounian said creating this committee will be part of the Bylaws Committee report. **Meredith/Whiddon moved to support creation of this ad hoc committee.** Alferov, Puree and Tossounian volunteered to be on this committee. **Motion passed 13-0-0.**

7. **Presentation** on Proposition D and Voter Initiative F by Yamileth Bolanos, Founder and President of The Great Los Angeles Collective Alliance – Not Present

8. **Discussion and possible action and vote** to issue a letter of support to Sunset Bronson Studios (SBS). Presentation on how SBS responded to HSDNC architectural articulation requests. They incorporated many suggestions from PLUM but stayed within the EIR. It is their intent to restore the KTLA tower. Stakeholder Lori

Becklaunder commented that it needed something to balance out the top of the proposed building. **Tossounian/Andersen moved to issue letter of support for the project. Motion passed 10-0-3.** (Abstained: Bell, Puree, Torres).

9. **Discussion and possible action and vote to issue a letter of opposition to the Millennium Project** as now proposed and to be reviewed next by the City Planning Land Use Management. Meredith reminded the Board that at the Feb. 11, the board voted to oppose the project. Meredith prepared a draft letter in opposition and read it to the Board. Kira Teshima asked for a continuance on this item. There was discussion re the time that has been spent considering this project. Whiddon said that he also spoke with the City Attorney today re a motion to issue the letter of opposition; it is not a “reconsideration,” but a new motion. Bell also suggested it be sent to the CD13 candidates O’Farrell and Choi, as well as the LA Times and LA Weekly. Andersen suggested some minor grammatical/punctuation errors; she and Bell pointed out that the number of stories should be no more than 22. Whiddon is against the parking plan; if there’s a shorter building, it will spread. Zide and Bell think the plan is too vague, it’s out of scale to the community. Meredith pointed out there is a problem with density. Lori Beckland said a Planning Commissioner was also one of the architects, so there was an ethical violation. She mentioned they were also involved with the Hollywood Community Plan and are now planning a project that does not conform to that Plan. Teri Gerger, representing stopthemillienium.org. Wilshire NC, Hollywood United NC, et al, have opposed this project. She suggested pointing out the lowered FAR and the deficiencies in the traffic studies in the letter. **Whiddon agreed to sign the letter. Bell/Durkee moved to issue the letter as amended. Motion passed 9-1-3.** (No: Whiddon; Abstaining: Derenthal, Torres, Andersen)
10. **Discussion and possible action and vote** to approve the creation of a Hollywood Route 66 BID along Santa Monica Blvd. from Hoover to the western border of the HSDNC. Presentation by Jeff Zarrinam and Armen Makasjian. Central Hollywood NC has approved the plan. East Hollywood NC is expected to approve it. The steering committee will come up with a plan and set up a budget; then, each business owner will be assessed proportionately. Bell said that it started as a task force in the East Hollywood NC; money was being collected in WeHo and even in Needles where there is part of the old Route 66. Makasjian said being a BID would open Santa Monica Blvd. up to applying for a federal grant for being part of Route 66. **Whiddon/Zide moved to issue a letter of support. Motion passed unanimously.**

11. Bylaws/Elections Committee

a. Presentation by the HSDNC Bylaws and Election Committee on their recommendations for amendments to the bylaws of the HSDNC

(copies of the HSDNC Bylaws will be provided to the public at the meeting). To request an electronic copy, email: jirair.tossounian@hsdnc.org with subject line "Bylaws." Re the change re what constitutes being eligible to run for the Board (Article V), Whiddon said it has been his experience that people are interested for a couple meetings and then fall off. This particular recommendation is worth striving for, however. Andersen related her experience with two other neighborhood councils that reflected both sides of this particular argument re "At Large"; she thinks the proposed change is too restrictive. Bob Blue said he believes there was an error on the previous bylaws that DONE approved re 1 property owner, 1 commercial property owner and 1 resident. Whiddon asked Board Members and other interested parties to bring their ideas and complaint solutions to make the HSDNC better. Durkee noted that the Outreach Committee emails go to people who are outside the District. Bell said he thinks that those on the HSDNC are doing good; it's a great neighborhood council. (Raul Munoz passionately disrupted the meeting by presenting an email that was unrelated to HSDNC or the Bylaws Committee that happened to have been courtesy copied to Whiddon and CD13 candidate Mitch O'Farrell.) Andersen commented re three consecutive absences being subject to removal, the revision does not distinguish between excused or unexcused. Bell pointed out that this would put them on the Agenda and they could make the pitch to keep their seat. Stakeholder Courtney Tossounian said that if someone has missed so many meetings then it might reflect the fact that they are too busy to be involved in the council. By straw vote, the Board agreed to have a Special Meeting to further discuss certain sections of the proposed bylaws. This meeting will likely take place for two hours (10-N) on Saturday morning, May 25. **Whiddon/Bell moved to correct all the typos. Motion passed unanimously by hand vote.** Anderson thinks Section IX should give the Board more teeth when a Member is disrespectful during a Board meeting; a requirement to have 200 signatures to vote someone off is much more than the number required to seat someone. This will be discussed at a Special Meeting. Tossounian is also going to add "Committee Structure" to the topics to be discussed at the Special meeting. **Bell/Peterson moved to approve the recommended changes to the bylaws except for those of Article IV; Article V, Section 1, Section 7, Section 9, Section 10, Section 11; Article VI, Section 1, Section 2, Section 3; and Article X, Section 4. Motion passed by roll-call vote, 11-1-0 (No: Torres)**

12. **Proposed Agenda Items** for next Board meeting on June 10, 2013

13. **Adjournment at 9:18.**