

# HCNNC

## HISTORIC CULTURAL NORTH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

CHINATOWN • EL PUEBLO • SOLANO CANYON • VICTOR HEIGHTS



**Monday, February 10, 2020 – 6:00pm - 7:30 p.m.**

### **Bylaws Committee Meeting**

El Tranquilo Gallery, 634 N. Main St., Los Angeles, CA 90012

### **Minutes**

**1 — Welcoming Remarks - Call to Order and Introductions (6:04 p.m.)**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Phyllis Ling at 6:04 p.m.

Mario Hernandez from the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, and two stakeholders were in attendance.

**2 — Establishment of Quorum - Roll Call (6:04 p.m.)**

Three committee members were present at 6:04 p.m. There was quorum.

	Present		Present		Present		Present
Phyllis Ling	✓	Don Toy	Absent	Valerie Hanley	✓	Miho Murai	✓

**3 — General Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items (Up to two minutes per speaker)**

None.

**4 — Discussion and possible action to approve the minutes of the HCNNC Bylaws Committee Meeting of January 14, 2020.**

**Discussion:** Phyllis Ling noted a correction to change the formatting of the line of text above 5.13 to black and normal instead of blue and italic.

**Motion:** Approve the minutes of the HCNNC Bylaws Committee Meeting of January 14, 2020 with the correction from Phyllis Ling. (Miho Murai motioned, Valerie Hanley seconded).

**Public Comment:** None.

**Vote on Motion:** Unanimous (3-Yes, 1-Absent). MOTION PASSED.

**5 — Old Business**

**5.1 Discussion and possible action related to amending Article VIII of the HCNNC Bylaws, MEETINGS.**

**Motion:** In Article VIII. MEETINGS, Section 2, change the third sentence from “The Secretary shall promptly refer the proposal to a Standing Committee or, at the next regular Board meeting.” to “The Secretary shall promptly refer the proposal to a Standing Committee, or have it placed on the next regular board meeting agenda.” (Phyllis Ling motioned, Valerie Hanley seconded).

**Discussion:** Phyllis Ling stated that the sentence reads awkwardly and is confusing, and requested it be clarified what the Secretary must do.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Vote on Motion:** Unanimous (3-Yes, 1-Absent). MOTION PASSED.

**5.2 Discussion and possible action related to amending Article IX of the HCNNC Bylaws, FINANCES.**

No changes. No action taken.

**5.3** *Discussion and possible action related to amending Article X of the HCNNC Bylaws, ELECTIONS.*

Mario Hernandez noted that the minimum voting age may be changed because of neighborhood council reforms. The Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (BONC) will automatically make the changes to the bylaws.

No changes. No action taken.

**5.4** *Discussion and possible action related to amending Article XI of the HCNNC Bylaws, GRIEVANCE PROCESS.*

**Motion:** In Article XI. GRIEVANCE PROCESS, in the first sentence, after “place”, insert “and”. (Phyllis Ling motioned, Valerie Hanley seconded).

**Discussion:** This is to correct a typo.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Vote on Motion:** Unanimous (3-Yes, 1-Absent). MOTION PASSED.

**5.5** *Discussion and possible action related to amending Article XII of the HCNNC Bylaws, PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY.*

No changes. No action taken.

**5.6** *Discussion and possible action related to amending Article XIII of the HCNNC Bylaws, AMENDMENTS.*

No changes. No action taken.

**5.7** *Discussion and possible action related to amending Article XIV of the HCNNC Bylaws, COMPLIANCE.*

No changes. No action taken.

**5.8** *Discussion and possible action related to amending ATTACHMENT B of the HCNNC Bylaws, Governing Board Structure and Voting.*

**Motion:** In ATTACHMENT B (on page 19), in the second row of the table, under the BOARD POSITION insert “or Employee” after “Chinatown Business Owner” and under ELIGIBILITY TO RUN FOR THE SEAT, insert “or employee” after “business owner”. (Miho Murai motioned, Phyllis Ling seconded).

**Discussion:** Phyllis Ling noted that she recalled a revision of the bylaws that specified this was a Business Owner and Employee seat. Valerie Hanley clarified that in Article V of the bylaws (GOVERNING BOARD), it specifies that this is a Business Owner and Employee seat, and that the table was added by DONE. Miho Murai supported the amendment in order for the table to be consistent with the definition in Article V.

**Public Comment:** David Louie asked what happens in the case of a business that is owned by stock holders. Could they select a representative to represent the business?

**Discussion:** Phyllis Ling noted that eligibility to run for a business owner seat is defined in the elections handbook.

**Vote on Motion:** 2-Yes, 1-No, 1-Absent. MOTION PASSED.

**Motion:** In ATTACHMENT B (on page 19), in the second row of the table, under the BOARD POSITION insert “or Employee” after “El Pueblo Business Owner” and under ELIGIBILITY TO RUN FOR THE SEAT, insert “or employee” after “business owner”. (Miho Murai motioned).

There was no second to the motion.

**5.9** *Discussion and possible action related to amending Article III of the HCNNC Bylaws, BOUNDARIES.*

Tabled until after discussion of 6.1-6.3.

**5.10** *Discussion and possible action related to amending Article V of the HCNNC Bylaws, GOVERNING BOARD.*

Tabled until after discussion of 6.1-6.3.

**5.11** *Discussion and possible action related to amending any other section of the HCNNC Bylaws.*

Miho Murai proposed combining the Schools and Libraries Committee with the Arts, Parks, Recreation, and Culture Committee because there is overlap in interests between the two committees, and because it is hard getting people involved in the committees.

**Motion:** Combine the Schools and Libraries Committee and the Arts, Parks, Recreation, and Culture Committee into one committee called the Education, Recreation, Arts, and Culture Committee. (Miho Murai motioned, Phyllis Ling seconded).

**Discussion:** Phyllis Ling asked the Chairs of the committees if they were ok with this, and they were.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Vote on Motion:** Unanimous (3-Yes, 1-Absent). MOTION PASSED.

## 6 — **New Business**

### 6.1 *Discussion and possible action related to amending the boundaries between El Pueblo and Chinatown, and amending the board structure of El Pueblo. (See DLouie-01-17-2020.pdf)*

Chair Ling read the proposal from David Louie, which was to (1) revise the boundaries of El Pueblo to include the areas of La Plaza Village, La Plaza de Cultura y Artes, Our Lady Queen of Angeles Catholic Church and Bracero Bend, and (2) to amend the board member seats representing El Pueblo to include one resident representative, one for-profit business representative, and one non-profit organization representative.

**Public Comment:** David Louie clarified that he is essentially proposing to replace the El Pueblo At-Large seat with an El Pueblo Resident seat, which would help provide representation for the residents in the La Plaza Village development.

**Discussion:** Miho Murai noted that she would keep the El Pueblo At-Large seat in order to be consistent with the other neighborhoods, which each have an At-Large seat. Instead, she would not be opposed to adding a fourth seat for El Pueblo for residents, and increasing the board size to 18. She did not see the residents at La Plaza being similar demographically to the residents in the rest of Chinatown. Valerie Hanley opposed adding seats because if the board gets too large, which was a problem with HCNC, it cannot get anything done. She noted that El Pueblo is a well-defined area, as defined by the state park boundaries.

**Public Comment:** David Louie noted there are approximately 300 new units, or 700 people, and 50,000 sqft of new retail in La Plaza Village, and they should have representation.

**Motion:** To add a resident seat for El Pueblo (Miho Murai motioned).

It was asked if the motion was to also change the boundary. Miho Murai stated that she wanted to consider the boundary question separately.

The motion was not seconded.

**Motion:** To expand the El Pueblo boundary westward to Hill Street. (Miho Murai motioned, Phyllis Ling seconded.)

**Discussion:** Phyllis Ling stated that she seconded the motion, so that they could have the discussion.

**Public Comment:** David Louie noted that El Pueblo is the birth place of Los Angeles, and Fort Moore is a part of that history. He asked the committee to give it serious thought, and expand the boundary.

**Vote on Motion:** 1-Yes, 2-No, 1-Absent. MOTION FAILED.

### 6.2 *Discussion and possible action related to designating a new neighborhood within HCNNC that encompasses Union Station, and adding board seats. (See DLouie-01-17-2020.pdf)*

Chair Ling read the proposal from David Louie, which was to create a new neighborhood designation within HCNNC for Union Station, which is currently included within the neighborhood of Chinatown. His proposal includes the addition of three board seats to represent this area: 1 for residents, 1 for for-profit businesses, and 1 for non-profit businesses.

**Discussion:** Valerie Hanley commented that she would be open to adding new neighborhoods if there was feedback from the stakeholders that they wanted it, or if they were even aware about the neighborhood council. Currently, it is unknown whether anyone would want to serve in these new board seats. If the seats are vacant, the bylaws specify that they must be converted into At-Large seats. This is not a one-shot deal, and can be considered again in two years.

Mario Hernandez suggested the possibility of expanding El Pueblo eastward to include Union Station. Miho Murai commented that if that were to happen, there would need to be a resident seat for this area.

Valerie Hanley commented that she didn't want to make a hasty decision to try something to see if it works. She would like to get more feedback from stakeholders, sit down, and carefully consider boundary adjustments.

**Public Comment:** David Louie commented that Union Station is different from Chinatown, and also different from El Pueblo. He suggested the board reach out to the non-profits in the Union Station area, such as First 5, the California Endowment, and others.

**Discussion:** Phyllis Ling noted that this is a new neighborhood council, and the startup has been slow. HCNNC needs to do more outreach. The Outreach Committee hasn't met yet. Each board member is responsible for doing outreach, and we all need to go out to community meetings to get learn more about what stakeholders want. Valerie Hanley agreed this was a discussion that the board should continue to have.

**Public Comment:** David Louie suggested forming an ad hoc committee to study the internal boundaries and report back to the board.

No motion was made.

### **6.3** *Discussion and possible action related to designating a new neighborhood within HCNNC that encompasses the areas east of the LA State Historic Park, including William Mead Homes and Ann Street Elementary School, and adding board seats.*

Chair Ling noted that she included this on the agenda because she thinks it is important to begin the discussion. So far, however, there has not been any feedback from the residents in the neighborhood through the survey. HCNNC needs to do more outreach in the neighborhood.

Miho Murai noted when she was campaigning for the election, she knocked on doors and spoke to some residents there, who seemed excited to be represented. She felt the area should have its own representation. She spoke to one person who was interested in serving on the board. Phyllis Ling noted that she reached out to that same person prior to this meeting, but didn't hear back. Valerie Hanley still preferred to hear from more than one or two people before making a change to boundaries.

**Public Comment:** David Louie asked about procedure for voting on bylaws amendments at the full board meeting; if the committee makes recommendations to the board, when the full board votes, can they be further amended. Mario Hernandez clarified the procedure.

Miho Murai suggested approving a recommendation, doing outreach, and then allowing the full board to make a decision based on feedback from stakeholders. This way the board doesn't have to wait a year and a half for the next opportunity to make this change.

The committee members looked at potential borders for a William Mead district within HCNNC

**Motion:** To carve out a neighborhood within HCNNC for William Mead and add two board seats for this area: 1 Resident seat and one At-Large seat. (Miho Murai motioned)

Phyllis Ling asked if this also include the industrial part of Chinatown to the north. Miho Murai stated that she would just include the William Mead area.

There was not a second to the motion.

### **5.10** *Discussion and possible action related to amending Article V of the HCNNC Bylaws, GOVERNING BOARD.*

Miho Murai noted that to make the El Pueblo seat in this section consistent with the table in Attachment B, the business owner and employee seat would need to be changed to a business owner seat.

**Motion:** In Section E, strike "or employee" from the El Pueblo seat, so that it is just a Business Owner seat. (Valerie Hanley motioned, Phyllis Ling seconded.)

**Discussion:** Valerie Hanley noted that employees are already included in the At-Large seat, and there are over 60 business owners in El Pueblo.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Vote on Motion:** Unanimous (3-Yes, 1-Absent). MOTION PASSED.

**Motion:** Remove "property owner" from Sections I, D, K. (Valerie Hanley motioned.)

**Public Comment:** Paul Hanley noted that property owners can also be business owners if they rent out the property, or they can be residents if they live in the property.

Phyllis Ling commented that removing “property owners” from the list of the of those included under “At-Large” in Solano Canyon, Victor Heights, and Chinatown seats may lead some property owners to think they don’t qualify to run for those seats because some property owners don’t consider themselves business owners.

There was not a second to the motion.

**5.11** *Discussion and possible action related to amending any other section of the HCNNC Bylaws.*

**Motion:** Throughout the document, replace “Board of Officers” with “Executive Committee”. (Phyllis Ling motioned, Miho Murai seconded.)

**Vote on Motion:** Unanimous (3-Yes, 1-Absent). MOTION PASSED.

**Public Comment:** David Louie asked for clarification about property owner eligibility to serve on the board. Mario Hernandez clarified.

**6** — *Committee Member Comments and Announcements*

**7** — *Requests and Motions for Future Agenda Items*

**8** — *Adjournment (8:17 p.m.)*

**Motion:** Adjourn the meeting (Phyllis Ling motioned, Miho Murai seconded).

**Vote on Motion:** Unanimous (3-Yes). MOTION PASSED.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

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## Committee Members

**Phyllis Ling (Chair)**

Solano Canyon  
Residential Representative

**Don Toy**

Victor Heights  
Residential Representative

**Valerie Hanley**

El Pueblo  
Non-Profit Representative

**Miho Murai**

At-Large  
Stakeholder Representative

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