

HCNNC

HISTORIC CULTURAL NORTH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

CHINATOWN • EL PUEBLO • SOLANO CANYON • VICTOR HEIGHTS



Tuesday, August 11, 2020 – 6:00 - 7:15 p.m. Schools and Libraries Committee Meeting

Zoom Meeting Online or By Telephone
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MINUTES

VIRTUAL MEETING TELECONFERENCING NUMBER FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

In conformity with the Governor’s Executive Order N-29-20 (MARCH 17, 2020) and due to concerns over COVID-19, the Historic Cultural North Neighborhood Council committee meeting will be conducted entirely telephonically.

Every person wishing to address the Neighborhood Council committee must dial (877) 853-5257, and enter 981 2009 7009 and then press # to join the meeting. Instructions on how to sign up for public comment will be given to listeners at the start of the meeting.

1 — Welcoming Remarks - Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Chair Miho Murai at 6:03 p.m.
3 stakeholders were in attendance.

2 — Establishment of Quorum - Roll Call

2 committee members were present at 6:03 p.m. There was quorum.

	Present		Present		Present		Present
Phyllis Ling	√	Miho Murai	√	Valerie Hanley	6:32 pm	Vacant (Stakeholder)	

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

Susan O’Leary – She is part of the Chinatown neighborhood. Laura J. Nelson reported a surge in COVID cases among California youths and teens, up by 150% last month, a rate that outpaces COVID-19 cases overall and establishes minors as a small but growing share of the state’s COVID-19 cases.

4 — New Business

4.1 Discussion and possible action to approve a regular day and time for the committee meetings.

Motion: Recommend holding monthly Schools and Libraries Committee meetings on the 1st Monday of each month at 6:00 pm. (Phyllis Ling motioned, Miho Murai seconded).

Committee Discussion: Miho Murai suggested having the Schools and Libraries Committee meetings be held on Mondays instead of Tuesdays because the school board meetings are held on Tuesdays. Murai wanted to hold the Schools and Libraries Committee meetings on the same day as the Outreach Committee meetings so that it is easier for people to participate in both meetings. Phyllis Ling stated that Mondays were fine with her and she believed Mondays and Tuesdays were fine for Valerie Hanley but she could not speak for her. Ling

agreed that having the meetings on the same day was a good idea. Murai stated that she would like to get people from the schools and libraries to participate in future meetings and become committee members and so she is open to changing the time if it is better for other stakeholders.

Public Comment: None

Vote on Motion: Unanimous (2-Yes). MOTION PASSED.

4.2 Discussion about the mission and goals of HCNNC's Schools and Libraries Committee.

Motion: None

Committee Discussion: Miho Murai shared mission statements from various neighborhood councils that have a Schools and Libraries Committee (Echo Park, Mar Vista, Glassell Park). Murai stated that a lot of neighborhood councils have an Education Committee but does not have a mission statement. Murai stated that ideally she would like to meet at least monthly but because of COVID she is not sure how often we can meet. Murai's goal for this Committee is to provide a resource for schools and libraries to connect with each other. Phyllis Ling would be interested in hearing what the schools and libraries in our community need. Ling met with Solano Avenue Elementary and they gave her some ideas about what kind of support they needed, such as keeping the area around the school safe. Murai suggested adding the mission statement to the website. Murai stated that she would try and incorporate what Eugene Moy suggested and revisit this issue at the next meeting.

Public Comment: Susan O'Leary felt that the mission statements looked great and asked how actively this Committee would be. O'Leary believed that some of the agenda items from the Outreach Committee overlap with this Committee. O'Leary noted that for her the Outreach Committee is about physical contact, going to every neighborhood meetings, CicLAvia, local street fairs, and attending schools and library events and passing out information about what we are doing and signing people up to be on our email blast.

Eugene Moy wanted to know how accessibility and language needs and technology could be added to the mission statement since there are special challenges for our community in these areas. Moy was wondering how Castelar conducts their meetings, whether they are conducted in both Spanish and Chinese. Moy believes that the Echo Park mission statement is the most comprehensive.

Vote on Motion: N/A

4.3 Discussion and possible action to appoint Stakeholder(s) to the Schools and Libraries Committee.

Motion: None

Committee Discussion: Miho Murai was planning to go to the schools and put up signs and attend PTA meetings to get stakeholders to join this Committee but since schools are now closed this does not seem like the best way. Murai would like to get a stakeholder from each school and from the library. Phyllis Ling said that she could ask some of the people that she met at Solano Avenue Elementary and also suggested reaching out to the principals. Murai stated that the school will likely not be able to release the email addresses of parents as suggested by Susan O'Leary. Murai stated that today we would not be appointing anyone and that ideally she would like to connect with people face to face to get them to join the Committee.

Public Comment: Eugene Moy stated that the Chinatown Service Center has a youth program that provides afterschool tutoring and suggested to check with them for youth volunteers as well as teachers and tutors. Susan O'Leary stated that she could go to Castelar Elementary and attend their events and sign people up but stated that would not be possible right now because of COVID. O'Leary suggested that we could ask the administration for a list of the emails of parents in order to send them an email blast about our Committee and let them know that we would love to hear their concerns and share our meeting date and time.

Vote on Motion: N/A

4.4 Discussion and ways to conduct outreach to Stakeholders regarding HCNNC's Schools and Libraries Committee meetings and future events.

Motion: None

Committee Discussion: Phyllis Ling stated that our board does not have a budget right now and so we cannot spend money on advertising but we can use emails and social media, like Facebook, twitter, instagram. Miho Murai stated that she has sent emails to different schools but since they have not made a personal connection,

the schools have probably just deleted the emails. Murai hoped that through the next agenda item, the Education Town Hall Meeting, the Committee could organize parents in this area and once the parents knew about the neighborhood council, they would be more likely to come to the meetings.

Public Comment: Eugene Moy mentioned that Cathedral High School is also within our boundaries and that we should outreach to them. Moy noted that Brother John is the principal and is a good person to work with. Moy also mentioned the First Chinese Baptist Church and stated that they have a very active Sunday school program who could be engaged, though many of them do not live in Chinatown.

Susan O’Leary thanked Eugene Moy for all of his amazing suggestions. O’Leary also mentioned the South Wind Lion Dancers and noted that they specialize in working with kids and support academics. O’Leary pointed out that we need to manage our expectations since this is a brand new committee. O’Leary stated that we can reach out by phone but a lot of the relationship building will happen in a post COVID world, where we can meet with them one-on-one and attend their meetings and events and invite them to our meetings.

Eugene Moy mentioned that another group to reach out to is the Fire Cracker Race Committee, which Wilson Gee is on. Moy stated that they raise funds and donate to the local schools.

Vote on Motion: N/A

- 4.5 Discussion and possible action to organize an “Education Town Hall Meeting” for parents, teachers, and students in order to address how COVID-19 has impacted the public education system and create opportunities for parents and students to connect with each other and share resources; discussion will also include potential dates and recommendations of a budget for this event.

Motion: None

Committee Discussion: Miho Murai stated that Echo Park NC recently organized a Town Hall Meeting for parents, teachers, and students about how COVID has impacted the public school system and Jackie Goldberg, a LAUSD board member, spoke at the Town Hall and they also had workshops for the parents, teachers, and students. Murai hoped that we could get representatives from each of the different schools and organize it together and create opportunities for teachers, students, and parents to network together and share resources. Murai suggested organizing volunteers to teach free classes for the students on zoom, like dance classes and writing classes. Valerie Hanley mentioned that we need to think about what we can do for the other communities, like Victor Heights, Solano Canyon, and El Pueblo and not just what we can do for Chinatown. Murai wanted to introduce the idea of the Town Hall Meeting at this meeting and then work with representatives from each school outside of this meeting and then report back to the Committee. Phyllis Ling stated that only major decisions, like budget, needs to be discussed in the Committee and that it is a good idea to get ideas from other people outside of the meeting. Murai suggested that she may send out a survey to see what topics are of interest and Ling said she could help put it on the website.

Public Comment: Eugene Moy stated that he is on the board of the Rio Hondo Community Development Corporation, an affordable housing development group in El Monte. Moy stated that they have created educational programs for their tenants and gave each household a tablet and wi-fi access and conducted webinars to educate their tenants on various government programs. Moy suggested trying to make tablets and hot spots available to the community.

Susan O’Leary just wanted to state that these were great ideas.

Vote on Motion: N/A

- 4.6 Discussion about how to encourage schools to submit applications for neighborhood purpose grants.

Motion: None

Committee Discussion: Miho Murai stated that a copy of the neighborhood purpose grant application is available under supporting documents so that it is accessible to everyone. Valerie Hanley stated that one problem is that we do not have a lot of money for NPGs. Phyllis Ling stated that we do not have a budget yet and we do not know how much money will go to NPGs so it is hard to do outreach. Murai suggested that if we do outreach and get NPG applications from the community it will let the board know that there is a need for them and then the board will budget for them

Public Comment: None

Vote on Motion: N/A

5 — Schools' Reports & Announcements

Miho Murai reported that Ann Street E.S. has a new principal and they will be having a virtual meeting tomorrow at 5:00 pm.

No representatives attended the meeting.

6 — Chinatown Public Library Report & Announcements

Miho Murai reported that the Chinatown Public Library is still closed but books can still be checked out online.

No representatives attended the meeting.

7 — Committee Member Comments and Announcements

Valerie Hanley confirmed that she is available for meetings on Mondays.

Public Comment: None

8 — Requests and Motions for Future Agenda Items

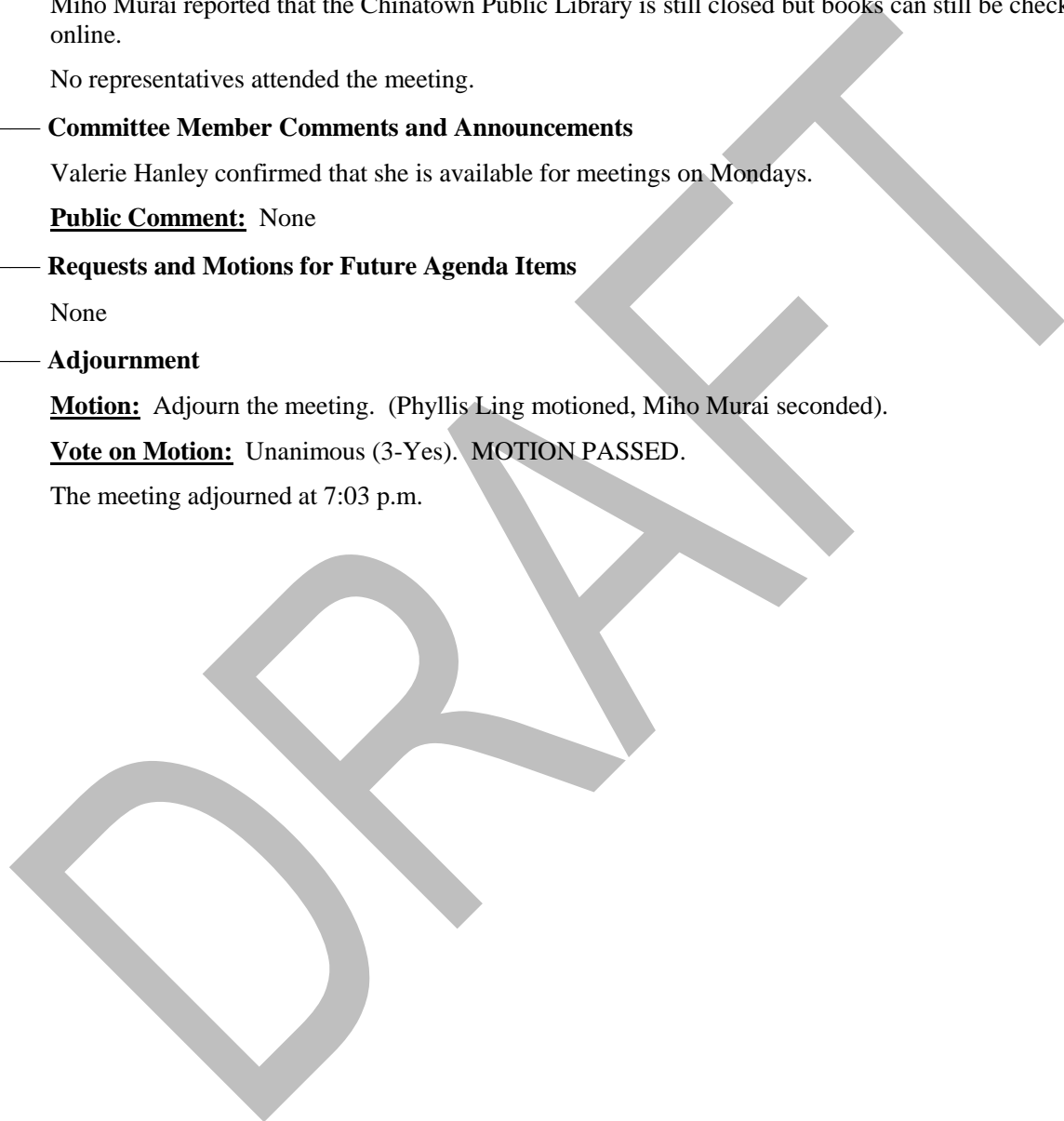
None

9 — Adjournment

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

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.



Committee Members

Miho Murai (Chair)

At Large
Representative

Phyllis Ling

Solano Canyon
Residential Representative

Valerie Hanley

El Pueblo
Non-Profit Representative

Vacant

Stakeholder

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- Solano Avenue Elementary School, 615 Solano Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90012
- Public Notice Board, Plaza el Pueblo de Los Angeles (in front of 555 N Main St, Los Angeles, CA 90012)
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