

# HCNNC

## HISTORIC CULTURAL NORTH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

CHINATOWN • EL PUEBLO • SOLANO CANYON • VICTOR HEIGHTS



Monday, October 23, 2023

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Regular Board Meeting

**Minutes - Approved November 27, 2023**

通用董事會會議 • Reunión de la Junta

Meeting In-person

Chinatown Branch Library

639 N. Hill St., Los Angeles, CA 90012

Document copies were available at: [https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1BC485\\_peicy4yovUTaNkfZFQXVbFnmVI?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1BC485_peicy4yovUTaNkfZFQXVbFnmVI?usp=share_link)

### 1. Call to Order & Roll Call

Chair Phyllis Ling called meeting to order at 5:04 pm. Roll call was taken by Secretary Miho Murai. 14 board members were present. There was quorum.

**Present (14):** Miho Murai, Xochitl Manzanilla, Ne Hung Hom, Wing Ho, Edward Flores, Paul Hanley, Valerie Hanley, Bill Chin, Patrick Chen, Jen “Charlie” Seto, Mei Wah Lau, Huiling Cai, Daniel Reza, and Phyllis Ling.

**Absent (3):** Mariela Cruz-Suarez, Garrett Quon, and Yuval Bar-Zemer

Also present were 2 representatives from Fire Department; Jose Galdamez from DONE; 5 members of the public (Raymond Yu just came to make a public comment); 4 interpreters (Spanish and Cantonese).

### 2. General Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items (Up to 2 minutes max per speaker)

Raymond - Day of the Dead 5K run at Olvera Street – 7 am to 11am on Saturday, October 28, 2023

Carlos Leon – candidate for Assembly District 52<sup>nd</sup>, currently held by Wendy Carillo; 16 year probation officer and very active in his union.

**3. Consent Calendar** (Note: A consent calendar is a board meeting practice that groups routine business into one agenda item. The consent calendar can be approved in one action, rather than filing motions on each item separately. A consent calendar moves routine items along quickly so that the board has time for discussing more important issues. If a member disagrees with the consent calendar item or wants to move it to the regular agenda, the member would request that the item be pulled from the consent calendar. The chair would ask if the members are in favor of approving the consent calendar minus the pulled item.)

**3.1.** Discussion and possible action to approve the Draft Meeting Minutes of the Historic Cultural North NC Regular Board Meeting of July 24, 2023.

*Supporting documents may be viewed at [www.HCNNC.org](http://www.HCNNC.org) or at the Chinatown Library at 639 N Hill St, Los Angeles, 90012, in the “HCNNC” folder on the shelf behind the reference desk.*

- 3.2.** Discussion and possible action to approve the Draft Meeting Minutes of the Historic Cultural North NC Regular Board Meeting of September 25, 2023.
- 3.3.** Discussion and possible action to approve the Draft Meeting Minutes of the Historic Cultural North NC Special Board Meeting (Board Retreat) of October 10, 2023.
- 3.4.** Discussion and possible action to approve the Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) for September 2023.

**Motion:** Approve the Consent Calendar (Valerie Hanley motioned, Wing Ho seconded).

Miho Murai – pulled 3.2 because the minutes for the September meeting were not available; Valerie and Wing agreed to the change. Motion passed unanimously.

After 4.1 –

Valerie Hanley noted that she was not eligible to vote because her ethics training is expired. Because Valerie made the motion to approve the Consent Calendar, the motion and vote was redone.

**Motion:** Approve the Consent Calendar (Paul Hanley motioned, Wing Ho seconded). Motion passed with all in favor, except for Valerie Hanley who was ineligible.

#### **4. GOVERNMENT REPORTS**

##### **4.1. Public Safety**

LAFD - Roberts – Cybersecurity month. Sign up for alerts through NotifyLA or lfd.org. 5,000 calls this year and 23 structure fires served by the local engine company on Fremont. They are recruiting/hiring for firefighters right now.

Bill Chin asked the Fire Department to look into aquatics activity at their facility on Stadium Way (Hotchkin Memorial Training Center).

Phyllis Ling asked if there any new initiatives in the Solano Canyon area, especially with all of the fires on Radio Hill.

Roberts - They increase resources during high hazard days throughout the year. Oversized pickup truck for fast response, fire road breaks are maintained, and they have helicopters to drop water.

##### **4.2. City Council and Mayor's Representatives**

No one present

##### **4.3. Other Area Representatives**

No one present

##### **4.4. Government Departments/Agencies, including Department of Neighborhood Empowerment**

Jose Galdamez from DONE – Robert’s Rules Made Simple training is available for board members. Bylaws amendment period is open. Deadline is April 1, 2024 to submit amendments. Update on SB 411. Tech tips; be aware of spam emails.

## **5. Liaison Reports**

Phyllis Ling – LANCC – last meeting they discussed option of in person LANCC meeting but voted it down; meets first Saturday of the month; there is a proposal for NC to weigh in with a Council File on redistricting and on the City ethics reform.

## **6. Officer’s Reports**

### **6.1. Chair’s Report - Report on the Board Retreat Meeting on 10/10/2023, SB 411 and hybrid virtual/in-person meetings, and Ciclavia Outreach Event.**

Phyllis Ling reported on the board retreat on October 10, 2023. Notes are in the minutes for the meeting. HCNNC had a booth at Ciclavia – 4 board members came out to staff the booth (Daniel Reza, Xochitl Manzanilla, Bill Chin, and Phyllis Ling).

Jen Seto asked if it is difficult to set up hybrid meeting. He will not be here next month but might be able to participate via Zoom.

Phyllis Ling noted that we need a camera to do a hybrid meeting and she is testing out how the current audio setup sounds on Zoom, but she is not monitoring it. Patrick Chen noted that it’s not just equipment; someone needs to be managing the online audience. Daniel Reza noted it was a moot point until City Council approves SB411. Jose Galdamez clarified that hybrid meetings are already available with AB2449. Telephonic meetings are available so long as there is a quorum of the board that is present in person; need to be on video at all time and stable connection; need to have a camera set up; if there is an issue with connection, meeting has to be paused until corrected.

### **6.2. Secretary’s Report - Report on board member attendance and minutes.**

Secretary Murai reported on absences of all board members. Mariela Cruz-Suarez and Yuval Bar-Zemer both have three consecutive absences from regular meetings, and could be removed per our bylaws.

Paul Hanley suggested having a board member reach out to the board members who have 3 absences to see if they are still interested in being on the board. Phyllis Ling noted there is a process in the bylaws about removal. Jose Galdamez suggested that before the board takes any action on removal to have a quick consultation with the City Attorney’s Office.

Secretary Murai reported on outstanding minutes from 2022 and 2023 that have not been approved. Mr. Galdamez recommended the board agendaize minutes for approval.

### **6.3. Treasurer’s Report - Report on HCNNC’s budget.**

## **7. Committee Reports**

### **7.1. Planning and Land Use Committee - Report on the 10/12/2023 PLUC meeting.**

Patrick Chen reported that two committee members had to recuse themselves due to potential conflict of interest, so there was not quorum, so could not hold a discussion or vote on the LA Aerial Rapid Transit project, but approximately 40 public comments were received and item is continued to the next PLUC meeting; in the process of scheduling another PLUC meeting.

## **8. Reports from the Area Representatives:**

### **8.1. Chinatown**

Mei Lau – CCBA has a meeting with LAPD because of increase in crime; store was robbed and LAPD stated that they arrested the person. Another lady reported a person came every other week to her store and swiped something. She reported, but LAPD not responsive, so people ask why anyone would want to do business in Chinatown. LAPD advised to report every crime; CCBA requested additional funding for police.

Jen Seto – Before we had police meeting, his understanding is that in recent years, crime went up 20% in Chinatown; not much that the police can do because Chinatown community does not want to report crimes; We need to report the crime, no matter how small.

Ne Hung Hom – CCBA had a meeting recently with LAPD about the robberies; he believes we have made more awareness to the people and on the right track to report these cases; need to call 911 and stay calm; lady tried to stop the robber from taking the stuff, but he does not recommend this.

Bill Chin – Has concern about Chinatown and safety. Suggested looking at opening up the police sub station on Hill for safety. Should have BID come and report about safety. Maybe we can do a CIS.

Jen Seto – That office is owned privately as a trust. LAPD said that the crime rate is low enough that stationing officers there is unnecessary.

Bill Chin - Want to see police patrolling visibly.

Public Comment: Eugene Moy noted that the substation property on Hill St is privately managed. LAPD decided other areas needed more police. Usage of the substation building dwindled. Suggested contacting the owner David Gee.

### **8.2. El Pueblo de Los Angeles**

Valerie Hanley - Reported that El Pueblo businesses are experiencing many of the same crime issues as Chinatown. 5 businesses have been vandalized in the past few days. Trying to get LAPD to come and take the report, show up 3-5 hours later. Incident number written, but often there is no report generated. Day of the Dead festival, procession every night October 25-November 2.

### 8.3. Solano Canyon

Daniel Reza is trying to set up a community meeting with CD1 and will notify board and residents as soon as it is set up.

Phyllis Ling got an email, noted an article in Eatsider LA about high fire hazard areas and whether HCNNC will take up this issue because sometimes in Solano Canyon there is a fire every other day.

### 8.4. Victor Heights

Bill Chin - Noted a vacant property on Beaudry that could be a community garden (N of Alpine); need a non-profit to front the transfer from the State because it's considered surplus land. Also, land is contaminated from oil wells. Suggested a linear park behind Figueroa Terrace. Land is owned by City of LA. Would like to see tree planting in Victor Heights. Need traffic signs or speed bumps to prevent cruising. Fast and Furious 7. People drive up Beaudry fast. Would like Hernandez' Field Deputy to drive the streets and alleys to monitor bulk pickup/trash. Homeless have come to his residence and have slept there and use his water.

Patrick Chen — Displacement and evictions have been big issues. The number of for sales signs have been going up is concerning; Conversations going on about the new food court plaza that opened up.

Bill – Alpine Hills – Street lights are out and he has been calling 311; also on Figueroa by Evans College.

## 9. Discussion and possible action to appoint standing committee members.

### 9.1. Planning and Land Use - Nominee: Eugene Moy

**Motion:** Nominate Eugene Moy to the Planning and Land Use Committee. (Patrick Chen motioned, Paul Hanley seconded).

Eugene Moy introduced himself: Native of Chinatown, born at French Hospital. Has been board member and past president of Chinese American Citizen's Alliance and Chinese Historical Society of Southern California; board member of Friends of Chinese American Museum; 35 year career working with cities in economic development and redevelopment, familiar with development scene in the area.

Daniel Reza asked what is the responsibility of a standing committee member.

Phyllis Ling clarified that he would be a member of the PLUC and have same responsibilities as other members of the committee. He needs to take the Planning 101 training. He can vote in committee meetings, but not in our full board meetings.

Ne Hom Hung and Bill Chin stated their desire to serve on the PLUC, but HCNNC already has 4 board members serving on that committee, which is the limit according to the HCNNC bylaws.

Miho Murai asked for us to vote on Eugene being a member of PLUC and that he would be a great addition to the Committee

## 9.2. Schools and Libraries

The Chair of the committee (Mariela Cruz-Suarez) is not present; therefore, cannot discuss.

**10. Discussion and possible action to adopt a resolution or a standing rule to authorize committee chairs to agendize joint meetings for certain purposes,** such as allowing greater participation by board members at committee meetings under the following conditions: (1) any agenda for a joint board/committee meeting must make clear that the meeting is solely noticed as a joint board and committee meeting to accommodate board participation and compliance with the Brown Act, (2) any items considered at the joint meeting will only be voted upon by the committee members (not other board members in attendance), and (3) the matters voted upon will be referred to the full board for discussion and possible action at a future agendized date and time.

Phyllis Ling explained that joint meetings are a way for more board members to participate in a discussion at a committee meeting, and provided the example of the LA ART gondola project at the PLUC meeting, when more than a majority of board members showed up and she had to leave the room. She noted joint meetings should be used rarely.

There were questions about conflict of interest in Land Use. Jose Galdamez advised that any conflict of interest issue should be consulted with the City Attorney's office. If board members attend joint meetings, they can participate in the meeting during public comment, but not during the committee discussion unless they are a committee member. In committee meetings, board members who are not on the committee are advised to only observe. Joint meetings can be used for "hot topics" to allow more board members to participate.

Valerie Hanley suggested modifying the language to include "and/or" on subsection 3

**Motion:** To approve the resolution (Paul Hanley motioned, Patrick Chen seconded.)  
Motion to amend subsection 3 to "full board for discussion and/or possible action" (Paul Hanley, seconded by Patrick Chen).

All in favor of amendment – all yes (12) except Bill Chin (1) who voted no; 1 ineligible (Valerie Hanley); amendment passed.

Vote on Main Motion: All in favor – all yes (12) except Bill Chin (1) who voted no, 1 ineligible (Valerie Hanley); resolution has passed.

**11. Discussion of a proposed HCNNC bylaws amendment to allow committees to have alternates who can serve in case of an absence of a committee member during a committee meeting. Reading of the proposed bylaws amendment:**

*Article VII, Section 3, add*



*G. Alternate Committee Members - In addition to the limit of four board members serving on a committee, committees (with the exception of the Executive Committee) may also have alternates who serve at a committee meeting in the absence of a committee member. (a) Committee alternates shall be appointed and removed in the same manner as the members of the committee. (b) Committee alternates must be board members. (c) Committee alternates may only serve in the absence of a committee member who is a board member. (d) Committee alternates may serve for an entire meeting or for any portion of a committee meeting at which a committee member is absent or has recused themselves from participation. (e) Committee alternates who serve during a meeting are counted towards quorum. (f) The number of members required to reach quorum for a committee meeting is based on the number of committee members, excluding the alternates. (g) Up to two committee alternates are allowed per committee. (h) If more than one committee alternate is available to serve in the absence of a committee member, the selection of the alternate is at the discretion of the absent committee member unless the absence is due to recusal. If the committee member is absent due to a recusal or the absent committee member has not made a selection, the selection of the alternate is made by the Chair of the committee. If the Chair of the committee has recused themselves, the selection of the alternate to serve in their absence is done with a flip of a coin.*

Daniel Reza asked why can't we incorporate this change in April; why can't the bylaws committee discuss this.

Phyllis Ling clarified it was sent to the Ad-Hoc Bylaw Committee and was sent to the City Attorney's office. Wants to have this amendment passed sooner so that more board members can participate in the PLUC Committee.

Valerie Hanley asked question regarding why absent people can select their alternates. Phyllis Ling noted any comments should be sent to the Chair of the Bylaws Committee (Valerie Hanley). Wing Ho wants to know what the City Attorney's response is.

**12. Discussion and possible action to approve a neighborhood purpose grant for up to \$4000 to Olvera Street Merchants Association Foundation for the Day of the Dead Event for cultural entertainment. The event runs October 25 - November 2, 2023.**

Tabled – NPG not submitted.

**13. Presentation from DMSE Sports to brief the HCNNC on the Lululemon 10K Run in CD14 that will take place in March of 2024.** Presenter will share the route (which was approved by LADOT) along with the organization of the race.

Tabled – presenter is not present

**14. Announcements**

Miho Murai — Halloween event at Alpine Recreation Center this Saturday from 10 am to 4 pm

**- Adjournment -**

Meeting adjourned at 7:07 pm

<b>OFFICERS</b>	<b>Phyllis Ling</b> Chair	<b>Wing Ho</b> 1st Vice- Chair	<b>Patrick Chen</b> 2nd Vice-Chair	<b>Miho Murai</b> Secretary	<b>Paul Hanley</b> Treasurer
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**- NEIGHBORHOOD REPRESENTATIVES -**

**Mei Wah Lau** - Chinatown At-Large Business Owner/ Employee/ Non-Profit/ Property Owner

**Garrett Quon** - Chinatown Business Owner/ Employee

**Wing Ho** - Chinatown Non-Profit

**Xochitl Manzanilla** - Chinatown Residential

**Ne Hung Hom** - Chinatown Residential

**Edward Flores** - El Pueblo At-Large Business Owner/ Employee/ Non-Profit/ Property Owner

**Valerie Hanley** - El Pueblo Business Owner/ Employee

**Paul Hanley** - El Pueblo Non-Profit

**Phyllis Ling** - Solano Canyon Business Owner/ Employee/ Non-Profit/ Property Owner

**Huiling Cai** - Solano Canyon Residential

**Daniel Reza** - Solano Canyon Residential

**Yuval Bar-Zemer** - Victor Heights Business Owner/ Employee/ Non-Profit/ Property-Owner

**Bill Chin** - Victor Heights Residential

**Patrick Chen** - Victor Heights Residential

**Mariela Cruz-Suarez** - At-Large Youth

**Miho Murai** - At-Large

**Jen Seto** - At-Large