

# HCNNC

HISTORIC CULTURAL NORTH  
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

CHINATOWN • EL PUEBLO • SOLANO CANYON • VICTOR HEIGHTS



Monday, August 26, 2024

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

Regular Board Meeting

**Minutes - Approved 09-23-2024**

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

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Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the Board's jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Board is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future Board meeting. Public comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board.

Notice to Paid Representatives - If you are compensated to monitor, attend, or speak at this meeting, City law may require you to register as a lobbyist and report your activity. See Los Angeles Municipal Code §§ 48.01 et seq. More information is available at [ethics.lacity.org/lobbying](http://ethics.lacity.org/lobbying). For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or [ethics.commission@lacity.org](mailto:ethics.commission@lacity.org)

**Supporting Documents for meeting are at <https://bit.ly/HCNNC-08-26-24-Bd-Docs>.**

## 1. Call to Order & Roll Call

Meeting called to order by Chair Phyllis Ling at 5:02 pm. Cantonese interpreters were available. Roll call taken by Secretary Miho Murai. **There was quorum.**

**Present during roll call (14):** Phyllis Ling, Miho Murai, Xochitl Manzanilla, Wing Ho, Daniel Reza, Mei Wah Lau, Shirley Oaks, Valerie Hanley, Paul Hanley, Edward Flores, Ne Hung Hom, Jen Seto, Patrick Chen, Bill Chen

**Absent (2):** Huling Cai and Garrett Quon

**Public:** 13 members (many for Item 13), including Jose Galdamez (DONE) and Katelyn Kim

*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.*

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

David Wong, Wong Family Association – concerned about the street vending that is in front of our building (Phyllis advised him that he can make his comment during Item 13)

**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 22, 2024](#).

**3.2.** Discussion and possible action to approve the Monthly Expenditure Report ([MER](#)) for July 2024.

Valerie Hanley made a motion to approve the consent calendar; seconded by Miho Murai; Yes – Jen Seto, Phyllis Ling, Miho Murai, Xochitl Manzanilla, Daniel Reza, Mei Wah Lau, Shirley Oaks, Valerie Hanley, Paul Hanley, Edward Flores, Ne Hung Hom, Patrick Chen, Bill Chen, Wing Ho; No – None; **MOTION PASSED**

No Public Comment

## 4. GOVERNMENT REPORTS

**4.1.** Public Safety - None

**4.2.** City Council and Mayor's Representatives - None

**4.3.** Other Area Representatives - None

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

**4.4.1.** Office of City Clerk working to maximize reach and awareness of the Neighborhood Council Election for next cycle. Will provide overview of election. Next roundtable will focus on elections turnout. All Board members are welcome to attend. Invitations will go out in September.

**4.4.2.** Impact Report - Neighborhood Councils and Community Partners - highlight impact of NC's - that's been emailed out to the Board.

**4.4.3.** #BoardmemberMondays celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month - send spotlight to EmpowerLA. General board member spotlights are welcome as well.

**4.4.4.** iv. Bylaw amendment amendments and stakeholder verification process updates - leaving it up to the Neighborhood Council Board for vote by mail requirements. Until end of December to make by-law changes for upcoming elections.

**4.4.5.** Council File Motion July 30th addresses bylaws for NC's.

## 5. Liaison Reports

Phyllis (LANCC) – Last meeting, new General Manager came and took a lot of questions;

## 6. Officer's Reports

**6.1.** Chair's Report

Phyllis – there is another NC (Downtown NC) that is also dealing with translation issue; HCNNC tabled at the Hungry Ghost Festival and we got a lot of new sign ups and gave away tote bags; would like us to table at Ciclavia – need to decide by 9/13 (need 4 to 5 volunteers); Councilwoman Hernandez will be coming to our October meeting; elections materials are available in the Chinatown Library; next meeting we need to elect an Ad Hoc Committee; Cathay Manor case has been continued to October – Dennis Kong (Prosecutor)

Bill – Wants to start a Neighborhood Watch – still needs someone from the police department and from CD1 to participate

## **6.2. Secretary's Report - Report on board member attendance.**

Secretary Miho Murai reported on board member attendance. As of today, the following absences have been reported: Jen Seto (1), Garrett Quon (2), Xochitl Manzanilla (1), Huiling Cai (3), Daniel Reza (1), Phyllis Ling (1), and Wing Ho (1). This only includes absences from regular meetings since September 2023 and does not include absences from special meetings.

No public comment

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

### **6.3.1. Discussion and possible action to [amend HCNNC's 2024-2025 Fiscal Year Budget](#).**

Treasurer Valerie Hanley reported that beginning budget is \$32,000; we received \$7,950.05 for translation; therefore, amending annual fiscal year budget to increase amount in translation and NPGs.

Valerie Hanley made a motion to approve the amended HCNNC's 2024-25 fiscal year budget; seconded by Miho Murai. Yes – Jen Seto, Phyllis Ling, Miho Murai, Xochitl Manzanilla, Daniel Reza, Mei Wah Lau, Shirley Oaks, Valerie Hanley, Paul Hanley, Edward Flores, Ne Hung Hom, Patrick Chen, Bill Chen, Wing Ho; No – None; **MOTION PASSED**

## **7. Discussion and possible action to appoint a stakeholder to fill the At Large Youth Representative vacant seat: [Katelyn Kim](#).**

Katelyn Kim introduced herself – 14 years old and lives in Chinatown. She is a freshman and very interested in getting involved with the HCNNC.

Miho – asked about whether she is able to make the monthly meetings on time (She stated that she will likely be a few minutes late but will be able to make our meetings.)

Paul Hanley made a motion to appoint Katelyn Kim to fill the At Large Youth Representation seat; seconded by Valerie Hanley

Verbal vote – unanimously approved; **MOTION PASSED**

## 8. Discussion and possible action to appoint Standing Committee Members

### 8.1.Schools and Libraries

Miho Murai made a motion to appoint Xochitl Manzanilla and Katelyn Kim as Standing Committee Members of the Schools and Libraries Committee; seconded by Paul Hanley

Verbal vote – unanimously approved; **MOTION PASSED**

## 9. Neighborhood Purpose Grants

9.1.Discussion and possible action to approve a neighborhood purpose grant of up to \$5000 to the [Castelar Dragons Foundation](#) to support the cost of the Education Through Music - Los Angeles program (ETM-LA) at Castelar Street School for the 2024-2025 school year.

Paul Hanley made a motion to approve the NPG for up to \$5,000 to the Castelar Dragons Foundation; seconded by Mei Lau; Yes – Jen Seto, Miho Murai, Xochitl Manzanilla, Ne Hung Hom, Wing Ho, Mei Wah Lau, Edward Flores, Paul Hanley, Valerie Hanley, Daniel Reza, Bill Chen, Patrick Chen, Shirley Oaks, Phyllis Ling; No – None; Ineligible – Katelyn Kim; **MOTION PASSED**

9.2.Discussion and possible action to approve a neighborhood purpose grant for up to \$3000 to [Olvera Street Merchants Association Foundation](#) for the Day of the Dead Event for cultural entertainment. The event runs October 25 - November 2, 2024.

Valerie Hanley had to recuse herself because she is the Treasurer; Edward Flores had to recuse himself because he deals with the Association regularly; Paul Hanley had to recuse himself since he volunteers for the event. All three of them left the room.

Phyllis Ling stated that the NPG is in our packet – it is for \$3,000 to Olvera Street Merchants Association Foundation for the Day of the Dead Event. It is a traditional event and provides workshops for children and partners with groups to do the 5K run.

No Public Comment

Wing Ho made a motion to approve the NPG for up to \$3,000 to Olvera Street Merchants Association Foundation for the Day of the Dead; seconded by Patrick Chen; Yes – Jen Seto, Miho Murai, Xochitl Manzanilla, Ne Hung Hom, Wing Ho, Mei Wah Lau, Daniel Reza, Bill Chen, Patrick Chen, Shirley Oaks, Phyllis Ling; No – None; Ineligible – Katelyn Kim; Recused – Paul Hanley, Valerie Hanley, and Edward Flores; **MOTION PASSED**

**10. The Robert K. Ross Center For Hope and Healing**

Address: 800 N NORTH MAIN ST

Case Numbers: DIR-2024-2878-SPPC-VHCA and VTT-84471

Applicant: Cecilia Ngo [Company: Linc Housing Corporation]

Project Description: Demo of existing improvements and construction of a phased, 2-building project with a 4-story commercial building & a 7-story mixed-use building with 124 housing units (100% affordable) and parking.

**Discussion and Possible Action to approve a [Letter of Support](#) for the Robert K. Ross Center For Hope and Healing project.**

Patrick Chen, Chair of the Planning and Land Use Committee, reported that PLUC voted unanimously to write a letter of support for this housing project at last week's Planning and Land Use Committee Meeting.

There are representatives here (Janie and Frances) to make a presentation about the project.

Paul Hanley made a motion to approve a letter of support for the Robert K Ross Center for Hope and Healing Project; seconded by Patrick Chen. Their presentation is in the Google Drive.

Jen Seto asked whether it will be public funded (Janie stated that they will be using different sources of funding to support this project. The California Endowment owns the land.)

Phyllis Ling stated that there is a draft letter in our packet.

Bill Lloyd (Public Comment) – excited to see that there will be 124 affordable housing units and wanted to find out what the income range will be (Janie stated that it is based on the Linc agreement with TCE; per Frances, need to be income qualified – 30 to 60% of the median income range)

Verbal vote – unanimously approved; **MOTION PASSED**

**11. Los Compadres De Oaxaca Restaurant Address: 640 N Broadway # 6**

Applicant Representative: Dennis Banks

**Discussion and Possible Action to approve a [Letter of Support](#) for a CUB for the Los Compadres restaurant.**

Draft letter of support recommended by PLUC on 8/20, Patrick summarized the PLUC meeting and application. This is an existing business. They are in the process of submitting their application to the Planning Department. They don't have a case number at the time. They were informed that a letter from the neighborhood council would help smooth the process. They are not changing operating hours. The CUB would be for beer and wine, no liquor.

Wing Ho motion, second by Jen Seto  
Board Discussion: None

Verbal vote – unanimously approved; **MOTION PASSED**

**12. Discussion and possible action to approve the outreach expenditure of up to \$200 for prepackaged snacks and refreshments from a warehouse store to give to visitors to our booth at the Ciclavia event on 10/13/2024 and up to \$80 for lunch for volunteers at HCNNC's booth at the all-day event.**

Phyllis Ling stated that this is a big event and we tabled last year.

Valerie Hanley made a motion to approve the outreach expenditure of up to \$200 for prepackaged snacks and refreshments for our booth at Ciclavia event; seconded by Edward Flores; Yes – Jen Seto, Miho Murai, Xochitl Manzanilla, Ne Hung Hom, Wing Ho, Mei Wah Lau, Edward Flores, Paul Hanley, Valerie Hanley, Daniel Reza, Bill Chen, Patrick Chen, Shirley Oaks, Phyllis Ling; No – None; Ineligible – Katelyn Kim; **MOTION PASSED**

No Public Comment

**13. Discussion regarding street/sidewalk vending in HCNNC areas.**

Charlie Seto: Brought this agenda item up based on complaint by Wong Family Benevolent Association. Three other cities that have policies around street vending. Corona city regulates street vendors - they must apply for a license and pay \$67 per year and follow guidelines such as space and location.

Paul Hanley: El Pueblo is a unique area where it is all commercial businesses - brick and mortar shops need to pay many fees - not an even playing field when street vendors set up. Seems to be a lack of regulation and enforcement.

Charlie Seto : In Corona, there are high monetary penalties for non-compliance with the regulation.

Phyllis Ling: Are we only talking about external vendors coming in to set up or also brick and mortar shops spreading onto the sidewalk.

Charlie Seto: Put together a survey and identified three types of vendors: (1) Older people who grow produce and sell it as a hobby, (2) Vendor businesses who set up on the sidewalk, and (3) Brick and mortar shops that spread out onto the sidewalk.

Phyllis: Shared the existing LA vending document. Asked Ben Cassorla if there's more information about street vending.

Ben Cassorla: There is an LA program for street vending applications - lowered the application fee recently. Enforcement issue - trying to develop an outreach strategy and good neighbor policy that all vendors should be following such as ADA access.

Phyllis Ling: Suggesting putting out a statement as a neighborhood council.

Miho Murai: Suggested that we outreach to the vendors. She supports a lot of the street vendors. There's a lot of reasons they became street vendors. If we have a discussion then we should have outreach to people on both sides before we take any further action.

Valerie Hanley: Everybody needs to know that businesses that have been there and established have been a long time - it's impacting us directly and we can't sell. When one person's rights overstep others, that's a problem. A lot of smaller shops on 6th and Alvarado have gone.

Public Comments:

David Wong: Wong Family association. First issue is public safety with the sidewalk and the second issue is sanitation with food being sold. Cars being parked all day long and driveway is blocked. Societal problem, want to help these people go elsewhere and eliminate this issue.

Bill Lloyd: Large empty lot at Main and College - wondering if people own that lot and can promote it as a place for street vendors.

Albert Wong: One of the incidents was when a street vendor used the Wong Family Association's address to apply for a retail business license. 744 N Broadway.

Board Discussion:

Edward Flores: Owns Juanita's Cafe. Street vendors want to go where there is busy businesses, and tap into that. Putting them somewhere else would not work. They have an entitlement and when you talk to them, they say they are doing an honest living. Many of them don't pay taxes, permits, fees. They don't want to cooperate.

Bill Chin: Let's call in the LAPD and BID so they can explain their responsibility.

Daniel Reza: This is a problem across the city with a lack of enforcement of property and tenant rights. Without enforcement it's a wild west attitude. It's the same thing with homeless people and RV's.

Valerie Hanley: It's not LAPD's job to enforce the vending rules. It's the job of Bureau of Street Services, who do not work on weekends, or you have to pay them to come on a Saturday.

Bill Chin: Asked if the Wong family pays into the BID, and do the people in red/on bicycles (BID) contact them to address the issue?

Wong Family Association: \$8,000 pay to BID per year

Phyllis Ling: Asked for any volunteers on the board to draft a letter. There were none, so she volunteered to work on it. Community members can write things and send it to the Neighborhood Council to consider and incorporate into letters or request for action.

Dan Reza: We don't need to be coming up with solutions, that is the City's problem and responsibility.

**14. Discussion and possible action to approve a Request For Action Letter and/or Community Impact Statement on the over 1/4-mile long metal fence along North Broadway between East Savoy St and Elysian Park Drive, which has become a blight and nuisance due to unmitigated graffiti and obstruction of scenic views.**

The fence is located on private property (APN 5414016002), on a bluff overlooking LA State Historic Park, that is being used for storage of construction supplies and equipment.

Dan Reza: Filed a service request regarding graffiti.

Ben Cassorla (CD1): Owner has been given a notice to comply, 30 days to remove the graffiti. If not removed, order to comply will be issued. Escalating fees and notices/orders to comply. Regarding the wall material, Ben will be speaking to City Planning because the tenant says it's sanctioned by City Planning - will follow up on that. When those sorts of things happen, you can let Ben know, but definitely file the complaint with LA Department of Building and Safety.

Dan: If the graffiti comes back, then another service request needs to be filed?

Ben Cassorla: Yes

Dan: Checked with the building code - 8 foot fence that cannot be seen through.

Bill: To Ben Cassorla, how many times do you call city agencies to follow up on complaints. Make 3-10 phone calls a week and many more emails.

Ben: Field deputies go around and file violations as part of their job.

Dan: On my311 there's a non-compliant vending request, what happens if it's forwarded to CD1?

Ben: The City budget that was passed for 2024 that Eunisses Hernandez voted against reduced funding for services.

Dan: Everyone should document and file complaints.

Ben: If there is a duplicate complaint, it will be closed as a duplicate.

**15. Reports from the Area Representatives:**

**15.1. Chinatown**

**15.1.1. Discussion regarding rising crime in Chinatown.** Per Phyllis Ling, Garrett Quon wanted to discuss this. Jen Seto said that a lady came



up to her and was complaining about a street light that was out on Grand Avenue for two years. He thinks it is between Alpine and Sunset. Bill Chin stated that both lights on Sunset are very dark. Bill Chin wanted the LAPD to come to our meeting. Valerie Hanley asked Ben from CD1 to see if there is anything he can do to push street lights. Ben suggested 311 and stated that it can take up to a year to fix. He does think that having a light out for up to two years is something he wants to know about.

**15.2.**El Pueblo de Los Angeles – Valerie Hanley stated that they are preparing for Mexican Independence Day; there will be chalk art; Day of Dead event – October 25 – November 2

**15.3.**Solano Canyon – already discussed above

**15.4.**Victor Heights – graffiti

**16. Announcements**

No announcements

**- Adjournment -**

Meeting adjourned at 6:51 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>Valerie 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

**Shirley Oaks** - Victor Heights Business Owner/ Employee/ Non-Profit/ Property-Owner

**Bill Chin** - Victor Heights Residential

**Patrick Chen** - Victor Heights Residential

**Katelyn Kim** - At-Large Youth

**Miho Murai** - At-Large

**Jen Seto** - At-Large