

# HCNNC

HISTORIC CULTURAL NORTH  
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

CHINATOWN • EL PUEBLO • SOLANO CANYON • VICTOR HEIGHTS



Tuesday, October 22, 2024

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

Special Board Meeting

**MINUTES – Approved 11/25/2024**

特別董事會會議 · Reunión Especial de la Junta

Meeting In-person

Chinatown Branch Library

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

Supporting Documents for meeting are at <https://bit.ly/HCNNC-10-22-2024-Bd-Docs>.

## 1. Call to Order & Roll Call

Meeting called to order by Chair Phyllis Ling at 5:05 pm. Cantonese interpreters were present. Roll call taken by Secretary Miho Murai.

**Present during roll call:** Miho Murai, Katelyn Kim, Ne Hung Hom, Garrett Quon, Mei Wah Lau, Edward Flores, Paul Hanley, Valerie Hanley, Huiling Cai, Daniel Reza, Patrick Chen, Phyllis Ling

**Absent:** Wing Ho, Jen Seto, Bill Chin, Shirley Oaks, Xochitl Manzanilla

Public: About 4 members, including Jose Galdamez (DONE) and Ben Cassorla (CD1)

At Roll Call, we had quorum with 12 members present and 5 members absent.

Wing Ho arrived at 5:10 pm. Xochitl Manzanilla arrived at 5:42 pm. Bill Chin arrived at 6:35 pm.

Paul Hanley and Valerie Hanley left early at 6:30 pm.

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

No public comments.

**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

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.

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 [September 23, 2024](#).
- 3.2. Discussion and possible action to approve the Monthly Expenditure Report ([MER](#)) for September 2024.

Daniel Reza made a motion to approve the consent calendar; seconded by Paul Hanley. Yes: Miho Murai, Ne Hung Hom, Garrett Quon, Wing Ho, Edward Flores, Paul Hanley, Valerie Hanley, Daniel Reza, Patrick Chen, Phyllis Ling; No: None; Abstain: Mei Wah Lau, Huiling Cai; Ineligible – Katelyn Kim; **MOTION PASSED (10-0-2-1)**

#### 4. GOVERNMENT REPORTS

- 4.1. Public Safety – No Representative
- 4.2. City Council and Mayor’s Representatives – Ben Cassarla (CD1) – New Depot Fire – need long term housing for the tenants; have found affordable housing units within Chinatown for them and they should be able to relocate by mid to end of November; have raised money for residents to buy new furniture; most of the tenants are at Royal Pagoda Inn and food is provided by LAUSD; some units are red-tagged and tenants will never be able to move back into them; street cleaning signs that impact schools (Miho) – no update on Castelar ES or Logan ES; he will reach out to Amy, Principal of Castelar ES
- 4.3. Other Area Representatives – No Representative
- 4.4. Government Departments/Agencies, including Department of Neighborhood Empowerment
  - 4.4.1. Jose Galdamez, DONE – Celebrating 25 years of NC System Exhibition at City Hall – Department of Cultural Affairs and EMPOWER LA; NCs are invited to submit artifacts to be featured in the exhibit – contact Jose
  - 4.4.2. 2025 NC elections will be starting soon; HCNNC is Region 6 timeline - candidate filing will open in mid December; timeline is available on website ([empowerla.org](http://empowerla.org) or [clerk.lacity.org](http://clerk.lacity.org))
  - 4.4.3. City Clerk will be making updates to funding guidelines related to NC such as the credit card limits
  - 4.4.4. NPG grants guidelines have been clarified with more guidance; check with the City Attorney’s office for potential conflicts of interest
  - 4.4.5. Community Improvement Projects examples have been updated.

#### 5. Liaison Reports

Phyllis Ling attended the last LANCC meeting in October. LANCC is encouraging NCs to submit CIS on term limits; concerns about too many trainings; City Charter changes; if anyone is interested in these issues, contact Phyllis; meetings are held every month, first Saturday of the month on Zoom

No public comment.

## 6. Officer's Reports

### 6.1. Chair's Report

Phyllis Ling stated that the next board meeting is on 11/25/24; El Pueblo members will not be present at the December board meeting. Katelyn will not be able to attend the 11/25/24 meeting; 12/23/24 – Wing Ho and the El Pueblo members will not be able to attend the meeting. Received application to install poles for Dodger Stadium.

### 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 (1), Xochitl Manzanilla (1), Huiling Cai (4 - 11/27/23, 1/22/24, 8/26/24, 9/23/24), Phyllis Ling (1), Mei Wah Lau (1), and Wing Ho (1). This only includes absences from regular meetings since October 2023 and does not include absences from special meetings.

No public comment.

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

Treasurer Valerie Hanley reported that the net balance is \$22,814.63 but we have two expenditures that need to be deducted. We are spending about \$1,100 every month for translations.

## 7. Discussion and possible action to approve a Community impact statement (CIS) and Request for Action Letter on street/sidewalk vending and enforcement of street/sidewalk vending rules and regulations within HCNNC areas. Letter is addressed to all relevant City officials, departments, and entities including CD1, CD14, Bureau of Street Services/Streets LA, Bureau of Sanitation, and copied to LAPD and Chinatown BID. [Draft CIS/Letter here.](#)

Paul Hanley made a motion to approve the CIS and request for action letter on street/sidewalk vending; seconded by Daniel Reza. Phyllis Ling read the CIS into the record.

Patrick Chen does not believe it is accurate to say that older people sell products as a hobby but they depend on the income as a secondary income.

Valerie Hanley asked whether we can include enforcement on the weekends and not just on the week days – **amendment to add “on weekdays and on weekends and not to charge**

**local businesses for that enforcement” on the first sentence of the last paragraph of the first page.** Amendment seconded by Garrett Quon.

Mr. Hom thinks that the CIS is well written. He interviewed some of the offenders and they understand that they block the sidewalk but this is something special in Chinatown. He thinks the solution is not to eliminate the vendors or put a strict ordinance. His idea is to moderately advise them but not drive them away.

Miho Murai asked what are we expecting the result to be for the CIS, the elimination of vendors? If so, I would be against it since I support street vendors and they support the community.

Paul Hanley wants them to moderate their practice and to comply with the rules – not block the street, clean up after themselves. In El Pueblo, they impact a large portion of the brick and mortar restaurants. They just bustle in and bustle out.

Verbal vote for amendment – no opposition; all in favor of the amendment; **amendment passed.**

Miho Murai asked to strike out “sell it as a hobby.” Seconded by Patrick Chen. Daniel thinks we should just strike out number one since mobile vendors includes produce vendors. Verbal vote – two in favor, majority against; **amendment failed.**

Daniel Reza amends the CIS to strike out #1 (older people) and change “three categories” to “two categories”; seconded by Garrett Quon. Verbal vote for amendment – no opposition; all in favor of the amendment; **amendment passed.**

Patrick Chen would like to strike out LAPD and BID to the letter. He does not feel that they are relevant to this letter. We should be emphasizing the need to fund for street cleaning too. Jose Galdamez from DONE said that we can strike BID since it is not a City agency. Miho Murai seconded the motion. Verbal vote for amendment - 5 in favor; 9 against; **amendment failed.**

Public Comment – Jen Fong with CCED – she supports street vendors and does not think punishment is the answer. She thinks we should work with property owners to identify spaces for mobile vendors. There is no supermarket in Chinatown and we need these vendors. She believes the community should come up with a solution before escalating to the City for enforcement.

Public Comment - Yelena Zeltser with Southeast Asian Community Alliance – 25 years in Chinatown and youth engagement. The letter drafted by the Board lacks evidence and creates division and pits community against each other. Many of our street vendors are long time residents and are elderly. We should not seek to criminalize them and try to work with them. The letter is misleading and claims that we need to enforce existing laws but the

laws are confusing and contradictory. We should remove the misinformation about trash and bad smells and that they are not part of the historic character. She urged us to work with the vendors and to investigate the situation and come up with compassionate and effective solutions. She does not think calling on LAPD will solve the problem.

Public Comment – Ivy with SEACA – she meets weekly with students and this is what they said about street vendors - street vendors should be protected and need a living wage. Elders need to pay rent and deserve to have a chance to make it through this life. They have limited opportunities and they deserve to have a chance to survive. Street vendors are a part of Chinatown too. We need to talk to the street vendors and address their root issues. A Chinatown without street vendors is unimaginable. We all need more public spaces to exist without being criminalized. She requested us to remove the misinformation in the letter.

Miho Murai suggested that we withdraw this CIS and to work with the vendors and revise it before voting on it.

Daniel Reza thinks the CIS is fine and we are only asking for help from the City; the street vendors do not pay taxes unless they are licensed.

Valerie Hanley stated that LAPD is not enforcing this but we are just letting them know about the problem.

Board vote on CIS – yes – Xochitl Manzanilla, Garrett Quon, Wing Ho, Edward Flores, Paul Hanley, Valerie Hanley, Daniel Reza, Phyllis Ling; no – Miho Murai, Ne Hung Hom, Huiling Cai, Patrick Chen; abstain – Katelyn Kim, Mei Wah Lau; **motion passed (8-4-2)**

**8. Discussion and possible action to remove Huiling Cai, Solano Canyon Residential Representative, from the Historic Cultural North Neighborhood Council (HCNNC) due to being absent for 4 total board meetings during any roving twelve (12) month period on 11/27/2023, 1/22/2024, 8/26/2024, and 9/23/2024, per HCNNC Bylaws Article V Governing Board, Section 7: Absences.**

Phyllis Ling stated that if a board member has 4 absences, our bylaws require us to notify the board member and put it on the agenda - not mandatory to remove the board member.

Huiling Cai explained that her absences were due to a combination of miscellaneous scheduling conflicts and illness. She would still like to be on the board.

Daniel Reza stated that for absences, we can let the Board or Chair know. He would like to ask that Board members in general inform the Board as a courtesy.

Valerie Hanley stated that regardless of notification of absence, we have to go through this process to consider removal from Board.

Valerie Hanley made a motion to remove Huiling Cai from the HCNNC Board; motion seconded by Xochitl Manzanilla.

#### Board Discussion

Ne Hong Hom does not want to remove Huiling. He wants to allow Huiling to stay on the Board

Mei Wah Lau wants to repeat the point about showing up to meetings.

Phyllis Ling stated that Huiling has helped out outside of meetings to support the Board and help her communicate with Mr. Hom.

Paul Hanley stated that if we keep Huiling on the Board, she will know to try to attend meetings. He believes this can be corrected.

No public comment.

Verbal vote to remove Huiling Cai – all in favor to not remove Huiling; no opposition; **motion failed – Huiling will remain a board member.**

### **9. Discussion and possible action to appoint an HCNNC representative to the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance.**

Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance meet monthly via Zoom. The appointed person would be a voting member of this alliance.

#### Board Discussion

Phyllis Ling stated that if no one else wants to do it, she will volunteer to do it.

Valerie Hanley asked if this is outside of the NC system similar to LANCC. Phyllis Ling stated yes.

Garrett Quon made the motion to approve Phyllis Ling as the HCNNC representative to the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance; motion seconded by Paul Hanley. Verbal vote – all in favor; no opposition; no abstention; **MOTION PASSED.**

No public comment.

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

#### **10.1.Chinatown**

Mailing Address: HCNNC, PO Box 861329, Los Angeles, CA 90086 Website:  
HCNNC.org

**10.1.1.**Discussion regarding rising crime in Chinatown.

10.1.1.1.Garrett Quon reported a crime that occurred last month. He stated that another person was attacked recently. The current policies are not working. He has not seen any peace ambassador and does not think this is working. He does not know what the Board can do but things are not getting any better. He asked Ben Cassorla about the peace ambassadors. Mr. Cassorla stated that LAPD is adding two officers to the Chinatown area.

10.1.1.2.Mei Wah Lau stated that Chinatown Service Center called her for volunteers to fill out paperwork to get housing and furniture for the New Depot fire victims. They need volunteers tomorrow at 9:30am at 711 College Street office - contact Kerry Situ.

**10.2.**El Pueblo de Los Angeles – Edward Flores reported that Dia de los Muertos will take place from 10/25/24 to 11/2/24 in Olvera Street.

**10.3.**Solano Canyon – Daniel Reza reported that the local church is having a St. Jude’s Procession at 5 pm on 10/28/24. He is a member of the Friends of the Elysian Park and he and his wife are sponsoring a poetry contest about the park for children, youth, and adults. He passed out a flyer.

**10.4.**Victor Heights – Bill Chin has been driving around Victor Heights and calling in about homeless encampments and bulk items for pick up. There has been a lot of evictions and signs for rents. The light on Sunset has been taken care of. The flea markets are still being held in the parking lot on Beaudry on Saturdays, but no longer on Sundays.

No Public Comment

**11. Announcements**

Bill Cassorla from CD1 announced that there is a free movie night and pet adoption event at 1756 Naud Street. There is also a CD1 event at Everett Park for clean-up on Thursday morning.

**- Adjournment –**

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm; verbal vote to adjourn.

<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