



CITY OF LOS ANGELES

EAST HOLLYWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Special Governing Board Agenda



KAREN BASS – MAYOR

EAST HOLLYWOOD
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
CERTIFIED COUNCIL # 91
APRIL 19, 2007

Thursday, January 5, 2023
7:00PM

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Christopher Martinez - Vice President
James Bennett - Treasurer
Jeff Zarrinam - Corresponding Treasurer
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Via ZOOM
<https://zoom.us/j/92805658816>
Via Phone: (669) 900-6833
Meeting ID: 928 0565 8816

This Governing Board meets the third Monday of each month at 7:00pm.

VIEWING MEETING: The public may join the meeting by [1] Going to www.easthollywood.net and joining via Zoom (Meeting ID 928 0565 8816) [2] Calling (669) 900-6833 (Meeting ID 928 0565 8816).

IN CONFORMITY WITH THE SEPTEMBER 16, 2021 ENACTMENT OF CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY BILL 361 (RIVAS) AND DUE TO CONCERNS OVER COVID-19, THE EAST HOLLYWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED ENTIRELY WITH A CALL-IN OPTION OR INTERNET-BASED SERVICE OPTION.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Members of the public may submit public comment for any agenda item or on matters not appearing on this Agenda within the Council’s jurisdiction either prior to the meeting or during the period allotted for public comment. Public comment may be submitted by [1] by clicking the ‘raise hand’ button via Zoom during the period allotted for public comment, or [2] by dialing *9 (if joining the meeting via telephone) to ‘raise hand’ during the period allotted for public comment. Public comment for agenda items is limited to 1 minute, with a cumulative total of 3 minutes for multiple agenda items. General public comment shall be limited to a cumulative total of 2 minutes.

AB 361 Updates: Public comment cannot be required to be submitted in advance of the meeting, only real-time public comment is required. If there are any broadcasting interruptions that prevent the public from observing or hearing the meeting, the meeting must be recessed or adjourned. If members of the public are unable to provide public comment or be heard due to issues within the Neighborhood Council’s control, the meeting must be recessed or adjourned.

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- I. Call to Order
7:10pm
 - II. Roll Call
10 members present. Vote count and roll call available [here](#).
 - III. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items
None.
 - IV. Action Items
These notes are a summary of comments, not direct quotes or transcriptions.

A. **Discussion & Possible Action** regarding EHNC [Letter of Support](#) for street vendors in East Hollywood, in light of recent attempts to obstruct vending on Vermont Avenue, outside of the LACC Swap Meet (Elias Nava) Andoni motions to amend the letter to remove specific mention of specific people and organizations involved. Colter seconded. Doug requested that the letter be read out for the record - Andoni did so. Andoni asked whether anyone needed to recuse themselves from this item. No one recused themselves. Following public comment Jennifer and Jeff left the meeting with no notice. Quorum was lost and discussion was tabled until quorum could be gained again. Wendy joined to meet quorum and reviewed the meeting minutes prior to voting. **The letter of support passed.**

Doug asked which departments denied the street beautification efforts. Andoni clarified that it was CD13 and Bureau of Street Services. Jeff asked if Andoni received copies of the denied requests. Andoni stated that he did not receive copies, but did hear directly from CD13.

All members of the public were given three minutes for public comment.

Phillip Dane clarified that the existing vending ordinance restricts vending within 500 feet of a school or swap meet. He spoke directly to unfounded claims made against him by Councilmember Soto-Martinez, LA Taco, and others. He advocated for vendors inside the swap meet who's sales have dropped significantly. The LACC swap meet adds \$700k to the LACC funds for students.

Maria Garcia has been a street vendor for 21 years and wants the city to enforce the 500 feet vending regulation. **Jose** is a student at LACC has worked for Phillip for two years He advocated for Phillip and the people inside the swap meet.

Marco has been a vendor at LACC for 20 years. He spoke to harassment he has received from Phillip Dane and clarified that vendors are not selling illegally - they all have permits to sell on the street and sidewalks.

Claudia sold for 15 years inside the swap meet. She spoke to harassment her and her family has experienced by Phillip Dane.

Alejandro is in a unique position - he lives across the street and is also a street vendor. He spoke about his thoughts on sidewalk vendors not wanting to pay the fees of the swap meet and that being the reason they are not selling inside. We are benefiting from one another - the people who come for us will then go into the swap meet and vice versa.

Ruth spoke to feeling that Councilmember Hugo Soto Martinez is forgetting about us who are vending inside the swap meet. She shared that this issue is because the vendors who are vending outside were not willing to adjust to the rules of the swap meet.

Meena shared that the letter has no mention of what the residents think and how they are impacted here by the outside vendors. They requested to amend the letter to address Monroe or Marathon where vendors are stretched all the way through. They also spoke about personal security concerns due to increased activity from the swap meet and vending.

Usareo de zoom (Miguel) is an organizer with street vendors. With respect to the letter, I am in agreement that there should be an investigation into the racism of Phillip Dane. He is in support of the letter but shared that an investigation is necessary to ensure all the accusations are true.

Sergio Jiminez is with community power collective and with the LA street vending campaign. He fully supports the letter and shared that vendors are key to the development of the area. He shared that he is willing to meet with Phillip Dane and LACC to reach an agreement.

Veronica spoke to her frustrations without outside vendors and their disrespect of the swap meet and surrounding areas.

Emma de Paz shared that she is the leader of street vendors on Vermont from Santa Monica to Melrose and has over 30 years of experience vending in the area. She wants a leader of the area to replace Phillip Dane because he cannot continue to run this event with so many kinds of people, because inside or out people are suffering because they are being attacked by him.

Iliana German has been vending in the swap meet for more than 26 years. She shared that there are at least 50% of the vendors outside who used to vendors inside who no longer are vending in there because they do not want to follow the rules. She spoke in support of Phillip Dane and his running of the swap meet.

Julia is with the committee of street vendors and let her son speak on her behalf. Her son shared that he is a street vendor and has been helping his mom for almost a year. He spoke of harassment he's received from swap meet employees who were given direction from Phillip Dane.

Milgiam has been a vendor in the swap meet for 11 years. He asked that vendors outside the swap meet abide by the 500' rule and respect the swap meet and its staff and vendors. I wanted to speak on this situation about the vendors outside. All I want to ask is that they respect the 500' around the swap meet. He would like to find a solution for everybody and invite those who are vending outside to vend inside.

Erik has been selling in the swap meet for 20+ years. He spoke to outside vendors taking advantage of the swap meet and not following the rules. He agreed with Phillip. He hopes that we can come to a solution for everybody so that we can all continue to feed our families.

Jonny has been selling for a few years. He spoke in support of Phillip establishing rules to abide by.

Jordan has lived across the street for nine years. They spoke against the aggressive actions that have been taken toward the vendors outside the swap meet. They suggested that since it's LACC property, it should be vendor/community run instead of run by Philip.

Tupac is a manager at the LACC swap meet and has been there for 1.5+ years. He spoke against claims made in the letter, stating that they are not true. There are some things about this letter that are just not true. He stated that LACC swap meet staff and Phillip Dane have never harassed anyone.

Laura shared that she is a born, raised, and educated Californian that pays taxes. She spoke to abuse her and other vendors have received from Phillip Dane.

Juan shared that the people who are vending outside do not accept the established rules and that they should, as this is a country of rules.

Areli sells outside the swap meet and shared that they aren't doing anything bad in her opinion. She stated that people who sell outside buy from vendors inside and vice versa. She called for vendors to work together. She also claimed that she has tried to talk to Phillip to do something to work together and he never responded.

Susanna Johansson is a member of the East Hollywood BID. She shared that the BID wants the vendors to respect LA city rules to stay off parkways so that trees and plants have a chance to live and ensure ADA compliance and emergency services. The BID wants to make it so that it is pleasant for everyone.

Katie is a vendor and spoke against accusations that were made about sidewalk vendors, including trash pileup. She also clarified that both groups - people vending inside the swap meet and outside the swap meet - pay their associated taxes and permits/fees.

Raymundo shared that there needs to be an investigation of the tactics being used by Phillip Dane and asked the board to include specific names in the letter.

Sandra is a street vendor on Vermont and Monroe and shared negative interactions and harassment she's received from Phillip Dane. She requested that he stop calling them "illegal vendors" which is not true and for him to be replaced by another vendor.

Skylar shared that their family are hard working, independent people that have permits to vend outside legally. They are scared for their personal security due to the harassment.

Javier is a vendor in the swap meet for over 25 years and was removed from the swap meet after he expressed support for the outside vendors on Instagram. Phillip called me and took me out of the swap meet for that reason. He clarified that it is not Phillip who is giving money to the scholarship and students, it's us as the vendors who do. When we first started having problems we went to the foundation with a petition and nobody would listen to us. We have proof of that and they didn't listen to us. So the only thing we want as former members of the swap meet is for the administration to change and have a more reasonable person in place.

Kimberly's father and sister are street vendors and is requesting common ground and someone who can run the swap meet fairly [not Phillip].

Carla is a previous vendor at the swap meet who stopped vending because they felt it was unfair that sidewalk vendors did not pay the swap meet fee to sell inside. She stated that the swap meet owner is trying to protect the vendors who are selling inside.

Garcia stated that they heard a lot of accusations on both sides and called on the city to do a better job and investigate these accusations. They defended Phillip Dane and his positioning to support the swap meet.

Alma shared she thinks that we should come to an agreement - like they say, the sun rises for everybody and vending is for everybody. She stated - "We have helped economically the vendors inside and have helped everyone in the community outside. Economically, we need to come to an agreement because the vendors inside and outside help each other. The students and the person who owns the swap meet should be more accessible to us since he has more spots to give to vendors in other locations. The problem here is not economic - it is about love and peace and unity. We all have rights to work to make a better economy for this country and not be a public charge. We only want an opportunity to work and continue to vend there. I hope that you reach into your hearts so that you help all of us and we can continue to work in peace."

Rosario is also a street vendor and has heard the disagreement between the vendors outside and the vendors inside. He stated - "I find it a little bit uncomfortable because we all have the same intentions and the people who have the most are the ones coming out on top. In reality, we should be helping each other out because we are all people from the same situation. We are humble people and none of us want to end up unemployed. All of the things we are hearing about the swap meet and everything else - we also have rights and we just want to be protected. We just hope that the city will see that. Because although we are minorities, we are also a majority - people who own and operate businesses. We are business people."

***Natalie's (board member) comment** - Thank you to everyone who has joined us today and given public comment. I have heard a lot of comments about wanting to ensure fairness, safety, and finding common ground. I agree with all of you on that and it's clear that there is a lot more work to be done in finding a system that allows equal opportunity for people to vend and provide for their families, whether they are vending inside the swap meet and paying those fees, or vending outside the swap meet and similarly paying permitting fees. This letter is less about supporting one group over another, and instead about reaffirming that we do not condone any form of harassment. We also do not condone members of the business community taking it upon themselves to enforce their interpretation of city regulations and laws. For this reason, I am going to vote in support of the letter. I look forward to hearing back from the City in 30 days on what they've found in their investigation.*

***Colter (board member) comment** - This is not going to be the last time this topic comes up. Just because we are sending out this letter, there will be continued work done on this topic.*

***Andoni** echoes this point. Andoni would like to still have a joint meeting.*

B. **Discussion & Possible Action** regarding [CIS](#) in support of [CF 13-1493-S16](#) Provisional Sidewalk Vending Permit / Food Street Vendors / County of Los Angeles Health Department Permit / SB 972 (Elias Nava)
Tabled.

C. **Discussion & Possible Action** regarding [CIS](#) in support of [CF 22-0959](#) Street Vendors / Sidewalk Vending / Attacks / Violence / Enforcement (Elias Nava)
Tabled.

D. **Discussion & Possible Action** regarding setting up a meeting with vendors inside and outside the LACC Swap Meet, to discuss potential solutions (Elias Nava)
Tabled.

V. Updates and Announcements from Board Members
Doug: Trying to get a hold of folks at Hope Church about getting laundry services installed. Looking for a contact. Andoni has contacts that he'll pass along.

VI. Adjournment
Adjourned at 10:52pm

AGENDAS & PUBLIC COMMENT: Public comments on agenda items will be heard when the item is considered. Public comments on other matters within the council's jurisdiction may be made during the Public Comment period. Public comments are limited to two minutes per speaker. Action may be taken on any agenda item except Public Comment, announcements and reports. Actions may be reconsidered only if a motion for reconsideration is adopted at the same meeting where the action was taken. You may request a copy of printed materials that are distributed at the meeting. You may record the meeting by audio, video or photographic means as long as it is not disruptive. Meeting notices and agendas are posted at various locations (see list below). If you believe the council is not following the law or its own rules you may file a grievance in writing with copies to both the Chair and the Secretary. Please be respectful of others, even when you differ with them.

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COUNCIL PROCESS: Everyone who lives, works, owns property, attends school, is a member of a faith organization or works in a non-profit organization that provides services within the boundaries of the East Hollywood Neighborhood Council is a "stakeholder." All stakeholders are members of the Council. Stakeholders elect a Governing Board to represent them. This Board is recognized as the decision-making entity by the City of Los Angeles and was elected on March 31, 2019. While the Board is an official decision-making entity, meetings are conducted as much as possible in a town hall format. Committees are open to anyone with an interest in East Hollywood. The East Hollywood Neighborhood Council depends on the active public participation of its diverse, dynamic and unique community for its success.

POSTING SITES: Meeting notices and agendas are posted at the following locations within East Hollywood (three days in advance for regular meetings and one day in advance for special meetings). The official posting is at **The Hollywood Hotel**, 1160 N. Vermont Avenue and on our website at www.easthollywood.net. The agenda may also be posted at: (1) **Armen Realty**, 5111 W. Santa Monica Boulevard (2) **Stakeholder Residence**, 772 N. Kenmore (3) **Against The Stream**, 4300 W. Melrose. You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to L.A. City's Early Notification System (ENS).

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 Section 48.01 et seq. More information is available at ethics.lacity.org/lobbying. For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or ethics.commission@lacity.org

THE AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT: As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices and other auxiliary aids and/or services, may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting by contacting the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment by calling (213) 978-1551 or email: NCsupport@lacity.org

PUBLIC ACCESS OF RECORDS: In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting may be viewed at <http://www.easthollywood.net> or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact Andoni Elias Nava, andonieliasnava@easthollywood.net.

RECONSIDERATION AND GRIEVANCE PROCESS: For information on the NC's process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the NC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our Board meetings and our website www.easthollywood.net