



**CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
 GRANADA HILLS SOUTH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL  
 GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, August 7, 2014

Granada Hills H.S., Rawley Hall, 10535 Zelzah Ave., Granada Hills CA 91344

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Brad Smith (Member-at-Large)	Varun Khurana (Students)
Vice-President: Jerry Askew (Business)	Sally Kolstad (Education)
Secretary: Anthony Matthews (Parks & Arts)	Deron Lopez (Youth Organizations)
Treasurer: Brandon Schindelheim (MaL)	Eric Mansker (Homeowners)
Michael Benedetto (MaL)	Jim Summers (MaL)
Jeffrey Bohrer (MaL)	Rene R Trinidad (MaL)
Bonnie M. Bursk (Commercial Prop. Owners)	Ross Turmell (MaL)
Krisna Crawford-Velasco (MaL)	Cindy Wu Freedman (MaL-CI)
Arthur A. Daush (Seniors)	Michael J. Kabo (Parliamentarian)
Jett Dunlap (MaL)	Community Organizations: Pending
Gina Greschner (Renters)	Member at Large: Pending
	Faith-Based: Pending

GHSNC (and all other) Meeting Minutes are a summary, not an exact, verbatim, word-for-word transcript of what was said at a Meeting. The only two exceptions to this are the Motions and quotes, which are words that have quotation marks (“”) at the beginning and ending of a word or words. The Minutes were not, are not and are never meant to be a comprehensive record of what was said about an issue or project.

*[Item letterings and numberings are as they appeared on the Agenda.]*

**I. Call to order and the pledge of allegiance**

President Smith called the Meeting to order at 6:37 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Smith.

**II. Roll Call**

Roll Call was taken by Mr. Matthews. Eleven of the 19 Board Members were present at the beginning of the Meeting: Michael Benedetto, Jeffrey Bohrer, Bonnie Bursk, Deron Lopez, Eric Mansker, Anthony Matthews, Brad Smith, Jim Summers, Rene Trinidad, Ross Turmell and Cindy Wu Freedman. Krisna Crawford-Velasco and Brandon Schindelheim arrived later. Board Members absent: Jerry Askew, Arthur Daush, Jett Dunlap, Gina Greschner, Varun Khurana and Sally Kolstad (all excused). The GHSNC quorum (the minimum number of Board Members needing to be present to take binding votes on Agendized Items) is 11 (see <http://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/GranadaHillsSouthNC->

Bylaws.pdf), so the Board could take such votes. Nineteen of the 21 Board Seats were filled (by election or appointment). Two Board Seats: (Community Organizations and Faith-Based) were vacant. Also attending: 35 Stakeholders and Guests.

### **III. Minutes Approval**

The following corrections to the July 3, 2014 General Board Meeting Minutes were requested: page one, Item #2: the absences of Bonnie Bursk and Rene Trinidad were excused; and page two, Item #4: "William Kuzman" should read "William Kuzmin."

**MOTION** (by Mr. Matthews, seconded by Mr. Mansker): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its July 3, 2014 General Board Meeting as corrected.

**MOTION PASSED** by a hand vote with no objection.

Mr. Smith requested and it was agreed to TABLE approval of the June 5, 2014 General Board Meeting Minutes.

*Board Member Krisna Crawford-Velasco arrived at this time, making 12 Board Members present (the GHSNC quorum is 11).*

### **IV. Public Comment**

Stakeholders believed that not enough notice was given to nearby Stakeholders about a proposed cell tower at 10341 Woodley at Woodley Avenue Baptist Church. Mr. Mansker reported that Synergy presented at the last GHSNC PLUM Meeting and that "we asked them a number of questions . . . they're going to be putting in a vault there." He indicated that Synergy will present again to answer more questions.

*Board Member Brandon Schindelheim arrived at this time, making 13 Board Members present (the GHSNC quorum is 11).*

Stakeholder Jill Hagen announced that she and other Stakeholders "are appealing this . . . on August 13<sup>th</sup>. She said "the first tower was improved today" and described a lack of outreach. She stated "we just received the written approval on Friday; the Hearing is this Wednesday . . . it's approved within 50 feet of one Stakeholder's property line." She has spoken with City Council District 12 staff. Mr. Mansker clarified that "we have not approved anything." Tania Oronoz, Field Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilman Mitch Englander (818-882-1212; Tania.Oronoz@LACity.org; <http://CD12.LACity.org>), indicated that CD12 does not have any new information about the project. There was discussion of Stakeholder concerns. Fourteen Stakeholders in attendance opposed the project including speakers Lauren Rheaume, John Schiess and Anthony Pinizzotto. A Stakeholder reported that he was told by City Planning Department staff that the project "was approved." There was extensive discussion of how the Board and Stakeholders can or should proceed. Others in attendance and not included Fred and Verena

Scheiss, Erik Larson, Raul Riveras, Debi and Rick Borden, Peter Nathanson, Nancy Turmell, Griselda Perez, Alfredo Gomez, Rhea Hagen and Ghosha Maffei.

William Kuzmin was concerned with GHSNC procedural matters.

#### **V. Community Speakers**

- (1) CSUN Update on Campus Projects - Colin Donahue, Vice President, Administration and Finance; Ken Rosenthal, Associate Vice President, Facilities Development and Operations; Francesca Vega, Director, Government and Community Relations

CSUN staff updated about their proposed “Multi-Purpose Events Center.” Mr. Donahue indicated their interest to regularly communicate with the GHSNC. He described that CSUN’s sports facility is relatively small – 1,500 seats – and the challenge of sharing the space with academic programs. Graduations attended by up to around 12,000 people are held on the quad, often in high heat. He described CSUN’s intension for the facility to be used in “a community partnership” by “regional” users. The “Phase One study” is done. They have reached out to Granada Hills-area Neighborhood Councils and City Council District 12. The project is estimated to cost \$150-\$175 million and “there won’t be any state money involved”; it would take “a minimum of four years” to complete. They “don’t know” if they’ll build the facility; “there’s a lot of reasons to look at other sites, too . . . it does not exist on our Campus Master Plan today.” He indicated they are committed to keeping the GHSNC informed. Mr. Rosenthal indicated that the exact project location is to be determined. CSUN will “take into account our environmental impact . . . a traffic study needs to be done.” Mr. Donahue said that “parking and traffic” expected to be the biggest impacts on the community “can be mitigated in the design” and would include construction of a “typically” 3,000-space parking facility.

It was indicated that UCLA’s Pauley Pavilion has around 13,000 seats and USC’s Galen Center around 10,000 seats. San Diego State University’s stadium has around 11,000 seats; Fresno State around 15,000. CSUN has around 38,000 students, of which around 34,000 are undergraduates. A copy was presented to the GHSNC of CSUN’s “Feasibility Study: Northridge Matador Proposed Multi Purpose Event Center March 17, 2014.”

- (2) Council District 12 – Tania Oronez

Ms. Oronoz reminded that the plastic bag ban is in effect. National Night Out was “a great event.” The Councilman requested the County to do an Environmental Impact Report regarding the Termo oil drilling project. She described GPS installations on Fire Department trucks to improve response times.

- (3) LAPD Senior Lead Officer - Dario Del Core

Dario Del Core, LAPD Devonshire Division Senior Lead Officer (office 818-756-9011, x1727, mobile/text phone 818-634-0577; 27286@LAPD.LACity.org), reported that GPS systems were installed on Police cars around three months

ago. Burglary theft from vehicles has been “drastically reduced this year.” He described that there has been far less violent crime than in years past. The September Neighborhood Watch meeting was cancelled.

- (4) David Azevedo, District Director for LAUSD Board Member Tamar Galatzan. Mr. Azevedo reported that “we’re climbing out” of the recession; many teachers and other staff positions are being filled.

## **VI. Board Issues and Updates**

1. Oath of office and/or appointment and confirmation of new Board Members/assignments: Community Organizations: Pending; Faith-Based: Pending.  
Mr. Smith described the needed qualifications.
2. Review and approval of: Monthly Expenditure Report (MER), including Purchase Card bank statement for the month of July; may include potential reallocations/un-encumbrances to existing budget. See attached Budget Report and Monthly Expenditure Report, both as of July 31, 2014. (Schindelheim)

Copies of the “[GHSNC] Monthly Expenditure Report for: July 31, 2014,” and the “[GHSNC] Budget Report FY 2015 – as of July 31, 2014” were distributed. Mr. Schindelheim reviewed expenses.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Schindelheim, seconded by Mr. Bohrer): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves its July 2014 Treasurer’s report, Monthly Expenditure Report and expenditures.

**DISCUSSION:** The GHSNC balance is \$35,251.97.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 12 eligible voters present with all 12 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Benedetto, Bohrer, Bursk, Lopez, Mansker, Matthews, Schindelheim, Smith, Summers, Trinidad, Turmell and Wu Freedman) (Ms. Crawford-Velasco was not in the room.)

## **VII. Officers’ Reports** – for consideration/response/ratification by the Board:

1. President – Mr. Smith indicated that there was no report.
2. Vice-President – Mr. Askew was not present and there was no report.
3. Treasurer -- See above Item #VI.2.
4. Secretary: Request for relief of Board Member Anthony Matthews from the position of Board secretary. Board discussion and solicitation of candidate(s).

Mr. Matthews announced that he would like to “step down” as Secretary. Mr. Smith encouraged Board Members to consider becoming the Secretary and to contact him.

## **VIII. Committee Reports**

### **1. Beautification**

a) *[This paragraph is directly from the Agenda.]* Report from the Beautification Committee and possible Board action on recommendations from Bylaws Committee regarding presentation by Granada Hills improvement association/Business Improvement District and request for donation for Town clock; cost of project is approx. \$20,000 plus; request from BID is for a \$5000 to \$15,000 NPG. This was heard by the Beautification Committee at the July Committee meeting and approved by that Committee at a suggested donation of \$5000. Note: Obviously, this may be considered as a new or modified Motion at the GHSNC Board Meeting.

Ms. Bursk reported that “we’re very close to getting Permits” for all four corners at the Chatsworth and White Oak intersection. She added that “it’s paid for by the business owners . . . there is no taxpayer money for it.”

**MOTION to TABLE this Item** (by Mr. Schindelheim, seconded by Mr. Mansker) to the September 3, 2014 Board Meeting.

**MOTION to TABLE PASSED** with no objection.

### **2. Budget**

a) Report from the Budget Committee/Chair and possible Board action on recommendations from Bylaws Committee regarding:

(a-1) Aaron de Vandry to be paid \$250 per month, we currently have it as \$200/month.

Mr. Schindelheim reported that the Webmaster “revamped” the website and that “he requested to increase his rate . . . he’s always been very below market.”

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Schindelheim, seconded by Mr. Mansker): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council will increase its allocated monthly service fee to Webmaster Aaron DeVandry from \$200 to \$250 per month through the June 30, 2015 end of this Fiscal Year.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Matthews would like the Webmaster’s responsibilities clarified. There was discussion that the Webmaster’s workload has increased and that emails needing to be sent to Stakeholders and Agendas needing to be posted have not always been quickly sent or posted. There was extensive discussion of merits and concerns about the Webmaster’s request.

**MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION** (by Mr. Lopez); there was no objection.

**FUNDING MOTION FAILED** by a roll call vote of 12 of the 13 eligible voters present with five in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Benedetto, Bohrer, Bursk, Crawford-Velasco, Lopez, Mansker, Matthews, Schindelheim, Smith, Summers, Trinidad, Turmell and/or Wu Freedman); seven opposed (“No” or “Nay”) ([NOT including Turmell -- he was in favor of this Motion; in other words, Benedetto, Bohrer, Bursk, Crawford-Velasco, Lopez, Mansker, Matthews, Schindelheim, Smith, Summers, Trinidad and/or Wu Freedman] \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_).

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Ms. Wu Friedman, seconded by Mr. Benedetto): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council will increase its allocated monthly service fee to Webmaster Aaron DeVandry from \$200 to \$220 per month through the June 30, 2015 end of this Fiscal Year on a month-to-month bases subject to review by the GHSNC Outreach Committee; the agreement can be terminated at any time.

**DISCUSSION:** There was discussion of merits and concerns about the Motion.

**MOTION WITHDRAWN** by Ms. Wu Friedman.

**MOTION to REFER** (by Mr. Matthews, seconded by Ms. Wu Friedman): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council refers this Item to its Outreach Committee to make recommendations to the Board.

**DISCUSSION:** Ms. Hagen was concerned that the Board is taking too long on this Item; she believed that the Webmaster’s request should be fulfilled.

**AMENDED MOTION to REFER** (by Mr. Matthews, seconded by Mr. Mansker): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council refers this Item to its Outreach Committee to consider recommending to the Board to increase the allocated monthly service fee to Webmaster Aaron DeVandry from \$200 to \$250 per month through the June 30, 2015 end of this Fiscal Year on a month-to-month bases subject to review by the GHSNC Outreach Committee; the agreement can be terminated at any time.

**AMENDED MOTION to REFER PASSED** by a roll call vote of the 13 eligible voters present with ten in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Bohrer, Bursk, Crawford-Velasco, Lopez, Mansker, Matthews, Schindelheim, Smith, Trinidad and Turmell); three opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Benedetto, Summers and Wu Freedman).

(a-2) Strategic Plan and Outreach Survey filled out and voted on by the Board.

<http://empowerla.org/funding/> - see attached for DRAFTS.

Mr. Schindelheim distributed and explained copies of the Plan, the Survey and a Self-Assessment. All documents are due to DONE [the L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment] by September 15<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Crawford-Velasco

reported that the Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates (NCBAs) requested that the City increase NC budgets.

*Board Member Jeffrey Bohrer had to leave this time, making 12 Board Members present (the GHSNC quorum is 11).*

Mr. Summers believed there was not enough time to review the documents before voting to approve them. Ms. Bursk and some other Board Members believed the answers were “boilerplate” enough to approve them now.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Schindelheim): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves its Strategic Plan, Outreach Survey and Self-Assessment for submittal to the L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment.

**MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the 12 eligible voters present with eight in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Bursk, Crawford-Velasco, Lopez, Mansker, Matthews, Schindelheim, Smith and Turmell); four opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Benedetto, Summers, Trinidad and Wu Freedman).

(a-3) Budget Day this year is set for August 16 at City Hall and EVERY NC is being asked to agendaize and vote on 2 Budget Reps; the Granada Hills South NC will appoint two representatives.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Mansker): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves the appointments of Board Members Krisna Crawford-Velasco and Cindy Wu Freedman as its Budget Representatives for 2014-2015.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 12 eligible voters present with all 12 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Benedetto, Bursk, Crawford-Velasco, Lopez, Mansker, Matthews, Schindelheim, Smith, Summers, Trinidad, Turmell and Wu Freedman).

3. Bylaws and Rules

a) Report from the Bylaws and Rules Committee; no Board action expected. Mr. Mansker indicated that there was no report at this time.

4. Education

a) Report from the Education Committee; possible request for Board actions on pending NPGs that may include limited funding requests from GH Friends of Library and various public (LAUSD) schools; detailed Motions to be presented at Board Meeting for consideration.

Ms. Kolstad was not present and there was no report at this time.

## 5. Outreach

- a) Report from the Outreach Committee/Chair and possible Board action on recommendations from Bylaws Committee regarding:

*[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #VIII. 3.]* Mr. Summers reported that the Committee met and discussed the below.

5-a-1. Report regarding the GHSNC summer movie night status and schedule. Possible Labor Day event; interest from Chamber, service organizations, Granada Hills High and Valley Academy regarding participation. Motion to approve GHSNC/GH Rec & Park Movie Night funding on August 31, 2014 for up to \$500 (Passed 3-0 in Committee).

Mr. Summers estimated the rental costs as: movie screen, \$700; movie, \$150-\$200; and popcorn machine, \$150. Mr. Schindelheim explained that the movie distribution company issued credits to the GHSNC totaling “three movies.”

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Turmell): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves up to \$1,500 in funding for a GHSNC/GH Recreation & Parks Dept. Movie Night August 31, 2014 at the Granada Hills Recreation Center.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Kuzmin was concerned that Northridge is having a Movie Night on the same night. Ms. Crawford-Velasco believed that would not be a problem. There was discussion of whether there was enough time to organize the event. At least five Board Members volunteered to help at the outreach booth.

**MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION** (by Mr. Summers); there was no objection.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 12 eligible voters present with all 12 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Benedetto, Bursk, Crawford-Velasco, Lopez, Mansker, Matthews, Schindelheim, Smith, Summers, Trinidad, Turmell and Wu Freedman).

5-a-2. Motion to sponsor GH St. Faire 2014 for up to \$2,500 (Passed 3-0 in Committee)

Mr. Summers described the event. He said “they have not had it for four years” and “it’s scheduled for October 11<sup>th</sup>.” Stakeholder Richard Fisk confirmed that the GHSNC can have a booth. Ms. Wu Freedman said the GHSNC “would be a Platinum sponsor.” It was suggested to allocate exactly \$2,500 in funding.



**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Turmell): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves sponsoring the Granada Hills Street Faire 2014 for \$2,500.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 12 eligible voters present with all 12 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Benedetto, Bursk, Crawford-Velasco, Lopez, Mansker, Matthews, Schindelheim, Smith, Summers, Trinidad, Turmell and Wu Freedman).

5-a-3. Motion to approve Mike Benedetto as a member of the Outreach Committee (Passed 3-0 in Committee)

**MOTION** (by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Turmell): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves Mike Benedetto as a member of the Outreach Committee.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 12 eligible voters present with all 12 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Benedetto, Bursk, Crawford-Velasco, Lopez, Mansker, Matthews, Schindelheim, Smith, Summers, Trinidad, Turmell and Wu Freedman).

F. Planning and Land Use – Report; no Board action expected.  
Mr. Mansker indicated that there was no report.

G. Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness – Report; no Board action expected.  
Mr. Turmell reported that “letters went out to the City about additional lighting for the sidewalk.”

**IX. Board Member comments**, announcements and agenda items for next general meeting and Committee meetings.

Ms. Bursk said the Beautification Committee will meet on Monday. She described Rotary and Chamber work to improve the Zelzah and Chatsworth corner. Board Members were reminded to keep communications respectful. Ms. Crawford-Velasco invited everyone to the August 16<sup>th</sup> Budget Day. Mr. Benedetto requested Board Members’ contact information; Mr. Schindelheim noted that the Board Roster is being completed. Mr. Turmell and Mr. Mansker are waiting for business cards; Mr. Matthews is working on that. Mr. Smith reminded that Agenda Items are needed by him at least one week before Board Meetings.

**X. Adjournment**

**MOTION to ADJOURN** (by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Crawford-Velasco).

**MOTION PASSED** without any objection.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 9:22 p.m.

**Approved by Board Secretary**  
03/05/2015 5:02:33 PM