



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

Thursday, June 11, 2015

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

GHSNC (and all other) Meeting Minutes are a summary; Minutes were not, are not and are never meant to be an exact, verbatim, word-for-word transcript or comprehensive record of what was said at a Meeting. Exceptions: Motions/Resolutions (as stated at the Meeting, which take precedence over versions written on the Agenda, if different); quotes (words that have quotation marks (“ ”) at the beginning and ending of a word or words); and other wording from the Agenda such as the first paragraph(s) of some Items. Items are listed in and match the same order as on the Agenda.

I. Call to Order and the Pledge of Allegiance (Smith)

President Brad Smith called the Meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

II. Roll Call (Matthews)

Roll Call was taken by the Secretary. Thirteen of the 20 Board Members were present at the beginning of the Meeting: Jerry Askew, Michael Benedetto, Jeffrey Bohrer, Bonnie Bursk, Arthur Daush, Jett Dunlap, Sally Kolstad, Deron Lopez, Anthony Matthews, Mark Morris, Brandon Schindelheim, Brad Smith and Rene Trinidad. Krisna Crawford-Velasco, Eric Mansker, Jim Summers and Ross Turmell arrived later. Three Board Members were absent: Gina Greschner, Varun Khurana and Cindy Wu Freedman (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. Twenty of the 21 Board Seats were filled (by election or appointment). One Board Seat (Member at Large) was vacant. [To apply, see www.ghsnc.org.] Also attending: 18 Stakeholders and Guests.

III. Approval of Minutes from the April 2, 2015 regular meeting (Matthews)

Stakeholder William Kuzmin believed that Minutes Items should be in the order in which they were addressed in Meetings.

Board Member Eric Mansker arrived at this time, making 14 Board Members present (the GHSNC quorum is 11).

MOTION (by Mr. Matthews, seconded by Mr. Morris): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its April 2, 2015 General Board Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED by a voice vote.

IV. Public Comment: Community and Public Comment on non-agenda items.

Ms. Bursk thanked the Board “on behalf of the Granada Hills Business Improvement District” and reported on the BID’s progress. Stakeholder Richard Fisk announced that the next Granada Hills Street Fair will be in October.

V. Community Speakers

(1) Council District 12 – Tania Oronoz

Tania Oronoz, Field Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilman Mitch Englander (818-882-1212; Tania.Oronoz@LACity.org; <http://CD12.LACity.org>), was not present and there was no report.

(2) LAPD Senior Lead Officer - Dario Del Core

A Reserve Officer reported for Dario Del Core, LAPD Devonshire Division Senior Lead Officer (office 818-756-9011, x1727, mobile/text phone 818-634-0577; 27286@LAPD.LACity.org), that crime is up “a little bit.” He encouraged supporting the Devonshire Division.

Board Member Jim Summers arrived at this time, making 15 Board Members present (the GHSNC quorum is 11).

The Officer described Police operations and reminded to “make it look like somebody’s home . . . we’re still having burglary and theft from motor vehicles . . . they wait” until drivers walk away from vehicles.

(3) Granada Hills Charter High School Executive Director – Brian Bauer

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #VIII. 1. b.*] Mr. Bauer presented regarding the Pinecrest School campus. They expect 225-250 students, though he said “we’re not thinking of developing it as a High School.” All 225 current students were lottery-chosen. They are working to grow the student population by 50 – 75 per year. In 2018 or 2019 it might open as a kindergarten – eighth grade School.

Board Member Ross Turmell arrived at this time, making 17 Board Members present (the GHSNC quorum is 11).

Mr. Bauer described facilities and programs that will be available and certificates with which students can graduate. Programs will be the same as at the Kirk Douglas Academy. Mr. Askew believed the Granada Hills Specific Plan should include the School in case of possible future change of use “to protect the community in the future.” Mr. Bauer said they are “looking at State bond money” to help fund the School and “we’ll open in August.”

VI. Board Issues and Updates: Note that Members voting on financial issues must have passed the necessary Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) training courses. – For consideration/response/ratification by the board:

1. Appointment and confirmation and/or oath of office of new board members/assignments (note: will require quorum+1)
 - a) Community Organizations: Discussion and possible action appointing Mike Benedetto to the Community Organizations Seat on the Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council. Mr. Benedetto is currently an at-large member who has volunteered to fill the seat (vacant since 2014), and, if appointed, would serve a term until the end of the current (DONE Region 2) council term, presumably 2016. Public Comment; then: Mr. Benedetto to present his qualifications; further action requires a motion to remove Mr. Benedetto from his current at large seat and re-appoint him to the Community Organizations seat; motion requires a second and a vote. If appropriate, oath of office to be administered by president.

Mr. Smith explained the above.

- b) Note that if a), above, goes forward, we will need to fill an at-large seat; we have another community member who has asked to be considered for the community organizations seat. If a) goes forward, we will advertise the at large seat and ask the other candidate to apply again.

MOTION (by Mr. Mansker, seconded by Mr. Morris): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves removing Board Member Mike Benedetto from his current At Large Seat and re-appointing him to its Community Organizations Seat.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a voice vote of all 14 voters present. [Mr. Benedetto temporarily was not a Board Member and therefore ineligible to vote on this Motion.]

Mr. Smith said that “we’ll advertise the At Large Seat” and the Students Seat; a student “has expressed interest” and must be at least 16 years old.

2. Discussion and Possible Board action on the Administrative and 2016 Elections Stipulations Worksheet: The stipulations worksheet asks the Board to make decisions as to the Board's position on policies and procedures recently implemented by the City Council, Board of Neighborhoods Commission, and the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, including, but not limited to, online and telephone voting for the 2016 Board elections, installation of new boards after the 2016 Board elections, selecting a representative for the regional Neighborhood Council grievance review panels, definition of how Board official actions are taken, agenda posting locations, and Board member training compliance.

Mr. Smith noted that this already was addressed in a previous Meeting.

3. Appointment to Regional Grievance Panel – Mr. Matthews has volunteered; any other members with interest in this post may address issue.

Mr. Smith noted the above.

MOTION (by Mr. Trinidad, seconded by Mr. Mansker): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council appoints Board Member Anthony Matthews as a Regional Grievance Panel Member.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a voice vote of all 15 voters present.

4. Appointment of Mr. Bohrer to Bylaws and Rules and (pending) Government Affairs committees, at his request.

Mr. Bohrer requested and it was agreed to TABLE this Item.

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

1. President: - Agendize formation of grievance panel for next meeting.

Mr. Smith noted the above.

2. Vice-President: See attached:

Mr. Askew indicated that there was no report.

3. Treasurer

a) Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council Budget Report FY 2014 - as of April-May 2015

Mr. Schindelheim reported that the balance as of the end of April was \$6,886.

b) Monthly Expenditure Report(s) for: April, 2015

Mr. Schindelheim distributed and reviewed the GHSNC "April Monthly Expenditure Report" and the "[GHSNC] Budget Report FY 2015 – as of April 30, 2015." There was discussion of items that could be unencumbered.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Schindelheim, seconded by Mr. Smith): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves its Monthly Expenditure Report for April 2015, including unencumbering the following:

General Outreach: CERT Class \$7.86 balance;
General Outreach: Little League BB Opening Day Event \$100 balance;
General Outreach: GHSNC table and chairs \$300 balance;
Outreach Committee Budget: GH Halloween Petit Park candy \$3.23 balance;
Outreach Committee Budget: GHSNC frame signs \$57.37 balance; and
Outreach Committee Budget: GHSNC table and chairs \$200 balance;

and reallocating \$5,000 from the Newsletter to the General Outreach category.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Mansker noted options to help fund the Congress of Neighborhood Councils. Ms. Bursk noted Mr. Schindelheim's diligence in following up to get receipts.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 15 eligible voters present with all 15 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Askew, Benedetto, Bohrer, Bursk, Daush, Dunlap, Kolstad, Lopez, Mansker, Matthews, Morris, Schindelheim, Smith, Summers and Trinidad); zero opposed; zero abstained.

Mr. Schindelheim that the GHSNC did not have a May Board Meeting and that the June Report "will be based on the April Report."

c) NC Budget Advocates report (Crawford-Velasco /Wu Freedman)

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #VIII. 3. a.*] Ms. Crawford-Velasco reported that the "latest Budget White Paper" was published. Budget Day will be June 27th.

Board Member Jeffrey Bohrer left at this time, making 16 Board Members present (the GHSNC quorum is 11).

d) Appointment/re-appointment of budget advocates

See below Item #VIII. 2. a.

4. Secretary

Mr. Matthews indicated that there was no report.

VIII. Committee Reports

- 1) Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness (Turmell) – Report from the Chair; nothing from committee. Note the two NPG applications will require seconds from the board to be considered.
 - a) Request for \$750 NPG from the Southern California Preparedness Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation (EIN: 47-2811120) to support 8th Annual Valley Disaster Preparedness Fair at Fire Station 87. (Balboa and Devonshire). This event serves Granada Hills South; GHSNC's sponsorship would be publicized in the materials produced for the event.

Mr. Smith explained the above.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Benedetto, seconded by Mr. Bohrer): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council will allocate \$750 for a Neighborhood Purposes Grant for the Southern California Preparedness Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation (EIN: 47-2811120) to support the 8th Annual Valley Disaster Preparedness Fair.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Summers wanted to lower the amount to \$500. Mr. Smith noted that three Neighborhood Councils are contributing.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 15 eligible voters present with all 15 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Askew, Benedetto, Bohrer, Bursk, Daush, Dunlap, Kolstad, Lopez, Mansker, Matthews, Morris, Schindelheim, Smith, Summers and Trinidad); zero opposed; zero abstained.

- b) Request for \$5,000 NPG from the Devonshire SOLID, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation (EIN: 95-4418512) to support renovations of the facilities at the Devonshire LAPD station that house both the Gang Detail and Narcotics Division Officers. Devonshire LAPD houses the officers and units that serve Granada Hills South. GHSNC's sponsorship would be publicized and included in the appropriate spot within the station.

Stakeholder Paula Boland described the background and "old" and dilapidated Devonshire Station facilities. Other Neighborhood Councils also are being solicited. A "Force Option Simulator" also would be purchased. The GHSNC name would "be on a brick on the wall" and "a plaque outside the trailer." There was discussion of how to increase outreach to and with the Police.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Askew, seconded by Mr. Mansker): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council will allocate \$5,000 for a Neighborhood Purposes Grant for Devonshire SOLID [Supporters Of Law enforcement In Devonshire].

AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Schindelheim, seconded by Mr. Mansker): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council will re-allocate \$5,000 from its Newsletter Budget category to its Outreach Budget category.

Board Member Krisna Crawford-Velasco arrived at this time, making 16 Board Members present (the GHSNC quorum is 11).

DISCUSSION: Mr. Schindelheim reminded that the Fiscal Year ends June 30th. Mr. Summers believed that less funding should be allocated to City Departments. Mr. Smith reminded that funding not allocated by June 30th will be swept back to the City's General Fund. Ms. Bursk noted SOLID's community activities.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Mr. Smith); no objection.

AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a voice vote of the 16 eligible voters present with 15 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Askew, Benedetto, Bohrer, Bursk, Crawford-Velasco, Daush, Dunlap, Kolstad, Lopez, Mansker, Matthews, Morris, Schindelheim, Smith and Trinidad); one opposed ("No" or "Nay") (Summers); zero abstained.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the 16 eligible voters present with 15 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Askew, Benedetto, Bohrer, Bursk, Crawford-Velasco, Daush, Dunlap, Kolstad, Lopez, Mansker, Matthews, Morris, Schindelheim, Smith and Trinidad); one opposed ("No" or "Nay") (Summers); zero abstained.

2. Budget (Schindelheim) - Report from the Budget Chair; nothing from committee.
 - a) Elect/appoint two Board Members or Stakeholders as GHSNC Budget Representatives for the June 27th LA City Budget Day (if not already appointed/elected).

Ms. Crawford-Velasco would like to continue as a GHSNC Budget Representative. Mr. Mansker nominated Krisna Crawford-Velasco as a GHSNC Budget Representative. It was noted that Cindy Wu-Freedman is also interested.

Board Member Mark Morris left the room at this time, making 15 Board Members present (the GHSNC quorum is 11).

MOTION (by Mr. Schindelheim, seconded by Mr. Mansker): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council appoints Cindy Wu-Freedman and Krisna Crawford-Velasco as the GHSNC Budget Representatives to Budget Day.

MOTION PASSED by a hand vote of the 15 eligible voters present with 14 in favor; zero opposed; one abstained.

Board Member Mark Morris returned to the room at this time, making 16 Board Members present (the GHSNC quorum is 11).

- b) Approval of up to \$1,400 to the Budget Advocates account to host one hour radio show for operations, outreach and for events such as Budget Day, Regional Budget Day, etc. Will need second.

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #VII. 3. c.)*] There was discussion of lowering the allocation amount.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Schindelheim, seconded by Mr. Mansker): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council will allocate up to \$500 to the Budget Advocates account to host a one-hour radio show for operations, outreach and for events such as Budget Day, Regional Budget Day, etc.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the 16 eligible voters present with 15 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Askew, Benedetto, Bursk, Crawford-Velasco, Daush, Dunlap, Kolstad, Lopez, Mansker, Matthews, Schindelheim, Smith, Summers, Trinidad and Turmell); zero opposed (“No” or “Nay”); one abstained (Morris).

- 3. Bylaws and Rules (Mansker) – Report from the Bylaws and Rules Chair and possible board actions/updates on the following:
 - a) Motion for adoption of standing rules; will need second.

MOTION (by Mr. Mansker and seconded): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council adopts its proposed Standing Rules.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Askew read aloud and explained proposed Standing Rules and references to and “mirroring” of the L.A. Municipal Code. Mr. Mansker relayed that DONE is requesting feedback. Mr. Bohrer was concerned that #2 “may be muzzling” a Stakeholder(s) “if their complaints are found to be valid.” Mr. Dunlap explained that “it’s to address frivolous, consistent, ongoing Grievances.” Mr. Mansker noted that Grievances would be addressed by the Grievance Review Panel, not the Neighborhood Council; “we won’t have anything to do with it.” Ms. Bursk added that “we need to have some control . . . so we’re not bogged down.” Mr. Askew reminded that “through Robert’s Rules we have the ability to suspend the rules.” He indicated that the GHSNC Executive Committee, the City Attorney and DONE have spent “many hours”

responding to many Grievances. Ms. Bursk reminded “we do not have to respond to everything” a Stakeholder says. Mr. Trinidad believed that #2 could be “censuring and gagging . . . basically undermining the Constitution.” Mr. Askew noted that the Board would have to vote “to refuse to accept” a Grievance. He listed aloud many recent Grievances filed against the GHSNC, all of which “took a few hours of our time” of Board Members, the City Attorney and DONE.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Mr. Mansker).

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION PASSED by a hand vote with 12 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”); one opposed (“No” or “Nay”); two abstained.

GHSNC Parliamentarian Mike Kabo confirmed that a two-thirds vote was needed to adopt a Standing Rule.

MOTION FAILED by a hand vote with 11 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”); five opposed (“No” or “Nay”); one abstained.

MOTION (by Ms. Bursk, seconded by Mr. Dunlap): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council adopts #1 and #3 of its proposed Standing Rules, striking #2.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Askew again read aloud #1 and #3. Mr. Summers believed this should be referred to Committee. Mr. Mansker noted that the proposed Standing Rules are from VANC [the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils]. Mr. Bohrer said this is about the constitutional right to redress grievances.

MOTION PASSED by a hand vote with 16 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”); one opposed; zero abstained.

- 4) Education (Kolstad) - Report from the Education Chair; nothing from committee. Note that Tulsa Avenue elementary has sent a thank you presentation for GHSNC’s funding of their field trip to the San Fernando Mission.

Ms. Kolstad reported that the May 17, 2015 Citrus Sunday event was successful.

- 5) Planning and Land Use (Askew) – Report from the PLUM Chair; nothing from committee. Upon advice of counsel, please note that PLUM agenda item in re DIR-2015-1858-RAO will not be heard at this board meeting.

Mr. Askew reported that the Committee is discussing with the Gas Company about the Company providing earthquake shut-off valves. He noted that, upon advice of counsel, PLUM Agenda item in re DIR-2015-1858-RAO will not be heard at this

Board Meeting and that “we’re going to continue to work with the City Attorney and Planning.”

6) Outreach (Summers) - Report from the Outreach Chair; nothing from committee.

Mr. Summers reported that the Committee meets on third Wednesdays and they “will be finalizing our newsletter.” He urged Board Members to view www.NationBuilder.com to consider an outreach funding allocation; “it includes content management.”

7) Beautification (Bursk) - Report from the Beautification Chair; nothing from committee.

Ms. Bursk indicated that there was no report.

IX. Board Member comments, announcements and agenda Items for next general meeting and committee meetings.

Mr. Trinidad and Mr. Benedetto reminded Board and Committee Members to conduct themselves appropriately at meetings. Mr. Schindelheim said the Budget Committee probably will meet on July 2nd. Mr. Mansker noted that the City Council is considering allowing Neighborhood Council Board Members to address them for up to five minutes. He would like the GHSNC to Agendize giving VANC reports. Mr. Matthews reported that a plaque by the Friends of the Library recognizing the GHSNC is in the Library [10640 Petit Ave. at Chatsworth St.; 818-368-5687; <http://www.lapl.org/branches/granada-hills>].

X. Adjournment

MOTION to ADJOURN (by Mr. Morris, seconded by Mr. Mansker).

MOTION PASSED by a voice vote with no objection.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 9:26 p.m.

The first paragraph of some Items, Motions/Resolutions and other wording may have been directly copied from the Agenda. The GHSNC Minutes page is <http://www.ghsnc.org/resources/minutes-and-agendas>.