



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

Thursday, July 2, 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 6:33 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

II. Roll Call (Matthews)

Roll Call was taken by the Minutes Writer. Eleven of the 20 Board Members were present at the beginning of the Meeting: Jerry Askew, Jeffrey Bohrer, Bonnie Bursk, Jett Dunlap, Gina Greschner, Deron Lopez, Eric Mansker, Mark Morris, Brandon Schindelheim, Brad Smith and Cindy Wu Freedman. Michael Benedetto, Varun Khurana and Jim Summers arrived later. Six Board Members were absent: Krisna Crawford-Velasco (unexcused), Arthur Daush (excused), Sally Kolstad (excused), Anthony Matthews (excused), Rene Trinidad (excused) and Ross Turmell (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: 15 Stakeholders and Guests.

III. Approval of Minutes from the June 11, 2015 Board Meeting (Matthews)

Mr. Smith requested and the Board agreed to TABLE this Item.

IV. Public Comment

Stakeholder Richard Fisk announced that Kevin James, President of the L.A. Board of Public Works, will speak July 16th at Granada Hills Charter High School.

Board Member Varun Khurana arrived at this time, making 12 Board Members present (the GHSNC quorum is 11).

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

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 aggravated assaults and road rage incidents have increased; he encouraged avoiding eye contact with angry drivers. Burglary thefts from motor vehicles also have increased. There are electronic devices able to open vehicle door locks even after the doors have been locked; he urged “don’t leave anything” in vehicles. He explained the continuing challenge of State Proposition 47 legislation that reduced some crimes from felonies to misdemeanors.

Board Members Michael Benedetto and Jim Summers arrived at this time, making 14 Board Members present (the GHSNC quorum is 11).

Bill Larsen, L.A. City Deputy Attorney, Nuisance Abatement Division (213.393.5561; 213.978.8100; William.Larsen@LACity.org; http://www.atty.LACity.org/our_office/CriminalDivision/CNAP/index.htm), reported that Children Are Our Future group homes [<http://children-r-ourfuture.org>] have “a number of” facilities in Granada Hills. He described problems with residents and that “they lost their license.” Other operators are interested in re-opening the homes; an operator who operates other group homes filed a license application with the State. He believed that the State probably will allow three or four

operators to operate group homes in the area. He indicated that the State Assemblymember or Senator may be able to “put some conditions” on the homes, if not stop them from opening.

VI. Board Issues and Updates: Note that Members voting on financial issues must have passed the necessary Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) training courses.

1. GHSNC currently has one open Seat (at large) and will also have the Student Seat opening when the current Member departs for college. Appreciate applications via e-mail to Secretary; when Board is full, need to re-adjust Committee memberships, including new Government Affairs Committee.

Mr. Smith noted the above and that Mr. Khurana’s Seat will be open after the August [6th] Meeting when he resigns to pursue higher education.

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

1. President - Pending

Mr. Smith indicated that there was no report.

2. Vice-President

- 1) Item on the City Council's agenda for next week Tuesday, June 30th. Request Motion/CIS statement to support Council Motion 15-0600-S72. Note that if approved, this is where the additional \$5000.00 would come from to increase NC funding from the current \$37,000.00 to \$42,000.00 (assuming \$480,000/96 NCs). MOTION (WESSON - KREKORIAN) relative to the need to increase the allocation to Neighborhood Councils. Recommendation for Council action: INSTRUCT the City Clerk to place on the City Council Agenda for JULY 1, 2015, or soon thereafter as possible, the following recommendation for adoption: That the City Council, subject to the approval of the Mayor, appropriate \$480,000 from the line in the Unappropriated Balance, Fund 100/58, entitled Neighborhood Councils to the Neighborhood Empowerment Fund No. 44B/47, Account No. 47M238 for subsequent allocation in the First Financial Status Report, if not sooner, to increase

Mr. Askew reported that the City Council passed the above Motion.

3. Treasurer: See attached:

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

Mr. Schindelheim distributed and reviewed the “[GHSNC] Budget Report FY 2015 – as of June 30, 2015.” He reviewed expenses and encumbrances and reported that all but less than \$200 of the annual City-allocated \$37,000 was expended in the last Fiscal Year that ended June 30th.

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

No Motion was made or vote taken.

c) NC Budget Advocates report (Velasco & Wu) re June 27 Budget Day meeting

No report was made.

Mr. Askew cautioned Board Members about discussing Board business outside of Meetings, especially “anything related to the subject matter of the Council.”

4. Secretary: Pending

Mr. Matthews was not present and there was no report.

VIII. Committee Reports

1) Beautification (Bursk) - Report from the Beautification Chair; nothing from Committee.

It was indicated that the Committee would next meet July 14th at 6:30 p.m.

2) Budget (Schindelheim) - Report from the Budget Chair; nothing from Committee.

a) Approval of draft Fy16 budget. Will need second.

Mr. Schindelheim distributed and explained the GHSNC “Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 as approved July 2, 2015.” He reminded that the Budget is an outline that can be changed; it’s not for individual allocations.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Schindelheim, seconded by Mr. Smith): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves its Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Budget of \$37,000.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Summers encouraged budgeting more than \$4,000 for outreach. Mr. Schindelheim reminded of the importance of allocating funds earlier rather than later in the Fiscal Year.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the 14 eligible voters present with 13 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Askew, Benedetto, Bohrer, Bursk, Dunlap, Greschner, Khurana, Lopez, Mansker, Morris, Schindelheim, Smith and Wu Freedman); one opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Summers); zero abstained.

Mr. Askew noted that, in the new Bylaws mandated by the City as of July 1st, “any abstentions are counted as a “yes” vote.”

3. Bylaws and Rules (Mansker) – Report from the Bylaws and Rules Chair; nothing from Committee. Possible Board actions/updates on the following:

a) CIF #1 re Number CF 15-0389 001

Mr. Mansker explained that this Council File is regarding Neighborhood Councils (NC's) being able to accept donations, and rollover funds.

b) CIF #2 re Number CF 15-0524 001

[Board Members' and Alliances speaking time at City Council Meetings.]

Mr. Mansker explained that this Council File is regarding current and proposed City Council speaking times for NC's and NC Alliance Board Members.

4) Education (Kolstad) - Report from the Education Chair; nothing from Committee. Chair Ms. Kolstad was not present and there was no report.

5) Outreach (Summers) - Report from the Outreach Chair/Committee

[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #VI. a) a.]

a) Chair Report: possible Board actions/updates on the following: Outreach Calendar, Surveys, Elections, Inventory, Board Tasks, Metrics, Goals and Progress. Tri-fold update, Website improvement and updates, e-Newsletter and poll.

Mr. Summers recommended more website, including NationBuilder [www.NationBuilder.com], and newsletter development.

b) Outreach Motions and Possible Action Items:

1. WEBSITE NATION BUILDER - MOTION: Up to \$200/month, for up to one year (\$2,400/year) using Nation Builder as a supplemental Stakeholder-centered website to the current GHSNC website. Attributes: Can text to phone number to get agendas and register; polling; website part secondary, can post more Community events on calendar not allowed by webmaster (clutter); Tie-in with NextDoor and other neighborhood groups. Greatly useful for upcoming Board Elections 2016. Possible Board Presentation and strategy meeting. (www.NationBuilder.com) [Jim Summers]

FUNDING MOTION (by the Outreach Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council will allocate up to \$200/month for up to one year (\$2,400/year) using NationBuilder as a supplemental Stakeholder-centered website to the current GHSNC website.

DISCUSSION: There was extensive discussion of the eventual need to switch the website from the current provider and of the merits of using NationBuilder. Preference was expressed for NationBuilder to present to the GHSNC and explain differences between it and the current website.

FUNDING MOTION FAILED by a roll call vote of the 14 eligible voters present with four in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Benedetto, Schindelheim, Summers and Wu Freedman); ten opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Askew, Bohrer, Bursk, Dunlap, Greschner, Khurana, Lopez, Mansker, Morris and Smith); zero abstained.

2. NEWSLETTER/SURVEY - MOTION: Possible approval of one or more of the following options:
 - i. Standard Option: Up to \$5,800 for printing and mailing cost of 6-page black-and-white GHSNC Newsletter and Survey to be mailed to all residential GHSNC addresses, including out-of-area Stakeholders
 - ii. Newsletter Option: Up to \$9,000 for File of Life Package, newsletter and survey to 9,000 Stakeholders.
 - iii. One double-sided color page with business reply tear-off.
 - iv. Businesses to receive a separate Business Newsletter and Survey, hand delivered.

MOTION to POSTPONE (by Mr. Summers, seconded by Mr. Askew): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council will POSTPONE this Item until its August 6, 2015 Board Meeting.

MOTION to POSTPONE PASSED unanimously by a voice vote.

Board Member Jim Summers resigned from the Board and as the Outreach Committee Chair and left this time, making 13 Board Members present (the GHSNC quorum is 11).

3. BUSINESS WINDOW STICKERS - MOTION: Up to \$300 for 500 GH South Business window stickers (from October 2014) [Cindy Wu]

Ms. Wu Friedman explained the Motion.

FUNDING MOTION (by the Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council will allocate up to \$300 for 500 Granada Hills South Business window stickers.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 13 eligible voters present with all 13 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Askew, Benedetto, Bohrer, Bursk, Dunlap, Greschner, Khurana, Lopez, Mansker, Morris, Schindelheim, Smith and Wu Freedman); zero opposed; zero abstained.

4. GHSNC FORUM for LANDLORDS AND TENANTS: Rent Stabilization Ordinance Seminar - MOTION: GHSNC to grant up to \$750 for snacks, info sheets, Outreach (Renters and Landlords Groups), at GH Library (capacity – 75 people); Date: Tues. Sept. 15th, 16th or 17th 2015; suggested time: 7-

9 pm. Aim: Better contact with multiple family dwellings (HOAs for ex: cell towers); possibly a yearly event. [Cindy Wu]

Ms. Wu Friedman explained the Motion.

FUNDING MOTION (by the Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council will allocate up to \$750 for snacks, info sheets, and outreach to renters and landlords for a Rent Stabilization Ordinance Seminar at the Granada Hills Library on Tues. Sept. 15th, 16th or 17th 2015, suggested time: 7-9 p.m.

DISCUSSION: There was discussion of the best event date and location. A City employee would present and both landlords and tenants can attend. Mr. Benedetto was concerned about the cost.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the 13 eligible voters present with nine in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Askew, Bohrer, Greschner, Khurana, Mansker, Morris, Schindelheim, Smith and Wu Freedman); four opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Benedetto, Bursk, Dunlap and Lopez); zero abstained.

Mr. Askew requested that the Committee clarify to anyone affected that Stakeholder William Kuzmin is not an Outreach Committee Member. Ms. Wu Friedman clarified that “he’s a Stakeholder who attends.”

5. GHSNC FORUM for BUSINESSES - MOTION: Up to \$750 for GH Business Seminar: November 2015, partner with GH Chamber of Commerce and other organizations. Ties in with other Outreach events, Webpage, Suggestion Boxes, List of Business in GH. [Cindy Wu]

Ms. Wu Friedman explained the Motion.

FUNDING MOTION (by the Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council will allocate up to \$750 for a Granada Hills Business Seminar in November 2015, partnering with the GH Chamber of Commerce and other organizations.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Wu Friedman added that L.A. City District 12 Councilman Mitch Englander (818-882-1212; <http://CD12.LACity.org>) was invited. Board Members encouraged outreach to business.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 13 eligible voters present with all 13 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Askew, Benedetto, Bohrer, Bursk, Dunlap, Greschner, Khurana, Lopez, Mansker, Morris, Schindelheim, Smith and Wu Freedman); zero opposed; zero abstained.

6. **MOVIE NIGHT - MOTION:** Up to \$800 for popcorn, movie, and Outreach for Movie Night in the Park, still have one movie credit left for screen, at Petit Park and in cooperation with L.A. City Parks and Recreation, Date: Labor Day Weekend.

Mr. Benedetto explained the Motion.

FUNDING MOTION (by the Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council will allocate up to \$800 for popcorn, movie, and outreach for Movie Night in the Park at Petit Park, in cooperation with L.A. City Parks and Recreation, on Labor Day Weekend.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Benedetto reported that the latest Movie Night was attended by more than 700 people.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 13 eligible voters present with all 13 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Askew, Benedetto, Bohrer, Bursk, Dunlap, Greschner, Khurana, Lopez, Mansker, Morris, Schindelheim, Smith and Wu Freedman); zero opposed; zero abstained.

7. **GHSNC PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS - MOTION:** Up to \$3,500 for the purchase of promotional GHSNC “Give-away” items: Better pens, notepads, environmental friendly grocery bags, stapleless paper stapler (business), See attached for lists and pricing (from May 2015) [Mike Benedetto]

FUNDING MOTION (by the Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council will allocate up to \$3,500 for the purchase of promotional GHSNC give-away items: better pens, notepads, environmental friendly grocery bags and stapleless paper stapler (business).

DISCUSSION: Mr. Mansker urged installing more street banners.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 13 eligible voters present with all 13 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Askew, Benedetto, Bohrer, Bursk, Dunlap, Greschner, Khurana, Lopez, Mansker, Morris, Schindelheim, Smith and Wu Freedman); zero opposed; zero abstained.

- 6) Planning and Land Use (Askew) – Report from the PLU Chair/Committee:
a) possible Board actions/updates on the following: GHSNC position on California AB-57, Regulation of Cell Towers. Discussion regarding the regulation of cell towers erected in the public right of way and the addition of antennas or other structures to existing utility poles.

- a. Project presentation, reports and/or PLUM action re: projects

Mr. Askew explained the issue regarding the “time, place and manner” of such installations.

MOTION (by the Planning and Land Use Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council will adopt the position of the Pacific Palisades Community Council (letter dated June 10, 2015) regarding AB-57.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a voice vote; zero opposed; zero abstained.

- 7) Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness (Turmell) – Report from the Chair; nothing from Committee.

Mr. Smith indicated for Mr. Turmell that there was no report at this time.

IX. Board Member announcements and agenda Items for next general meeting.

Mr. Khurana announced that the August 6th Board Meeting will be his last before he resigns. Mr. Mansker encouraged “inviting City speakers” to speak at Board Meetings. Mr. Schindelheim announced that the Budget Committee will meet in “around a month.” Mr. Smith was interested to schedule City speakers “without it actually having to be a Board Meeting.” He encouraged referring Board and Committee candidates, and volunteering to staff events. He reminded that the full Board votes to confirm appointments. Ms. Wu Friedman reminded that the Outreach Committee meets on third Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Mansker reminded Board Members to have current Ethics Training and Funding Training [see <http://empowerla.org/boardmembers>].

X. Adjournment

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

MOTION PASSED by a voice vote with no opposition.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 8:48 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>.