



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

Thursday, January 7, 2016

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)	Justin Kim (Student)
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)	Rene R. Trinidad (MaL)
Krisna Crawford-Velasco (MaL)	Ross Turmell (MaL)
Arthur A. Daush (Seniors)	Cindy Wu Freedman (MaL-CI)
Jett Dunlap (MaL)	Michael J. Kabo (Parliamentarian)
	At Large: pending
	Student: pending

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** (Presiding officer)

President Smith called the Meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

**II. Roll Call** (Secretary)

Roll Call was taken by the Secretary. Fourteen of the 19 Board Members were present at the beginning of the Meeting: Jerry Askew, Michael Benedetto, Jeffrey Bohrer, Jett Dunlap, Gina Greschner, Justin Kim, Sally Kolstad, Deron Lopez, Eric Mansker, Anthony Matthews, Mark Morris, Brad Smith, Rene Trinidad and Cindy Wu Freedman. Three Board Members arrived later: Krisna Crawford-Velasco, Brandon Schindelheim and Ross Turmell. Two Board Members were absent: Bonnie Bursk and Arthur Daush (both 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 (At Large and Community Organizations) were vacant. [To apply, see [www.ghsnc.org](http://www.ghsnc.org).] Also attending: 18 Stakeholders and Guests.

**III. Approval of Minutes** from prior Board Meetings – to be considered by general Board (Secretary)

Mr. Matthews reported that all Minutes have been posted on the website.

*Board Members Krisna Crawford-Velasco and Ross Turmell arrived at this time of 6:38, making 16 Board Members present (the GHSNC quorum is 11).*

**MOTION** (by Mr. Matthews, seconded by Mr. Kim): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its November 5, 2015 General Board Meeting as written.

**MOTION PASSED** by a voice vote; Mr. Turmell abstained.

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

Glenn Bailey, a Neighborhood Councils Budget Advocate (818-453-3407; GlennBaileySFV@yahoo.com; <http://www.BudgetAdvocatesLA.com>), encouraged taking the City services survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/servicereportcard2015>. Stakeholder William Kuzmin reported that a homeowners group opposes the City's new Floor Area Ratio Ordinance. Kevin Taylor, Mayor Eric Garcetti's West Valley Area Representative (213.978.0600; Kevin.Taylor@LACity.org; <http://LAMayor.org>), has Aliso Canyon gas leak information. [www.EINinoLA.com](http://www.EINinoLA.com) has storm information. Jasmine of DONE [the L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment; 213-978-1551; NCSupport@EmpowerLA.org; [www.EmpowerLA.org](http://www.EmpowerLA.org)] reported that "tree lighting funding was approved." Max Reyes, CSUN Assistant Director of Government and Community Relations (Max.Reyes@csun.edu), introduced himself.

*Board Member Brandon Schindelheim arrived at this time, making 17 Board Members present (the GHSNC quorum is 11).*

Mr. Reyes reported that a traffic access survey is being conducted to improve traffic flow. He offered to partner with the GHSNC. A hotel is planned to be built in place of the Orange Grove Bistro restaurant and adjacent parking lot, not in place of the orange grove.

**V. Community Speakers**

(1) Council District 12 deputy - (General update)

Erick King, Public Safety Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilman Mitch Englander (818-882-1212; Erick.King@LACity.org; <http://CD12.LACity.org>), also has Aliso Canyon gas leak information and encouraged contacting him with questions.

(2) LAPD Senior Lead Officer - (General update)

Dario Del Core, LAPD Devonshire Division Senior Lead Officer (office 818-756-9011, x1727, mobile/text phone 818-634-0577; 27286@LAPD.LACity.org; [http://www.LAPDOnline.org/devonshire\\_community\\_police\\_station](http://www.LAPDOnline.org/devonshire_community_police_station)), was not present and there was no report.

**VI. Board Issues & Updates** Election set for: Saturday April 9, 2016 Polling Hours: 11am – 5pm Granada Hills Rec Center 16730 Chatsworth St, Granada Hills, CA 91344. Release approved by DONE and IEA F. Piazza.

Independent Elections Administrator Fran Piazza is organizing a candidates rally that will address applying, web page and election location concerns.

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

1. President: Pending meeting. -- Mr. Smith indicated that there was no report.
2. Vice-President: Pending meeting. -- Mr. Askew indicated that there was no report.
3. Treasurer: will present:
  - a) Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council Budget Report – as needed to Dec., 2015

Mr. Schindelheim reviewed October expenses. The balance was \$23,301.47. DONE combined the two bank accounts into one account.

- b) Monthly Expenditure Report(s) for: as needed through to Dec., 2015

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Schindelheim, seconded by Mr. Mansker): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves its Monthly Expenditure Report for October 2015.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 17 eligible voters present with all 17 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Askew, Benedetto, Bohrer, Crawford-Velasco, Dunlap, Greschner, Kim, Kolstad, Lopez, Mansker, Matthews, Morris, Schindelheim, Smith, Trinidad, Turmell and Wu Freedman); zero opposed; zero abstained.

Mr. Schindelheim reviewed November expenses. Overpayments to Partners in Diversity will be credited. He awaits November 11th Veterans Day Parade non-profit status verification. The balance was \$18,427.84.

*Board Members Jett Dunlap and Gina Greschner left at this time of 7:24, making 15 Board Members present (the GHSNC quorum is 11).*

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Schindelheim, seconded by Mr. Morris): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves its Monthly Expenditure Report for November 2015.

**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, Crawford-Velasco, Kim, Kolstad, Lopez, Mansker, Matthews, Morris, Schindelheim, Smith, Trinidad, Turmell and Wu Freedman); zero opposed; zero abstained.

c) NC Budget Advocates report (Velasco & Wu)

Ms. Crawford-Velasco encouraged taking the City services survey.

4. Secretary: Pending meeting

Mr. Matthews indicated that there was no report.

#### **VIII. Committee Reports**

1) Beautification - Report from the Beautification Chair (Bursk); NPG applications pending re:

a) community purpose grant for Deodar Trees, Arborist and other services to assist in protection and preservation. Requested \$500.00

Mr. Smith reported that no invoice has been received.

b) Report of the ad hoc committee to research the cost of permanent lighting for the Veterans Triangle Tree.

Mr. Mansker explained challenges securing a vendor.

2) Budget - Report from the Budget Chair (Schindelheim); possible Board actions/updates on the following:

a) Consideration of Fy16 budget.

Mr. Schindelheim reported that the Neighborhood Purposes Grants were paid for the Community Foundation and the Rotary.

3) Bylaws and Rules – Report from the Bylaws Chair (Matthews); nothing from committee.

Mr. Matthews reported that the Committee will meet this month.

- 4) Education - Report from the Education Chair (Kolstad); nothing from committee

Ms. Kolstad reported that the Valley Academy of Arts and Sciences Robotics Team went to the third round of competition.

- 5) Outreach - Report from the Outreach committee (Benedetto); possible Board actions/updates on:

- a) Newsletter and Survey: Up to \$7,000 (not to exceed) for printing and mailing cost of 6- page black-and-white GHSNC Newsletter and Survey to be mailed to all GHSNC addresses;

Mr. Benedetto reported that the Committee decided it did not need the \$7,000 as long as there is some alternate outreach effort. He recommended that \$500 be allocated to print a tri-fold brochure. He and Mr. Smith noted that this was acceptable to DONE.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Benedetto, seconded by Mr. Kim): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council will allocate up to \$500 (not to exceed) for printing a tri-fold brochure and survey to be mailed to all GHSNC addresses.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Benedetto clarified that this is separate from other outreach allocations.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the 15 eligible voters present with 14 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Askew, Benedetto, Bohrer, Crawford-Velasco, Kim, Kolstad, Lopez, Matthews, Morris, Schindelheim, Smith, Trinidad, Turmell and Wu Freedman); zero opposed; one abstained (Mansker).

- b) Outreach Online Items: Up to \$500 (not to exceed) for purchase of video recording/memory cards, extra batteries, for recordings of Committee and Board meetings;

Mr. Benedetto withdrew this Item from the Agenda.

- c) Reimbursement of GHSNC bills paid by Outreach Members; invoices are necessary for processing;

Mr. Benedetto withdrew this Item from the Agenda.

*Board Member [BS/JA/AM CLARIFY: \_\_ WHO?] \_\_ [BS/JA/AM CLARIFY: \_\_ WHAT?] left/stepped out around this time, making 14 Board Members present (the GHSNC quorum is 11). [BS/JA/AM CLARIFY: \_\_ IF THEY RETURNED, WHEN DID THEY RETURN? \_\_]*

- d) Roll-up vertical GHSNC Banner – up to \$300.00 (not to exceed);

Mr. Mansker explained that the banner was used at a VANC [Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils] event.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by the Outreach Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council will allocate up to \$300 (not to exceed) for the purchase of two roll-up vertical GHSNC banners.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 14 eligible voters present with all 14 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) ([**BS/JA/AM CLARIFY: \_\_\_ WHO? ONE HAD LEFT. \_\_\_**] Askew, Benedetto, Bohrer, Crawford-Velasco, Kim, Kolstad, Lopez, Mansker, Matthews, Morris, Schindelheim, Smith, Trinidad, Turmell and Wu Freedman); zero opposed; zero abstained.

e) Movie Night- up to \$800.00 (not to exceed);

It was agreed to TABLE this Item. Ms. Wu Freedman encouraged partnering with City Council District 12.

f) Tote Bags for up to \$2,000.00 (not to exceed);

Mr. Benedetto said this would purchase 1,000 bags at approximately \$1.55 per bag, including tax. He displayed examples.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Benedetto, seconded by Mr. Trinidad): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council will allocate up to \$2,000 (not to exceed) for GHSNC Tote Bags.

**DISCUSSION:** There was extensive discussion of how best to budget and allocate the funding. Mr. Benedetto clarified that this would increase the allocation to \$5,500. Mr. Schindelheim noted that \$3,500 per year usually is allocated for promotional items. Ms. Wu Freedman said such bags are available for \$1.40 each.

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

*Board Member [BS/JA/AM CLARIFY: \_\_\_ WHO?] \_\_\_ [BS/JA/AM CLARIFY: \_\_\_ WHAT?] returned by this time, making 15 Board Members present (the GHSNC quorum is 11).*

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the 15 eligible voters present with 12 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Benedetto, Bohrer, Crawford-Velasco, Kolstad, Lopez, Mansker, Matthews, Morris, Schindelheim, Smith, Trinidad and Turmell); three opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Askew, Kim and Wu Freedman); zero abstained.

- g) Purchase of a Helium tank and Regulator up to \$175.00 (not to exceed);

It was agreed to TABLE this Item.

- h) Outreach for GHSNC Elections April 9, 2015, including a Stakeholder Centered Website for Elections: Up to \$100.00/month (not to exceed);

**FUNDING MOTION** (by the Outreach Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council will allocate up to \$100.00/month (not to exceed) for outreach for the GHSNC Elections April 9, 2016, including a Stakeholder-centered website for Elections.

**DISCUSSION:** There was discussion of website purpose and logistics. Lydia Grant, BONC [L.A. Board of Neighborhood Commissioners] Commissioner (LydiaJeanGrant@gmail.com; cell 818.470.6629) noted nearby Neighborhood Councils' election outreach and offered to help. Mr. Benedetto recommended and it was agreed to TABLE this Item. No vote was taken.

- i) Ad hoc committee for Holiday Tree Lighting and Ceremony – update

This Item was WITHDRAWN from the Agenda.

- j) Granada Hills Holiday Parade – sponsorship and participation – update

This Item was WITHDRAWN from the Agenda.

- 6) Planning and Land Use – Report from the Planning Committee (Askew); possible Board actions/updates on the following:

- a) Donation and Collection boxes, Permitting (CF #14-0611):

Motion supporting Council File 14-0611 to regulate/permit donation boxes on private property. Recommend adding a condition requiring removal of any donation box which is the subject of more than two orders to comply.

Mr. Askew explained the issue. There currently are no specific regulations about collection boxes. The Committee supports the City Council File.

**MOTION** (by the Land Use Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council supports City Council File 14-0611 to regulate/permit donation boxes on private property with a recommendation that a condition be added requiring removal of any donation box which is the subject of more than two orders to comply.

**MOTION PASSED** by a hand vote; Mr. Bohrer abstained.

- b) Sale of Beer/Wine at Pieology Pizza, 17943 Chatsworth (ZA-2015-3759-CUB): Motion recommends that the Zoning Administrator not approve a CUP for the sale of beer and wine.

This Item was WITHDRAWN from the Agenda. Mr. Askew noted that “the Hearings have passed.”

- c) Continued Sale of Beer/Wine at Sprouts Market, 10801 Zelzah (ZA-2010-3045-CUB- PA1): Motion to recommend approval with the following conditions: a) Alcohol shall be maintained in a locked cabinet or display, b) a condition is applied to the state license restricting the sale of individual servings of beer in excess of 28oz.

This Item was WITHDRAWN from the Agenda. Mr. Askew noted that “the Hearings have passed.”

- 7) Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness – Report from Chair (Turmell); nothing from committee.
  - a. Sense of council regarding invitation to SCG to speak at GHSNC re Porter Ranch gas leak situation.

Different views were expressed. Mr. Askew noted that another group may be invited as the issue “affects us directly.” Ms. Wu Freedman noted that some GHSNC Stakeholders may be eligible to be part of a class action lawsuit. Mr. Bohrer observed that some Porter Ranch Stakeholders are relocating into the GHSNC area. Mr. Smith suggested a forum, especially on a weekend. Ms. Crawford-Velasco noted that chemicals are “being blown toward us.” Mr. Bailey suggested partnering with other Neighborhood Councils.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Turmell, seconded by Mr. Bohrer): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council would like to invite the Southern California Gas Co. and multiple interested parties to participate in a community forum about the natural gas leak at Aliso Canyon.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a hand vote.

- b. Potholes/minor paving – locations needed this month to Chair and/or President for submission to City;

Mr. Mansker explained that the City is requesting locations. Mr. Turmell encouraged calling 3-1-1 to report potholes. Mr. Smith encouraged submitting locations to him; he will submit them to the City by the January deadline.



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

Ms. Wu Freedman requested to Agendize allocating \$750 for a rent control seminar in April and a business seminar in November, and for the GHSNC to produce a yearly calendar. Mr. Mansker requested to Agendize to “reduce Board Seats . . . to 19” to “reduce quorum problems.” Mr. Turmell noted that the AQMD [South Coast Air Quality Management District] website [www.aqmd.gov] has air quality information. Mr. Schindelheim requested Board Members to advise him of funding not needed or to be allocated. Ms. Grant will send information about the Mayor’s Office’s civics opportunities for students. She reminded that Board Seat changes need to be considered by DONE and BONC. Also, the San Fernando Valley Gang Reduction Coalition wants to partner with Neighborhood Councils to reduce crime.

## **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 8:50 p.m.

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