



**CITY OF LOS ANGELES**  
**GRANADA HILLS SOUTH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**  
**GENERAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES**, Thursday, March 7, 2019  
Granada Hills Charter H.S., Rawley Hall, 10535 Zelzah Ave., Granada Hills, CA 91344  
**APPROVED MINUTES (Approved May 2, 2019)**

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** (Presiding officer)

President Beauvais called the Meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Parliamentarian Mike Kabo.

**II. Roll Call** (Secretary)

Roll Call was taken by the Secretary. Thirteen of the 17 Board Members were present at the Roll Call: Carlos Amador, Dave Beauvais (President), Michael Benedetto (Vice-President), Jeffrey Bohrer, Julie Carson (Secretary), Jett Dunlap, Maria Fisk, Sally Kolstad, Joel Lyle, Mark Morris, Brad Smith, Rene Trinidad and Cindy Wu Freedman. Bonnie Bursk (excused), Don Graham (unexcused), Brandon Schindelheim (Treasurer) (excused) and Sarah Tran (excused) were absent. The GHSNC quorum (the minimum number of Board Members needing to be present to take binding votes on Agendized Items) is nine, so the Board could take such votes. All 17 Board Seats were filled (by election or appointment). No Board Seat was vacant. Also attended: approximately 74 Stakeholders and Guests.

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

Jeff Daar (JeffDaar.com), City Council District 12 candidate, introduced himself and described his goals and community service. Dave Brown, of the Neighborhood Councils Emergency Preparedness Alliance, reported that it meets downtown fourth Saturday afternoons; all are welcome. A Community Emergency Plan will be issued by the City; he encouraged participating. Glenn Bailey, of VANC [Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils; VANC@EmpowerLA.org; <http://empowerla.org/vanc-2>], reported on their March 14<sup>th</sup> Mixer.

**IV. Community Speakers**

A. Council District 12 (Matt Vallecilla)

Matthew Vallecilla, Field Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilman Greig Smith (818-882-1212; [Matthew.Vallecilla@LACity.org](mailto:Matthew.Vallecilla@LACity.org); <http://CD12.LACity.org>), reported that the Councilman met with Neighborhood Council Members.

B. Senior Lead Officer, LAPD or alternate rep (Officer DelCore/Richard Fisk)

Alan Sellers, an LAPD Devonshire Division Senior Lead Officer (office 818-832-0633, x1727, mobile/text phone 818-634-0577; 31934@LAPD.LACity.org; [http://www.LAPDonline.org/devonshire\\_community\\_police\\_station](http://www.LAPDonline.org/devonshire_community_police_station)), reported that “we work on quality of life issues.” The HOPE Team works with homeless people. Aggravated assaults and robberies increased and other crimes decreased from last year.

(ofc. 818-832-0633; 31934@LAPD.LACity.org)

C. Budget Rep and advocates (Cindy Wu Freedman, Glenn Bailey, Brian Allen)  
Mr. Allen, of the Budget Advocates [<http://ncbala.com>], encouraged feedback. They soon will meet with the Mayor regarding their White Paper of budget ideas.

D. DONE Representative (Jose Galamez)  
Jose Galdamez, Neighborhood Council Advocate, L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE; 818-374-9895; [Jose.Galdamez@LACity.org](mailto:Jose.Galdamez@LACity.org); [www.EmpowerLA.org](http://www.EmpowerLA.org)), reported on upcoming events.

E. Congressman Tony Cardenas (Deputy Lucia Senda)  
No representative was present; there was no report.

Hannah Kelly, District Representative for State 18th District Senator Bob Hertzberg (818-901-5588; [Hannah.Kelly@sen.ca.gov](mailto:Hannah.Kelly@sen.ca.gov); <http://senate.ca.gov/hertzberg>), reported that legislation information is available on their website. The Senator proposed Senate Bill 258 to allocate \$5 million for housing homeless people with their pets.

Mr. Beauvais reported that there were 23 candidates for the 17 GHSNC election Seats. Four candidates introduced themselves.

**V. Approval of minutes** for the February 6, 2019 special meeting.

**MOTION** (by Ms. Carson, seconded by Mr. Morris): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its February 6, 2019 General Board Meeting with the following corrections: page four, Item #VIII: “Maria Smith” should be “Maria Fisk”; and add, immediately after that sentence, the following: “The Committee discussed a scope of work survey.”

**MOTION PASSED** by a hand vote; zero opposed; one abstained (the GHSNC does not count abstentions).

**VI. Budget Issues**

A. Approval of Budget report and Monthly Expenditures for January 2019.

Mr. Beauvais reviewed the GHSNC January “Monthly Expenditure Report.”

**FUNDING MOTION** (moved by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Benedetto): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves its Monthly Expenditure Report for January 2019.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 13 eligible voters present with all 13 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Amador, Beauvais, Benedetto, Bohrer, Carson, Dunlap, Fisk, Kolstad, Lyle, Morris, Smith, Trinidad and Wu Freedman); zero opposed; zero abstained.

## **VII. Board Issues**

A. Discussion and possible action to [see the below Motion].

**FUNDING MOTION** (moved by Mr. Beauvais, seconded by Mr. Lyle): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council will hold a candidate mixer on April 22, 2019 at the Granada Pavilion (tentative). Total cost, to include room rental, catering and serving not to exceed \$1,500.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Beauvais explained the purpose and budget. Local organizations are invited to the around 6:30 – 9:00 p.m. event. There was discussion of which caterer to use.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 13 eligible voters present with all 13 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Amador, Beauvais, Benedetto, Bohrer, Carson, Dunlap, Fisk, Kolstad, Lyle, Morris, Smith, Trinidad and Wu Freedman); zero opposed; zero abstained.

B. Discussion and possible action to [see the below Motion].

**FUNDING MOTION** (moved by Mr. Beauvais, seconded by Mr. Morris): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves a mailing publicizing both the April 22 candidate mixer and the May 4, 2019 Board election, not to exceed \$5,500.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Beauvais explained the budget. Options were discussed.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 13 eligible voters present with all 13 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Amador, Beauvais, Benedetto, Bohrer, Carson, Dunlap, Fisk, Kolstad, Lyle, Morris, Smith, Trinidad and Wu Freedman); zero opposed; zero abstained.

C. Discussion and possible action to [see the below Motion].

**FUNDING MOTION** (moved by Mr. Benedetto, seconded by Mr. Morris): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council supports the 12th annual Disaster Preparedness Event via a Neighborhood Purpose Grant in the amount of \$850.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Beauvais explained the Saturday, October 12 event with exhibits, booths and guest speakers at the Northridge Fashion Center from 9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. on the north side of the mall between the theatres and Shirley Ave. Everything is free, including lunch. “Family emergency preparedness kits”

including \$70-\$75 of information, goggles, gloves, dust masks, gloves, first aid supplies, water, a flashlight and a glow stick will be given to 2,000 people.

"Registration will open July 1<sup>st</sup>." See [www.ValleyDisasterFair.com](http://www.ValleyDisasterFair.com). Last year 5,000-6,000 attended with "about 50% new attendees" each year.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 13 eligible voters present with all 13 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Amador, Beauvais, Benedetto, Bohrer, Carson, Dunlap, Fisk, Kolstad, Lyle, Morris, Smith, Trinidad and Wu Freedman); zero opposed; zero abstained.

D. Discussion and possible action to [see the below Motion].

**FUNDING MOTION** (moved by Mr. Morris, seconded by Mr. Benedetto): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council supports the Granada Hills Charter High School Robotics team via a Neighborhood Purposes Grant in the amount of \$2,500. The funding will go towards lodging at the Ventura Robotic competition.

*Mr. Smith recused from voting (self-declared as ineligible to vote on the below Motion due to a possible or known conflict of interest and left the room at this time, making 12 Board Members present and eligible to vote). Recusing is different from abstaining, which is declining to vote "yes" or "no."*

**DISCUSSION:** Two students presented and explained the funding need. There are 44 Team Members who enter competitions and outreach to and mentor other schools' programs. Stakeholder Norbert Soski described the program's importance. The School annually funds \$5,000 for it. The GHSNC would be shown on t-shirts, robots and pamphlets. Mr. Trinidad preferred a lower amount.

**AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Trinidad, seconded by Ms. Wu Freedman): to revise the funding amount downward from \$2,500 to \$1,500.

**DISCUSSION:** One of the students explained that 20 students and their chaperones stay overnight at some competitions.

**AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION FAILED** by a roll call vote of the 12 eligible voters present with three in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Bohrer, Fisk and Trinidad); nine opposed ("No" or "Nay") (Amador, Beauvais, Benedetto, Carson, Dunlap, Kolstad, Lyle, Morris and Wu Freedman); zero abstained. Mr. Smith recused.

**ORIGINAL FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 12 eligible voters present with nine in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Amador, Beauvais, Benedetto, Carson, Dunlap, Kolstad, Lyle, Morris and Wu Freedman); one opposed ("No" or "Nay") (Fisk); two abstained (the GHSNC does not count abstentions) (Bohrer and Trinidad). Mr. Smith recused.

*Mr. Smith, who had recused from voting, returned to the room at this time, making 13 Board Members present.*

E. Board [see the below Motion].

Mr. Beauvais explained this motion. Mr. Bohrer believed that “taxes already go to” pay for this. Mr. Trinidad believed the City “doesn’t have enough resources” to do the job; they indicated “a year backlog” of dead trees to remove. It was said that the contractor is experienced and charges \$450 per tree removal between Balboa and Woodley near Petit Park. Mr. Trinidad said the contractor will have banners on their trucks indicated that “this project is sponsored by the Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council.” Ms. Fisk noted that dead trees “can be a danger.” Mr. Vallecilla reported that “trees are a high priority” for Council District 12. Ms. Wu Freedman wanted the contractor to put a plaque on trimmed trees saying “Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council.” Mr. Beauvais suggested filming a tree being trimmed and posting it on the GHSNC website.

**FUNDING MOTION** (moved by Mr. Trinidad, seconded by Mr. Lyle): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves of expenditure of allotted funds of \$4,500 for the tree trimming and removal beautification project. Expenditure to cover the trimming and removal of ten (10) trees, identified by the Beautification Committee, by the contractor between Balboa and Woodley along Chatsworth. **FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 13 eligible voters present with 11 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Amador, Beauvais, Benedetto, Carson, Fisk, Kolstad, Lyle, Morris, Smith, Trinidad and Wu Freedman); two opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Bohrer and Dunlap); zero abstained.

*Mr. Smith recused from voting and left at this time, making 12 Board Members present and eligible to vote (the GHSNC Board quorum is nine).*

### **VIII. Committee Reports**

#### **PLUM Committee** (Maria Fisk)

**MOTION:** The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves the proposed expansion of the Granada Hills Charter Devonshire Campus located at 17081 Devonshire St., Northridge, Ca. 91325 based on a majority of Stakeholders who attended this meeting to support the proposed project along with more than 1,400 signed petitions, with the understanding that;

- Not all traffic studies are complete and other studies are pending.
- The Committee recommends full support of speed bumps, four-way stop signs at Genesta Ave. and Hiawatha St. and mitigating traffic flow obstructions at all egress and ingress to the campus.
- Additionally, the Committee is asking for City Councilmember support for those mitigations and to ensure that lighting spills over the block wall onto the sidewalk adjacent to Hiawatha St. for safety purposes.
- Additionally, the Committee recommends the School establish a hotline so that Stakeholders and parents can register complaints.

Motion wording revisions were made.

**MOTION** (by the Planning and Land Use Management Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council supports the proposed expansion of the Granada Hills Charter Devonshire Campus located at 17081 Devonshire St., Northridge, Ca. 91325 based on a majority of Stakeholders who attended this meeting to support the proposed project along with more than 1,400 signed petitions, with the understanding that:

- Not all traffic studies are complete and other studies are pending.
- The Committee recommends full support of speed bumps from a two-way stop sign to a four-way at Amestoy Ave. and Hiawatha St., and mitigating traffic flow obstructions at all egress and ingress to the campus.
- Additionally, the Committee is asking for City Councilmember support for those mitigations and to ensure that lighting spills over the block wall onto the sidewalk adjacent to Hiawatha St. for safety purposes.
- Additionally, the Committee recommends the School establish a hotline so that Stakeholders and parents can register complaints.

**DISCUSSION:** Copies were distributed of a January 21, 2019 letter from Bryan Lium, Commanding Officer, LAPD Devonshire Division, supporting the expansion. Ms. Fisk reported that the Committee “had a very lively meeting” considering the project and recommended that the Board support the expansion. Mr. Benedetto emphasized the need for safety, recommending, at the school entrance, a metal detector, and for the School to have a full-time security officer and bullet-proof classroom closets.

**AMENDMENT to the MOTION** (moved by Mr. Benedetto): to add the following wording to the Motion: “at the school entrance there will be a metal detector; also, the School would have a full-time security officer and bullet-proof classroom closets.

**AMENDMENT to the MOTION FAILED** by a hand vote of the 12 eligible voters present with two in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”); seven opposed (“No” or “Nay”); three abstained. Mr. Smith recused.

**DISCUSSION:** Stakeholders Kayla Macias Dan Gruen, Miriam Botros, Victoria Marzou, Lyza Palacios, James Lee, Adel Said, Maribel Campos, Michelle Amoy, Delilah Toledo, Subrata Chakravarty, Kevin Yi, Ralph and Lexi Hopp, Marilyn True supported the expansion. Raoul Corzo was concerned about strong stadium lighting up to 10:30 p.m. disturbing immediate neighbors; he wanted the athletic field to not be used after 6:30 p.m. with no nighttime activities due to the noise they would create. Michael Cohen, Joseph Blackman, Caroline Cavallaro, Thomas Chen, Blaine O-Brien, Nicholas Gevergian supported such limits. Ms. Carson believed that charter schools have “drained funds from public education.” Mr. Trinidad believed that lighting concerns need to be addressed; Ms. Wu Freedman believed that “10:30 is extremely late.” Jana Davenport, School Administrative Director and Project Leader, explained that there would be a lottery for TK – 8<sup>th</sup> grade admittance and no geographic preference.

**MOTION to POSTPONE** (moved by Ms. Wu Freedman, seconded by Mr. Bohrer): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council POSTPONES Item # VIII. PLUM Committee Motion.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Bohrer wanted to know more about the need for lighting until 10:30 p.m. Ms. Fisk noted that there was extensive Committee outreach and that the project was vetted and discussed.

**MOTION to POSTPONE PASSED** with eight in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”); four opposed (“No” or “Nay”); zero abstained.

Ms. Fisk will re-Agendize this for the next PLUM Committee meeting. Mr. Beauvais will re-Agendize this for the next Board meeting; no public comment will be allowed.

Outreach (Mike Benedetto) Report.

Mr. Benedetto reported that there will be an April 4<sup>th</sup> Government Night.

Beautification Committee (Joel Lyle): Progress Report on Caltrans yard project at the 118 freeway and tree trimming project. Progress report on tree trimming project.

Mr. Benedetto will have photos of the fence at the 118 Freeway and Balboa forwarded to Caltrans. Mr. Beauvais noted that tree trimming already was addressed.

#### **IX. Board Member comments and submission of agenda items.**

Mr. Morris suggested an environmental forum in May or June regarding recent legislation. Mr. Amador requested Agendizing City accountability issues, especially regarding land use projects and developer involvement. Ms. Carson cannot attend the April Board Meeting and would vote against the School expansion. Mr. Bohrer noted the importance of Neighborhood Councils. Mr. Lyle reminded that around \$12,000 in funding remains to be allocated and believed that school “lighting needs to be mitigated.” Mr. Beauvais described the School discussion as “democracy in action.” There will be a Board Retreat. Ms. Fisk urged Board Members to attend PLUM Committee meetings.

#### **X. Adjournment**

**MOTION to ADJOURN** (moved by Mr. Morris, seconded by Mr. Bohrer).

**MOTION to ADJOURN PASSED** unanimously by a voice vote.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 9:36 p.m.

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