



**CITY OF LOS ANGELES**  
**GRANADA HILLS SOUTH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**  
**GENERAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES**, Thursday, February 13, 2020  
Granada Hills Charter H.S., Rawley Hall, 10535 Zelzah Ave., Granada Hills, CA 91344  
DRAFT Minutes for Approval

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 Dave Beauvais called the Meeting to order at 6:36 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ross Turmell.

**II. Roll Call** (Secretary)

Roll Call was taken by the Secretary. Eleven of the 17 Board Members were present at the Roll Call: Dave Beauvais (President), Michael Benedetto (Vice-President), Bette Biers, Bonnie Bursk, Julie Carson (Secretary), Maria Fisk, Sally Kolstad, Mark Morris, Brandon Schindelheim (Treasurer), Colleen Toumayan and Ross Turmell. John Horn, Abbey Ronquillo and Brad Smith arrived later. Carlos Amador, Emayatzy Oliver and Sarah Tran were absent (all excused). The GHSNC quorum (the minimum number of Board Members needing to be present to take binding votes on Agendized Items) is nine (see the Bylaws at <https://lacity.quickbase.com/db/bj3apxsp3?a=q&qid=32&qskip=0&qrppg=1000&dlt=su46~>), so the Board could take such votes. All 17 Board Seats were filled (by election or appointment). No Board Seat was vacant. Also attended: 39 Stakeholders and Guests.

**III. Public Comment**

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #IV. B.*] Congressional Candidate Michael Guzik [[www.MRG2020.com](http://www.MRG2020.com)] described his issue interests, including housing and safety. Karen Roseberry, for State Assembly Candidate Suzette Martinez Valladares [who later arrived], described Ms. Valladares' issue interests. Stakeholder Mark Hovatar offered to photograph Board Members' faces for the GHSNC website.

**IV. Community Speakers**

A. Council District 12 (Matt Vallecilla)

Matthew Vallecilla, Field Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilman John Lee (818-882-1212; [Matthew.Vallecilla@LACity.org](mailto:Matthew.Vallecilla@LACity.org); [www.CD12.org](http://www.CD12.org)), reported that

Balboa Blvd. between Rinaldi and Woodley, and Tampa Ave. between Rinaldi and Plummer, will be resurfaced.

B. Budget Advocate (Brian Allen)

Mr. Allen reported that the Budget Advocates [<http://ncbala.com>] White Paper of recommendations regarding the City budget soon will be distributed.

*Board Member John Horn arrived at this time (6:40), making 12 Board Members present.*

Mr. Allen continued that Budget Day will be June 20; all Board Members are invited.

C. LAUSD District 3 (Tara Vahdani)

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #IV. H.*] Ms. Vahdani, replacing Robert Jackson as Deputy Director of Community Engagement for LAUSD Board Member Scott Schmerelson (ofc. 818-654-3785; [Tara.Vahdani@lausd.net](mailto:Tara.Vahdani@lausd.net); <http://achieve.lausd.net/schmerelson>), announced upcoming events, including free health screenings.

D. Assembly District 38 (Ryan Valencia)

Danni Wang, a Deputy for State 38th District Assemblymember Christy Smith (661-286-1565; [Danni.Wang@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Danni.Wang@asm.ca.gov); <https://a38.asmdc.org>), described recent legislation.

E. Congressional District 25 (Osvaldo Ramirez)

No representative was present; there was no report.

F. LAPD Senior Lead Officer or alternate rep (Lead Officer Sellers/Volunteer Richard Fisk).

John Parker, an LAPD Devonshire Division Senior Lead Officer (mobile/text phone 818-832-0773; office 818-832-0633; [36560@LAPD.LACity.org](mailto:36560@LAPD.LACity.org)), [http://www.LAPDonline.org/devonshire\\_community\\_police\\_station](http://www.LAPDonline.org/devonshire_community_police_station)), replacing retired Senior Lead Officer Dario Del Core who retired in January, reported that another SLO, Sandra Zamorra, soon will start.

*Board Member Abbey Ronquillo arrived at this time (6:57), making 13 Board Members present.*

Officer Parker continued that statistics show that crime is down in the Division.

G. DONE Representative (Jose Galdamez)

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Dennis Zine's below comments.*] 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)), reminded that Bylaws amendment submissions are due by April 15<sup>th</sup>. Upcoming are workshops regarding the Planning Department's "Housing Element" and also Community Data.

H. North Valley Homeless Alliance, presentation by Mike Benedetto  
Mr. Benedetto reported that the West Valley Neighborhood Alliance on Homelessness [the correct name] discussed homelessness issues.

*The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #IV. C.*

Dennis Zine, former City Council Member and LAPD Officer, explained City processes and urged utilizing City Council Offices for services.

*Board Member Brad Smith arrived at this time (7:05), making 14 Board Members present.*

Mr. Zine urged to “get to know” City Council Members and staff, and union and other leaders to increase Neighborhood Council effectiveness.

*[The following was addressed after Item #VIII. C.]* State Assembly Candidate Lucy Velaski described her background.

#### **V. Approval of January 2, 2020 Meeting minutes.**

Copies were available of the draft Minutes.

**MOTION** moved by Ms. Carson, seconded by Ms. Bursk: The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its January 2, 2020 General Board Meeting as written.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Horn requested that the Homeless Committee report be included.

**MOTION PASSED** by a hand vote; zero opposed; one abstained (Smith).

#### **VI. Budget Issues**

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

Copies were available of the GHSNC December 2019 “Monthly Expenditure Report.” Mr. Schindelheim reviewed expenditures

**FUNDING MOTION** moved by Mr. Schindelheim, seconded by Ms. Kolstad: The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves its Monthly Expenditure Report for December 2019.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 14 eligible voters present with all 14 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Beauvais, Benedetto, Biers, Bursk, Carson, Fisk, Horn, Kolstad, Morris, Ronquillo, Schindelheim, Smith, Toumayan and Turmell); zero opposed; zero abstained.

B. Approval of Budget report and Monthly Expenditures for January 2020.

Copies were available of the GHSNC January 2020 “Monthly Expenditure Report.” Mr. Schindelheim reviewed expenditures.

**FUNDING MOTION** moved by Mr. Schindelheim, seconded by Ms. Fisk: The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves its Monthly Expenditure Report for January 2020.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 14 eligible voters present with all 14 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Beauvais, Benedetto, Biers, Bursk, Carson, Fisk, Horn, Kolstad, Morris, Ronquillo, Schindelheim, Smith, Toumayan and Turmell); zero opposed; zero abstained.

## **VII. Board Issues**

- A. Discussion and possible action to support the Granada Hills Recreation Center’s annual Spring Egg Hunt to be held April 11, 2020, not to exceed \$500.

Granada Hills Petit Park Director Michelle Gross De La Hoya thanked the Board for support and described Saddleridge Fire emergency help.

**FUNDING MOTION** moved by Mr. Benedetto, seconded by Mr. Morris: The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council supports the Granada Hills Recreation Center’s annual Spring Egg Hunt to be held April 11, 2020, not to exceed \$500.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 14 eligible voters present with all 14 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Beauvais, Benedetto, Biers, Bursk, Carson, Fisk, Horn, Kolstad, Morris, Ronquillo, Schindelheim, Smith, Toumayan and Turmell); zero opposed; zero abstained.

- B. Discussion and possible action to support the annual “Salute to Recreation Family Festival which will be held at the Northridge Recreation Center from May 21 to 23, 2020. Funding requested, \$2500.

Jasmine Doleshani, of the Department of Recreation and Parks, explained the event which will be held May 29-31, not May 21-23. Other Neighborhood Councils were asked for funding. The GHSNC logo would be on outreach material. They expect around 50,000 people over the three days.

**FUNDING MOTION** moved by Mr. Beauvais, seconded by Mr. Morris: The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council supports the annual “Salute to Recreation Family Festival which will be held at the Northridge Recreation Center from May 29 to 31, 2020. Funding requested, \$2,500.

**AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION** moved by Mr. Benedetto, seconded by Ms. Bursk: The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council changes the Motion wording from \$2,500 to \$1,500.

**AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION PASSED** by a hand vote with eight in favor; six opposed; zero abstained.

**AMENDED FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 14 eligible voters present with all 14 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Beauvais, Benedetto,

Biers, Bursk, Carson, Fisk, Horn, Kolstad, Morris, Ronquillo, Schindelheim, Smith, Toumayan and Turmell); zero opposed; zero abstained.

- C. Preparation, volunteers and assignments for the February 15, 2020 CD 12 Debate to be held in Highlander Hall from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Mr. Benedetto reported that seven to eight Neighborhood Councils will co-sponsor the event and that around 300 people are expected to attend.

### **VIII. Committee Reports and Motions**

#### Outreach

- A. Discussion of agenda items and format and facilitation for GHSNC Board Retreat. [*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #VIII. H.*] Mr. Beauvais will re-agendize this for the March meeting.
- B. Discussion and possible action to support the February 29, 2020 Sex Education Town Hall to be held in North Hills. Funding not to exceed \$500.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by the Outreach Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council supports the Sex Education Town Hall to be held in North Hills on a date to be determined. Funding not to exceed \$500.

**DISCUSSION:** There was extensive discussion. Abby Bales, a Northridge West Neighborhood Council Board Member and parent of two Granada Hills Charter High School students, was concerned about schools' sexual education. She said that the City denied event approval and will re-schedule it to a date to be determined. The LAUSD's Ms. Vahdani reported that the LAUSD was advised not to participate in the event and will do its own parent education. Mr. Smith urged the Board that "its not our fight" and not to vote on this; "do not get involved." Ms. Fisk said "this is only a Forum . . . we're not taking a position." Ms. Carson believed that it would not be appropriate to provide funding support.

**MOTION to TABLE** moved by Mr. Benedetto, seconded by Mr. Turmell: The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council TABLES this Item.

**MOTION to TABLE PASSED** by a hand vote with 11 in favor; two opposed; zero abstained. No funding was allocated.

Mr. Beauvais will agendize this for the March Board meeting and hoped the Education Committee would Agendize it. Mr. Morris will provide the Board with information.

- C. Discussion and possible action to sponsor a debate for LAUSD School Board District Three. Funding not to exceed \$1,000. (Note, the primary election is March 3, 2020, this debate would be scheduled in the event of a runoff between the top two candidates).

**FUNDING MOTION** (by the Outreach Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council will sponsor a debate for LAUSD School Board District Three. Funding not to exceed \$1,000.

**MOTION to TABLE** moved by Ms. Bursk, seconded by Mr. Schindelheim: The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council TABLES this Item.

**MOTION to TABLE PASSED** by a hand vote with 11 in favor; one opposed; one abstained. No funding was allocated.

#### PLUM

D. Motion: As a follow-on to Council File: 19-0002-S191, the Committee recommends the Board consider requesting CD 12 and City Planning staff to present to our committee or the board the City's current plans, as regards the vote late last year at SCAG to support the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA), addresses – or does not address – the issues raised in SB 50.

Mr. Smith explained the Motion and issue. Ms. Fisk stated that “this is something the State is dictating to the City.”

**MOTION** (by the Planning and Land Use Management Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council, as a follow-on to Council File: 19-0002-S191 [the number to be corrected], the Board requests CD 12 and City Planning staff to present to our committee or the board the City's current plans, as regards the vote late last year at SCAG to support the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA), addresses – or does not address – the issues raised in SB 50.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a hand vote with all 13 in favor; zero opposed; zero abstained.

#### Cultural Affairs

E. Discussion and possible action for additional funding of up to \$200 for the Black History Month event to be held on February 22, 2020. Funding for additional print media (flyers) and refreshments.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by the Outreach Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council will give additional funding of up to \$200 for the Black History Month event to be held on February 22, 2020.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the 13 eligible voters present with 11 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Beauvais, Biers, Bursk, Carson, Horn, Morris, Ronquillo, Schindelheim, Smith, Toumayan and Turmell); zero opposed; two abstained (Benedetto and Fisk) (the GHSNC does not count abstentions).

## Public Safety

- F. Motion to allocate up to \$1500.00 for “Safety and Emergency Preparedness” give away items for graduates of the LAFD CERT classes to be held within the next 6 Months.

Mr. Turmell reported that the Committee met and will “schedule CERT [Community Emergency Response Team; 818-756-9674; www.cert-la.com, lafdcert@LACity.org] classes to be held here at Rawley Hall.” Mr. Galdamez noted that such funding should be through a Neighborhood Purposes Grant application from a non-profit organization; he will send funding information.

**MOTION to TABLE** moved by Mr. Turmell, seconded by Mr. Morris: The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council TABLES this Item.

**MOTION to TABLE PASSED** unanimously by a hand vote with all 13 in favor; zero opposed; zero abstained. No funding was allocated.

- G. Motion to allocate up to \$500.00 for refreshments for the CERT class attendees. Water and pre-packaged snacks available at each class, plus Sandwiches/chips to be available at the last class.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by the Public Safety Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council will allocate up to \$500.00 for refreshments for the CERT class attendees. Water and pre-packaged snacks available at each class, plus sandwiches/chips to be available at the last class.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 13 eligible voters present with all 13 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Beauvais, Benedetto, Biers, Bursk, Carson, Fisk, Horn, Morris, Ronquillo, Schindelheim, Smith, Toumayan and Turmell); zero opposed; zero abstained.

Mr. Turmell reminded that the MyLA311 app is excellent to request City services. Mr. Beauvais requested a Committee presentation to the Board at the May Board meeting.

## Education

- H. Discussion and possible action to support the Granada Hills Robotics Team for 2020 competitive events in the amount of \$2500. Funding to go towards event entries and travel expenses for the team. The Committee has no recommendation, this motion will require a second. Beautification Report Homelessness Report on Homeless count conducted on January 21, 2020. Bylaws and Rules Report.

**FUNDING MOTION** moved by Mr. Morris, seconded by Ms. Kolstad: The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council will provide the Granada Hills Robotics Team for 2020 competitive events in the amount of \$2,500 to go towards event entries and travel expenses for the team.

**DISCUSSION:** Parent Norbert Soski supported this. Two students explained the Team and competition, and “the leadership and management” experience provided. They also mentored “six different elementary [school] robotics programs” and at Hope of the Valley homeless shelter. They thanked the Board for previous support. Ms. Carson and Ms. Bursk wanted to increase diversity of GHSNC school funding; copies were distributed of a “Neighborhood Purpose Grants to Local Schools” data sheet.

*President Beauvais temporarily stepped down as Presiding Officer, making Vice-President Benedetto the Presiding Officer.*

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 14 eligible voters present with all 14 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Beauvais, Benedetto, Biers, Bursk, Carson, Fisk, Horn, Kolstad, Morris, Ronquillo, Schindelheim, Smith, Toumayan and Turmell); zero opposed; zero abstained.

*President Beauvais resumed as Presiding Officer. The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #VIII. A.*

[*The following reports were made after Item #VIII. G.*] Homelessness: Mr. Horn reported that the January 21<sup>st</sup> Homeless Count had 28 volunteers. He encouraged coordinating with the Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council.

Beautification: Mr. Beauvais reported that the Committee is meeting.

Bylaws and Rules: Mr. Smith reported that “we don’t need to update our Bylaws, according to DONE.”

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

Mr. Benedetto requested and Mr. Beauvais agreed to Agendize participating in the RYLAN [(Ready Your LA Neighborhood) [<https://emergency.lacity.org/rylan>] / Map Your Neighborhood emergency preparedness program or in such a Red Cross program,

#### **X. Adjournment**

**MOTION to ADJOURN** (by Ms. Biers, seconded by Mr. Smith).

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

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 9:34 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>.*