

**Minutes of the General Board Meeting of the
GRANADA HILLS SOUTH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (GHSNC)
Thursday, August 14, 2008**

at The First Baptist Church of Granada Hills
11011 Hayvenhurst Avenue, Granada Hills, CA 91344

I. Call to order and the Pledge of Allegiance

Jim Summers, Presiding Officer, called the meeting to order at 7:11 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

II. Roll Call

Roll Call was taken by Secretary Glen Chester. Board Members present:

Jim Summers, President	Glen Chester, Secretary
Robert Norris, Treasurer	Jerry Askew, At-Large
Dave Beauvais, Community Org's	Bonnie Bursk, Commercial Prop. Owners
Julie Carson, Member-at-Large	Alexia Cirino, Faith-Based Groups (late)
John Hegedes, Member-at-Large	Mike Kabo, Parliamentarian
Eric Mansker, Homeowners	Sean Rivas, Parks
John Seletos, Youth Organizations	Karessa Anne Silvers, Education
Norbert Soski, Member-at-Large	Lottie Van Emden, Cultural Arts
Jim Yoder, Seniors	

Board Members absent: Brad Smith, Vice-President (excused); Shamica Doty, Business (excused); Pamela Finn, Member-at-Large (excused); Tamara Seletos, Students (excused); and Christopher Silvers, Member-at-Large (excused).

Sixteen of the 21 Board Members were present at the beginning of the Meeting, which is a quorum, and the business of the Council could be conducted. Also attending were 12 Stakeholders and Guests.

Mr. Chester said that he wasn't able to bring the draft Minutes to the Meeting for approval, but will provide them next month.

III. Public Comment

Stakeholder Josh Howard introduced himself and his wife and offered to assist, and Mr. Summers encouraged them to talk with Ms. Cirino. Stakeholder Steve Hirschberg introduced himself and also offered his support.

IV. Community Speakers

Mr. Summers relayed that Amelia Herrera-Robles, Neighborhood Empowerment Analyst, L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE), and John Bwarie, Deputy District Director for L.A. City District 12 Councilman Greig Smith, could not attend, but that Ms. Herrera-Robles asked that the following be announced: the August 16th Board Training and the October 11th Neighborhood Congress at City Hall, the same day as the Budget Day. Sue Tipton was not present.

V. Officer Reports

A. President

Mr. Summers spoke about Laws, Bylaws, Transition, Legal, Goals, Outreach Plan, Tracking, and a Board of Directors Award. He asked Mr. Kabo to, and Mr. Kabo did prepare, distribute and review a "Parliamentarian Issues" flyer. Mr. Kabo noted that a President can request a vote recount. Mr. Summers reminded that there'll be a new Board soon, and he'd like current Board Members to write their best practices and mistakes, to be posted on the website [www.ghsnc.org] to help the transition to the next Board. Ms. Carson, Mr. Mansker, Mr. Askew, Mr. Norris, Mr. Chester, Mr. Rivas, and Mr. Summers indicated that they'll run again for the Board. Mr. Summers asked Mr. Rivas to contact former Outreach Chair Mark Barrionuevo for Outreach material. There needs to be an Outreach plan for each Committee and we need to track all event effectiveness. The Board of Directors Award will be a new tradition for the best Board Member or Committee at each Meeting. At the next Meeting, Mr. Smith will discuss the LAPD request for \$5,000 for a (L.A. Police Dept.) simulator.

B. Vice-President

Mr. Summers noted that Mr. Smith is absent and that there's no report.

C. Treasurer

Mr. Norris distributed and reviewed the "[GHSNC] End of Year Budget Report, Fiscal Year 7/1/07-6/30/08," noting that we spent \$26,402.59, that a few Outreach charges aren't yet noted, and he's waiting to hear from various officials regarding the status of various items, including the microphones. Mr. Mansker added that the sound equipment company apologized for not showing up at the last Meeting. There was discussion about the sound equipment and whether and when to request the sound equipment company to return for a second month.

MOTION (by Mr. Soski, seconded by Mr. Mansker): to fulfill the two-month agreement with the sound equipment company by renting sound equipment for the next General Board Meeting and to discuss a month-to-month rental at the next Meeting.

MOTION PASSED by a unanimous hand vote.

Mr. Norris reported that he hasn't received receipts for the July 29th "L.A. Planning Meeting." "Office Supplies" includes \$300 for business cards. He also is waiting for someone to volunteer to replace him as Treasurer. Ms. Carson explained election mailing expenses.

D. Secretary

Mr. Chester reported that he gave a Stakeholder database list of around 150 names to the webmaster, who's adding to it. Mr. Summers requested that a procedure be in place for the new Board.

VI. Board Issues & Updates

Mr. Summers asked everyone to encourage nominees for currently vacant Board positions to attend the next General Board Meeting. There was discussion about filling those vacancies. There was also a discussion about election procedures and processes He asked the Board to create a Meeting and Equipment Wish List. Mr. Mansker would like the Board to petition DONE to make it easier to lease an office.

MOTION (by Mr. Rivas): to allocate up to \$150/month for a dedicated Outreach Committee Phone Line or Cell Phone.

MOTION FAILED for lack of a Second.

VII. Committee Reports

1. **Elections Committee** Discussion of GHSNC Election Procedures, timetable, mailing, outreach

Ms. Carson explained that the first required mailing was sent to 9,600 addresses and is also on the website. The next mailer will be sent September 10th. Candidate filings can be submitted to the Independent Elections Administrator until September 4th and write-ins can be filed between September 5th and October 3rd. There'll be a September 25th Meet & Greet the Candidates event here at the church.

2. **Outreach Committee**

Mr. Rivas distributed and noted "goodies" in tote bags. It would cost \$2,500 to have 20 light pole banners installed for 30 days, which can be extended an additional 30 days at no additional charge.

It was noted that Ms. Cirino arrived at this time.

- a. **MOTION** (by the Committee): to request up to \$1,000 for street banners to be placed in our boundaries for 30 days, and will ask for 30-day extension prior to end of first 30 days.

DISCUSSION: There was extensive and wide ranging discussion regarding the necessity to pay for, the location, and the installation timing for the banners.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Ms. Carson, seconded by Mr. Mansker).

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION was **PASSED** by a hand vote.

MOTION PASSED by a hand vote.

Mr. Rivas added that the banners will be installed by September 1st.

- b. **MOTION** (by the Committee): to request an additional \$1,000 dollars for GHSNC Promotional Items.

DISCUSSION: With the rise in some prices this is to be a security amount of funds, and the funds are available.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Mr. Beauvais, seconded by Mr. Askew).

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION was **PASSED** by a unanimous hand vote.

MOTION PASSED by a unanimous hand vote.

- c. Discussion of Outreach events; and updates on progress of: Bulk mail permit, lawn signs, survey mailings

Mr. Rivas is “asking for” more outreach ideas. He noted that the idea of having a bulk mail permit was voted down and Academy Mailing will be handling the NC’s mailing. Lawn signs are being researched. Mr. Summers explained the “[GHSNC] – 2008 Survey,” “GHSNC Progress and Participation Questions for Stakeholders” and “GHSNC & Granada Hills Community Events” handouts. Mr. Rivas continued that the website was hacked and has been fixed. Mr. Beauvais encouraged submitting election articles to the website. There was discussion of available media.

- d. Discussion of Concern Based Outreach Model (CBOM) (Jim Summers)
Mr. Summers described this model as being focused on taking all issues of GHSNC and make sure each issue addressed in the next two months is focused on Outreach and how to bring more stakeholders to the table.

BREAK OUT SESSION – COMMITTEE REPORT PREPARATION

Mr. Summers announced a 20 minute breakout session for small groups to discuss outreach ideas.

VII. Committee Reports (continued)

3. Planning & Land Use Committee (PLUC)

- a. **New Granada Hills-Knollwood Community Plan**

- i. **MOTION** (by the Committee): That all “Q” conditions not be eliminated under sector A, B and C of the total GH-Knollwood Specific Plan

DISCUSSION: Mr. Mansker, then Stakeholder Maria Fisk explained that “Q” conditions limit the structure, height and size of specific commercial properties.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Ms. Carson).

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION was **PASSED** by a hand vote, with 13 in favor and one opposed.

MOTION PASSED by a unanimous hand vote with 15 in favor.

- ii. **MOTION** (by the Committee): that GHSNC support a plan of compatible mix use low density construction along the Chatsworth Street Business corridor from Balboa to Zelzah Avenue.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Mansker, then Ms. Fisk explained that “mixed-use paves the way for high-density zoning.”

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Mr. Beauvais, seconded by Mr. Norris).

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION was **PASSED** by a hand vote, with one opposed.

MOTION PASSED by a unanimous hand vote.

- iii. **MOTION** (by the Committee): That the Old Granada Hills area with proposed zoning of RE9 be changed to RE11 and extended to San Jose St.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Mansker, then Ms. Fisk explained that this is based on L.A. City District 12 Councilman Greig Smith’s Motion to limit property sizes in the area bordered by San Fernando Mission Blvd., Balboa Blvd., San Jose St. and Zelzah Ave., and to limit lot splits to no less than 11,000 square feet.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Ms. Carson, seconded by Mr. Rivas).

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION was **PASSED** by a unanimous hand vote.

MOTION PASSED by a unanimous hand vote.

iv. **MOTION** (by the Committee): Footprint of new construction is consistent with current low density as previously presented to CD-12 as per formula [see attached PLUC addendum]

Mr. Summers explained this. There was extensive discussion regarding allowable structure systems and calculations. It was noted that this issue has been worked on for at least seven years, and that “this Motion is to prevent McMansionization incompatible with the neighborhood.”

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Ms. Carson, seconded by Mr. Mansker).

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION was **PASSED** by a unanimous hand vote.

MOTION PASSED by with one abstention.

v. **MOTION** (by the Committee): Approval of letter concerning the new GH-Knollwood Community Plan by Maria Fisk (PLUC) to Anna Vidal, City Planning, Valley DONE liaison [see PLUC addendum]

DISCUSSION: Mr. Mansker explained that they’re waiting for a response from Ms. Vidal to a number of questions. Ms. Fisk distributed and explained a letter to Ms. Vidal, the theme of which is for the City to provide information regarding local growth projections and development plans, and the reasons for them.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Ms. Carson, seconded by Mr. Norris).

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION was **PASSED** by a unanimous hand vote.

MOTION PASSED with 13 in favor and one abstention.

b. **Sober Living & Group Homes**

MOTION (by the Committee): that GHSNC supports the recommendations that the Planning Department be instructed to prepare a comprehensive, citywide ordinance that regulates licensed community care facilities, licensed alcohol and drug abuse treatment facilities, and unlicensed group residential homes. The ordinance would also regulate unlicensed group residential homes operating as a business in a residential zone.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Summers explained this.

MOTION PASSED by acclamation.

Mr. Hegedes added that the bill should be enacted within six to eight months.

- c. **Signage:** Discussion of illegal signage (Jerry Askew) and legal, ex: Robecks. Mr. Summers explained this.

4. Beautification Committee

- a. **MOTION** (by Mr. Askew, seconded by Ms. Cirino): To purchase 10 bright colored work safety vests with GHSNC logo/website not to exceed \$25/vest.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Summers explained this.

MOTION PASSED by acclamation.

- b. Discussion of \$10,000 Beautification Grant
Ms. Bursk said that it's not that easy to apply for a grant and that it takes a tremendous amount of time and energy.

5. Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness Committee

[The following Agenda Item was addressed after Item #VII) 5) b).]

- a. Discussion of raising of speed limit on Zelzah Ave. for radar enforcement, Traffic Commission 8/13/008 – postponed.
Mr. Seletos explained this. Mr. Summers noted that the problem is that there's been no notification to the NCs.

MOTION (by Ms. Bursk, seconded by Mr. Mansker): to oppose any increase of the speed limit on Zelzah Avenue in Granada Hills.

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

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION was **PASSED** by a unanimous hand vote.

MOTION PASSED with 13 in favor and one abstention.

- b. Discussion of LAPD Outreach Event at Lake Balboa, requesting \$3,000.
Mr. Summers explained and will research this.

6. Bylaws and Standing Rules Committee

- a. Committee Removal: 3 unexcused committee absences, tabled from 6/12/08, planned retreat discussion item
Mr. Beauvais mentioned that this was discussed before and stands as is.

b. Discussion of Agenda Procedures, deadlines; Posting Sites; Number of Board Members; other.

Mr. Seletos said that he “will deal with it.”

VIII. **Board Member Comments**

Mr. Mansker described and encouraged calling the police about dumpster divers going around in packs stealing recycling and identity materials. Mr. Hegedes said that he called 14 times about problems at a local sober living home and that there was no response from the City Building and Safety Dept. Ms. Carson reminded everyone that there’s a Thursday night Board Candidates Meeting. Mr. Rivas thanked Retreat attendees and said that he’ll e-mail survey tallies within one week. Skateboards at the park are being cited and have to be picked up by their parents. Mr. Summers announced that the Board Director of the month is tonight’s quorum.

IX. **Agenda Items for next General Meeting & Committee Meetings**

No additional Items were mentioned at this time.

X. **Closing Remarks & Adjournment**

MOTION (by Mr. Mansker, seconded by Mr. Yoder): to **ADJOURN** the Meeting.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by acclamation.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 10:03 p.m.