



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

Thursday, July 3, 2014, Time: 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm  
Granada Hills H.S., Rawley Hall, 10535 Zelzah Ave., Granada Hills CA 91344

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Brad Smith (Member-at-Large)	Varun Khurana (Students)
Vice-President: Jerry Askew (Business)	Sally Kolstad (Education)
Secretary: Anthony Matthews (Parks & Arts)	Deron Lopez (Youth Organizations)
Treasurer: Brandon Schindelheim (MaL)	Eric Mansker (Homeowners)
Michael Benedetto (MaL)	Jim Summers (MaL)
Jeffrey Bohrer (MaL)	Rene R Trinidad (MaL)
Bonnie M. Bursk (Commercial Prop. Owners)	Ross Turmell (MaL)
Krisna Crawford-Velasco (MaL)	Cindy Wu Freedman (MaL-CI)
Arthur A. Daush (Seniors)	Michael J. Kabo (Parliamentarian)
Jett Dunlap (MaL)	Community Organizations: Pending
Gina Greschner (Renters)	Member at Large: Pending
	Faith-Based: Pending

GHSNC (and all other) Meeting Minutes are a summary, not an exact, verbatim, word-for-word transcript of what was said at a Meeting. The only two exceptions to this are the Motions and quotes, which are words that have quotation marks (“”) at the beginning and ending of a word or words. The Minutes were not, are not and are never meant to be a comprehensive record of what was said about an issue or project.

**I. Call to Order and the Pledge of Allegiance**

President Smith called the Meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

**II. Roll Call (Matthews)**

Roll Call was taken by Mr. Smith. Twelve of the 19 Board Members were present at the beginning of the Meeting: Jerry Askew, Michael Benedetto, Arthur Daush, Jett Dunlap, Gina Greschner, Varun Khurana, Sally Kolstad, Eric Mansker, Brandon Schindelheim, Brad Smith, Jim Summers and Ross Turmell. Cindy Wu Freedman arrived later. Board Members absent: Bonnie Bursk (excused), Krisna Crawford-Velasco (excused), Deron Lopez (excused), Anthony Matthews (excused) and Rene Trinidad (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. Eighteen of the 21 Board Seats were filled. Three Board Seats (At Large, Community Organizations and Faith-Based) were vacant. Also attending: 32 Stakeholders and Guests.

### **III. Approval of Minutes from the June 5, 2014 regular meeting** (Matthews)

**MOTION to POSTPONE** (by Mr. Askew, seconded by Mr. Smith): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council postpones approval of the Minutes of its June 5, 2014 General Board Meeting until its next Board Meeting.

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

page one, Item #2: the absences of Bonnie Bursk and Rene Trinidad were excused; and page two, Item #4: "William Kuzman" should read "William Kuzmin."

### **IV. Public Comment**

Stakeholder Linda would like to have Agendized for the GHSNC to "write a letter of support for the Plaza proposal." She is "not asking for money" or for the GHSNC "to become a community partner, because that's not an option anyway." She "walked door-to-door on Chatsworth St. between Zelzah and Yarmouth and got 14 signed letters of support from business owners." She said "the Rotary Club Foundation voted against this proposal because" they said "they don't know one business that's in favor of this project . . . they mistakenly also believe the project will block the alley; it will not . . . the Granada Hills BID President opposed the project after" not responding to emails or phone calls. She described being opposed by the BID President despite her publically commenting at their meeting that Plaza supporters are "closing in on 1,000 signatures." She described Chamber opposition expressed on Facebook. She said "the Neighborhood Council is the public's only voice" on this issue. She believed that property owners are indicating that other Stakeholders, in her words, "don't matter." She believed the project will benefit many people, including high school students, who patronize the Friday night food trucks.

Stakeholder William Kuzmin thanked the Board for posting the Agenda and more. He suggested using speaker cards and time limits, having an optional sign-in sheet, a monthly newsletter, and to revise the website to put an Old Granada Hills Residents Group link where other organizations are linked, Mark Reed, 27th Congressional District Candidate (818.353.8777; [www.MarkReedForCongress.com](http://www.MarkReedForCongress.com)), introduced himself. He had suggested and the State Assembly passed a Motion to recognize veterans on their driver's licenses. He asked for votes at the November 4<sup>th</sup> election. Jen Minard of the American Cancer Society (ACS) announced the August 23-24 Relay for Life fundraiser at Granada Hills High School. Cancer survivors will be honored, "those that have lost their life to cancer" will be remembered, and there will be games and music. Admission is free; any money spent there will go to the ACS.

### **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](mailto:Tania.Oronoz@LACity.org); <http://CD12.LACity.org>), reported on recent legislation and City staff appointments. The second part of the plastic bag

ban for smaller markets and stores started July 1st. "Movies Under the Stars" continues July 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 with "Frozen." The annual "National Night Out" to recognize Police will be August 5<sup>th</sup>. A recent legal ruling overturned a ban on people sleeping in vehicles.

- (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), was not present and there was no report.

## **VI. Board Issues and Updates**

1. Oath of office and/or appointment and confirmation of new Board Members/assignments.  
At Large: Jeff Bohrer  
Community Organizations: Pending  
Faith-Based: Pending

Mr. Smith led Mr. Bohrer in reading aloud the Oath of Office. Mr. Bohrer was Seated with the Board. *This made 13 Board Members present (the GHSNC quorum is 11).* Mr. Smith reminded that the Community Organizations and Faith-Based Board Seats are vacant and available.

2. Review and approval of: Monthly Expenditure Report (MER), including Purchase Card bank statement for the month of June; may include potential reallocations/un-encumbrances to existing budget. See attached Budget Report and Monthly Expenditure Report, both as of June 30, 2014. (Schindelheim)  
See below.
3. Treasurer: See attached:
  - a) Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council Budget Report FY 2014 - as of June 30, 2014  
Mr. Schindelheim reviewed recent expenditures

*Board Member Cindy Wu Freedman arrived at this time, making 14 Board Members present (the GHSNC quorum is 11).*

- b) Monthly Expenditure Report for: June 30, 2014

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Schindelheim, seconded by Mr. Mansker): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves its Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) including Purchase Card bank statement for the month of June 2014.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 12 eligible voters present with all 12 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Askew, Benedetto, Daush, Dunlap, Greschner, Kolstad, Mansker, Schindelheim, Smith, Summers, Turmell,

Wu Freedman). Mr. Khurana was ineligible to vote due to not yet being of age (18) to vote on financial matters.

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

1. President

Mr. Smith reported that the Community Plan update is being reviewed by the City Attorney.

2. Vice-President

Mr. Askew reported that the 'food truck Ordinance' was passed, "effective immediately," by the City Council to further regulate parking, including where the food trucks park.

3. Treasurer

Mr. Schindelheim indicated that there was no further report.

4. Secretary

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

**VIII. Committee Reports**

1. Beautification (Bursk)

a) Report from the Beautification Committee.

Ms. Bursk was not present and there was no report.

2. Budget (Schindelheim)

a) Report from the Budget Committee.

Mr. Schindelheim said that, at the next Board Meeting, there will be a Budget survey and also a Strategic Plan to approve which the Executive Committee has been forming. They will be submitted along with the Board Roster to DONE [the L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment].

[There was no Item # VIII 3. B. or VIII 3. C.]

3. Bylaws and Rules (Mansker)

a) Report from the Bylaws and Rules Committee and possible Board action on recommendations from Bylaws Committee regarding revisions of the Bylaws, to include:

- 1) Article VII (B) of the Bylaws establishes a Membership Committee which maintains membership records. (<http://ghsnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/GHSNC-Bylaws-090712.pdf>.) Motion was unanimous to amendment to the Bylaws to strike "Membership Committees and all reference to membership from Bylaws and Rules."

**MOTION** (by the Bylaws and Rules Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council amends its Bylaws to strike "Membership

Committees and all reference to membership from Bylaws and Rules” from Article VII (B).

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Mansker explained that this Committee has never met and the functions have been performed by the Outreach Committee. Stakeholder Dave Beauvais explained that he and other original Board Members noted over time that the Secretary and the Outreach Committee have performed such functions and there is no need for a Membership Committee. Mr. Smith, a former Bylaws Committee Chair, relayed that this potential revision has already been approved by DONE and explained the Bylaws revision process. GHSNC Parliamentarian Mike Kabo explained that Neighborhood Councils have the authority to revise their Bylaws except for certain mandated language, “subject to approval by DONE and the City Attorney’s Office.”

**MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the 14 eligible voters present with 13 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Askew, Benedetto, Daush, Dunlap, Greschner, Khurana, Kolstad, Mansker, Schindelheim, Smith, Summers, Turmell, Wu Freedman); one abstained (Bohrer).

- 2) Motion was unanimous to approve an application to amend the GHSNC Bylaws boundaries to incorporate the area bounded by South: Lassen Avenue, North: Devonshire Street, East: 405 freeways, West: Balboa Blvd. (See Council file 13-0460.) See Article III of the Bylaws for the boundaries: <http://ghsnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/GHSNC-Bylaws-090712.pdf>

**MOTION** (by the Bylaws and Rules Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves an application to amend the GHSNC Bylaws boundaries to incorporate the area bounded by South: Lassen Avenue, North: Devonshire Street, East: 405 Freeway, West: Balboa Blvd. (See Council file 13-0460.) See Article III of the Bylaws for the boundaries: <http://ghsnc.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/GHSNC-Bylaws-090712.pdf>.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Mansker explained that a Stakeholder group pointed out that the [City’s] Community Plan “maps have always shown this as a part of Granada Hills.” He indicated that the group compiled a package, including “more than 500” support signatures, for submission to BONC [the L.A. Board of Neighborhood Commissioners]. Mr. Mansker said the GHSNC voted around August 2013 “not to oppose” this; this vote would be to support the application. The area is currently within the North Hills West Neighborhood Council boundaries. Mr. Summers encouraged considering that an area that is considered for real estate purposes to be a part of North Hills would, if the application is approved, become a part of Granada Hills. Mr. Smith pointed out that “the Community Plan

boundary already includes this area” as a part of Granada Hills. He indicated that this amendment would put the Community Plan, Neighborhood Council and community name boundaries “in sync . . . at least in that area.” Mr. Mansker added that “the City Council,” including City Councilman Englander, “has approved it.” According to Mr. Askew, that was “a year ago.”

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

**MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the 14 eligible voters present with 13 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Askew, Benedetto, Daush, Dunlap, Greschner, Khurana, Kolstad, Mansker, Schindelheim, Smith, Summers, Turmell, Wu Freedman); one abstained (Bohrer).

- 3) The Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (BONC) allows Neighborhood Council change from the 5-7 physical posting sites if the Neighborhood Council agrees to post at one physical site and on its website. (See: <http://empowerla.org/wpcontent/uploads/2012/03/Neighborhood-Councils-Agenda-Posting-Requirements-Policy-2014-01Adopted-05-06-14.pdf>) Motion was unanimous to post at one physical location, namely the Granada Hills Chamber of Commerce, 17723 Chatsworth St. Granada Hills, CA 91344 and post notices of meetings on its website and with the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment pursuant to the BONC policy.

**MOTION** (by the Bylaws and Rules Committee): As the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (BONC) allows Neighborhood Councils to change from the 5-7 physical posting sites if the Neighborhood Council agrees to post at one physical site and on its website (see: <http://empowerla.org/wpcontent/uploads/2012/03/Neighborhood-Councils-Agenda-Posting-Requirements-Policy-2014-01Adopted-05-06-14.pdf>), the Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves posting its Meeting Agendas at one physical location, namely the Granada Hills Chamber of Commerce, 17723 Chatsworth St. Granada Hills, CA 91344 and on its website and with the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment pursuant to the BONC policy.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Mansker explained that the DONE posting would be through the City’s Early Notification System [ENS]. He clarified that this would not preclude posting Agendas in other locations; “we encourage our Chairs to post in other places whenever necessary.” Mr. Mansker and Mr. Askew pointed out that “this is BONC’s language” in the Motion, not the GHSNC’s. Mr. Askew clarified that the single physical posting

location is a State Brown Act requirement; the GHSNC website and through DONE postings are DONE requirements.

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

**MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the 14 eligible voters present with all 14 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Askew, Benedetto, Bohrer, Daush, Dunlap, Greschner, Khurana, Kolstad, Mansker, Schindelheim, Smith, Summers, Turmell, Wu Freedman).

- 4) Article VII(1)(A) of the Bylaws establishes a Community Outreach Committee that reports to the Board on a monthly basis. (See: <http://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/GranadaHillsSouthNC-Bylaws.pdf>.) Motion was unanimous to revise Article VII(1)(A) regarding the Community Outreach Committee to change the monthly reporting requirement to a regular basis (See: line five shall report to the Board Monthly... Strike all references to monthly in the paragraph. Sentence should read, "shall report to Board on a regular basis on it outreach efforts.")

**MOTION** (by the Bylaws and Rules Committee): the Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves revising Article VII(1)(A) of the Bylaws to change the monthly reporting requirement to a regular basis (See: line five shall report to the Board Monthly... Strike all references to monthly in the paragraph. Sentence should read, "shall report to Board on a regular basis on it outreach efforts.")

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Mansker explained that sometimes the Committee does not have a quorum and so cannot have a meeting. Mr. Smith clarified that this “has been vetted by DONE and . . . the City Attorney’s Office.” Mr. Schindelheim encouraged everyone and reminded that Committee Meetings are the best place to present questions and have longer discussions.

**AMENDMENT to the MOTION** (by Mr. Bohrer, seconded by Mr. Askew): the main Motion phrase “shall report to Board on a regular basis” is revised to “shall report to the Board not less than on a quarterly basis.”

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Smith reminded that every Committee is Agendized to report at every monthly Board Meeting.

**AMENDMENT to the MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the 14 eligible voters present with 11 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Askew, Benedetto, Bohrer, Daush, Greschner, Khurana, Kolstad, Schindelheim, Summers, Turmell, Wu Freedman); three abstained (Dunlap, Mansker and Smith).

**AMENDED MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the 14 eligible voters present with 13 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Askew, Benedetto, Bohrer, Daush, Greschner, Khurana, Kolstad, Mansker, Schindelheim, Smith, Summers, Turmell, Wu Freedman); one abstained (Dunlap).

D. Education (Kolstad)

1) Report from the Education Committee.

Ms. Kolstad reported that the Committee will meet at the Starbucks at Zelzah and Chatsworth on July 10th at 7:00 p.m.

E. Outreach (Summers)

1) Report regarding the GHSNC summer movie night status and schedule.

Possible Labor Day event; interest from Chamber, service organizations, Granada Hills High and Valley Academy regarding participation.

Mr. Summers reported on the above and that database and contact lists and a Street Faire will be discussed. Mr. Smith added that having a Sunday, August 31<sup>st</sup> Summer Movie Night is being considered. The Park indicated that that date is available and would like to co-sponsor. Mr. Schindelheim indicated that any needed funding could come from the Outreach budget.

F. Planning and Land Use (Askew)

1) Motion to support the AGF ordinance as drafted by the City Attorney (dated June 5, 2014 - R14-0267) which includes provisions for a) notification to property owners within 250', affected neighborhood councils, HOAs and Residents Groups and b) requires design elements to minimize aesthetic impact of the facility. See:

<http://Cityclerk.laCity.org/laCityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=14-0267>

Mr. Askew reported that the Committee met last week.

**MOTION** (by the Planning and Land Use Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council supports the AGF [Above Ground Facility] ordinance as drafted by the City Attorney (dated June 5, 2014 - R14-0267) which includes provisions for a) notification to property owners within 250', affected neighborhood councils, HOAs and Residents Groups and b) requires design elements to minimize aesthetic impact of the facility.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Askew explained that cell phone companies have been constructing noisy, large and more obvious facilities “on the public right-of-way” and homeowners’ properties. He noted that “it was not a foreseen use



of this Ordinance to” turn telephone poles, etc. “into a cell site.” Mr. Dunlap described increasing cell phone companies’ equipment visibility and shining onto residents’ properties.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 14 eligible voters present with all 14 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Askew, Benedetto, Bohrer, Daush, Dunlap, Greschner, Khurana, Kolstad, Mansker, Schindelheim, Smith, Summers, Turmell, Wu Freedman).

G. Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness (Turmell) - Possible Board action regarding the Committee’s recommendations, to include:

- 1) Action by the Committee to recommend potential requests for in-pavement lights to be added to the pedestrian activated crosswalk at the intersection of Chatsworth Street and Yarmouth Avenue in Granada Hills.

**MOTION** (by the Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council will send a letter requesting that in-pavement lights and other traffic regulation measures be added to the pedestrian-activated crosswalk at the intersection of Chatsworth Street and Yarmouth Avenue in Granada Hills.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Turmell described seeing drivers drive through pedestrian-activated crosswalk lights while pedestrians attempted to cross the street. He filmed “roughly five near misses” there. He read aloud a draft letter that the GHSNC could write requesting the help of the LAPD Traffic Division, City Councilman Englander and the LADOT. Ms. Wu Freedman noted that some pedestrians walk into the roadway without activating the in-pavement lights and as part of a stream of pedestrians, causing drivers to continue waiting to proceed. Mr. Mansker described how the GHSNC could partner with City Council District 12 to fund additional traffic mitigations. Mr. Turmell elaborated that the letter is general so that the LADOT can make “specific” mitigation decisions.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 14 eligible voters present with all 14 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Askew, Benedetto, Bohrer, Daush, Dunlap, Greschner, Khurana, Kolstad, Mansker, Schindelheim, Smith, Summers, Turmell, Wu Freedman).

- 2) Review and discussion of our Committee web page found on the internet at: <http://ghsnc.org/committees/public-safety-and-emergency-preparedness>. Discussion and possible action recommending a mission statement to be placed on the webpage.

**MOTION** (by the Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Committee):  
The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council will place a mission statement about its Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Committee on the GHSNC webpage.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Turmell confirmed that the mission statement, which he read aloud, only would be for the Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Committee. He said the statement was written by Mr. Benedetto. Mr. Kabo suggested and it was agreed to revise the statement in regard to CERT Training participation.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 14 eligible voters present with 12 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Askew, Benedetto, Daush, Greschner, Khurana, Kolstad, Mansker, Schindelheim, Smith, Summers, Turmell, Wu Freedman); two abstained (Bohrer and Dunlap).

**IX. Board Member comments, announcements and Agenda Items for next General meeting and Committee meetings.**

Ms. Kolstad will email the Board about who the Education Committee Members are. Ms. Wu Freedman would like the Board to purchase GHSNC bumper and/or window stickers and to have Stakeholder surveys available on the literature table inside the entrance to GHSNC Board Meetings, as well as to create a GHSNC yearly calendar. Mr. Dunlap encouraged anyone with ideas for Committees to attend those Committees’ Meetings and help with implementing the ideas. Mr. Schindelheim encourage having “efficient, fruitful discussions” in Board Meetings. He added that the GHSNC spent \$36,500 of its allocated \$37,000 [in the last Fiscal Year ending June 30<sup>th</sup>], leaving only \$500 unspent. Mr. Mansker will bring two “Granada Hills South” signs provided by DONE to direct Stakeholders to the Meeting. He encouraged purchasing and having more GHSNC “pole banners” installed. Mr. Kabo would like the Outreach Committee to Agendize and consider recommending to the Board to co-sponsor the October 11th Street Faire. Mr. Beauvais requested the Outreach Committee to Agendize and consider recommending to the Board to co-sponsor the September 29th Valley Disaster Preparedness Faire, which the GHSNC always has supported; he said “it’s a great outreach event” that last year was attended “by about 1,200 people.” Mr. Smith encouraged Committees to continue bringing “focused, considered Motions” to the Board to facilitate more efficient Board business and Meetings. He encouraged everyone to recruit candidates for the two open Board Seats (Community Organizations and Faith-Based); email the Secretary [AMatthews@ghsnc.org].

**X. Adjournment**

**MOTION to ADJOURN** (by Mr. Mansker, seconded by Mr. Khurana).

**MOTION PASSED** without any objection.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 8:46 p.m.

**Approved by Board Secretary**

**03/05/2015 5:02:55 PM**