



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

Thursday, September 4, 2014

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)       | Varun Khurana (Students)          |
| Secretary: Anthony Matthews (Parks & Arts)   | Sally Kolstad (Education)         |
| Treasurer: Brandon Schindelheim (MaL)        | Deron Lopez (Youth Organizations) |
| Michael Benedetto (MaL)                      | Eric Mansker (Homeowners)         |
| Jeffrey Bohrer (MaL)                         | Jim Summers (MaL)                 |
| 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) |
|  | Community Organizations: 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 Brad Smith called the Meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

**II. Roll Call**

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

*Board Member Ross Turmell arrived at this time, making 15 Board Members present (the GHSNC quorum is 11).*

### **III. Minutes Approval**

The following corrections to the June 5, 2014 General Board Meeting Minutes were requested:

Page 5, Item #VIII. B. a): "MOTION to AMEND (by [CONFIRM: \_\_\_] M\_. \_\_\_, seconded by M\_. \_\_\_): \_\_\_" should read "MOTION to AMEND (by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Mansker."

Page 6, Item #VIII. C. a): "[CONFIRM: \_\_\_ WORDING]" should read "accepts the recommendation from its Bylaws Committee to approve the current Bylaws dated 01/26/2014."

**MOTION** (by Mr. Matthews, seconded by Mr. Askew): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its June 5, 2014 General Board Meeting as corrected.

**MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the 15 eligible voters present with 13 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Askew, Benedetto, Bursk, Daush, Greschner, Khurana, Kolstad, Lopez, Mansker, Smith, Summers, Trinidad and Turmell); two abstained (Matthews and Schindelheim).

**MOTION** (by Mr. Matthews, seconded by Mr. Mansker): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its August 7, 2014 General Board Meeting as written.

**MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the 15 eligible voters present with 12 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Benedetto, Bursk, Daush, Kolstad, Lopez, Mansker, Matthews, Schindelheim, Smith, Summers, Trinidad and Turmell); three abstained (Askew, Greschner and Khurana).

### **IV. Public Comment**

Stakeholder Linda Williamson reported that an application was submitted "to participate in the Mayor's People Street" program. The application can be viewed on [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com), search GigaGranadaHills. She said business owners who have participated report that business is up and graffiti down. Mark Reed, 27th Congressional District Candidate (818.353.8777; [www.MarkReedForCongress.com](http://www.MarkReedForCongress.com)), described his views about water costs and jobs. Stakeholder Dave Beauvais reminded that the Granada Hills Street Fair will be October 11<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers are needed; contact Mike Kabo at the Chamber [[email@granadachamber.com](mailto:email@granadachamber.com)].

[The following was commented after Mr. Turmell's comment in Item #IX.] Glenn Bailey, a Neighborhood Councils Budget Advocate (818-453-3407; GlennBaileySFV@yahoo.com), reported that a City Budget presentation soon will be available. He encouraged feedback to the Budget Advocates [<http://www.BudgetAdvocatesLA.com>] about City funding priorities. The annual Mayor's Budget Survey is coming soon; he encouraged to "publicize it to your Stakeholders."

## **V. Community Speakers**

### (1) Council District 12 – Tania Oronez

Millie Jones, Field Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilman Mitch Englander (818-882-1212; Millie.Jones@lacity.org @LACity.org; <http://CD12.LACity.org>), reported for Tania Oronez that the ACE pilot program for administrative citations is starting for "quality of life" issues. Feedback is requested about Mayor Garcetti's proposed minimum wage increase, City Council File 14-0818. The San Fernando Valley Rescue Mission opened in Northridge and includes permanent housing. The Yarmouth and Chatsworth traffic signal proposal is being studied. The Knollwood Plaza traffic light was installed. October 25<sup>th</sup> is "drive-in movie night"; the title will be revealed.

### (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.

Lydia Grant, BONC [L.A. Board of Neighborhood Commissioners] Commissioner [[Lydia.Grant@LACity.org](mailto:Lydia.Grant@LACity.org); [Commissioners@EmpowerLA.org](mailto:Commissioners@EmpowerLA.org); cell 818.470.6629; [www.EmpowerLA.org](http://www.EmpowerLA.org); 213.978.1551], explained BONC's role. She urged updating the Board Roster to help ensure that Board Members receive City emails. The GHSNC must post Agendas in at least one "Brown Act-compliant, ADA-accessible" location, on its website, to its Stakeholders email list and to the City's Early Notification System (ENS). She encouraged submitting Community Impact Statements (CIS's). BONC is "working on a policy" for all Neighborhood Council websites to have an "EmpowerLA" access button. Sexual Harassment and Workplace Violence training will not be mandatory; Board Members will be expected to comply with a list of guidelines. The VANC (Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils) Planning Forum is October 9<sup>th</sup>. Regional Budget Day will be October 11<sup>th</sup>, probably at the Braude Governmental Center, 6262 Van Nuys Blvd., Van Nuys.

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

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

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #VIII. 6.*] Mr. Smith explained the vacancies.

2. Review and approval of: Monthly Expenditure Report (MER), including Purchase Card bank statement for the month of August; may include potential reallocations/un-encumbrances to existing Budget. See attached Budget Report and Monthly Expenditure Report, both as of August 31, 2014.

Mr. Schindelheim reviewed recent expenditures.

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

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 14 eligible voters present with all 14 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Askew, Benedetto, Bursk, Daush, Greschner, Kolstad, Lopez, Mansker, Matthews, Schindelheim, Smith, Summers, Trinidad and Turmell). Mr. Khurana was ineligible to vote due to not yet being of age (18) to vote on financial matters.

**VII. Officer’s Reports** – for consideration/response/ratification by the Board:

1. President – Mr. Smith indicated that there was no report.
2. Vice-President – Mr. Askew indicated that there was no report.
3. Treasurer – Mr. Schindelheim indicated that there was no report.
4. Secretary: Request for relief of Board Member Anthony Matthews from the position of Board Secretary. Board discussion and solicitation of candidate(s).  
NOTE: No Board Members have, as yet, volunteered to replace Mr. Matthews.

Mr. Smith urged Board Members to volunteer and indicated that Mr. Matthews still would like to “step down.”

**VIII. Committee Reports**

1. Beautification

- a) Report from the Beautification Committee and possible Board action on recommendations from Committee/Chair to include: Request for funding by Granada Hills improvement association/Business Improvement District for town clock; cost of project is approx. \$20,000 plus; request from BID was for a \$5000 to \$15,000 NPG. This was heard by the Beautification Committee at the July Committee meeting and approved by that Committee at a suggested donation of \$5000. Request a motion and second for consideration.

Brian Miller, Executive Director, Granada Hills Business Improvement District (BID), “does image enhancement projects around Granada Hills.” For the

town clock idea, the BID will “spearhead a fundraising campaign”; the expected cost is “about \$20,000.” Donations can be made through Kickstarter [<https://www.kickstarter.com>, search “Granada Hills town clock”]. The BID is a 501(c)6; donations could be re-directed through a 501(c)3 organization. So far \$1,200 has been raised. The BID would pay the “small” maintenance fee and the clock “would come under the BID’s insurance policies.” The clock is designed by a national company. Ms. Grant urged the GHSNC to consider “what is the return on investment and to contact the DONE Funding Unit [L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment; 213-978-1551; NCSupport@EmpowerLA.org; [www.EmpowerLA.org](http://www.EmpowerLA.org)]. Mr. Beauvais noted that the GHSNC has several times “made direct payments” to vendors. Mr. Miller clarified that, if the BID ceased to exist, the clock would “revert to the [City] Bureau of Street Services.” The BID annual budget is “around \$100,000” per year; much is used for insurance and other administrative costs.

*Board Member Bonnie Bursk recused herself and left the room at this time. As Ms. Bursk was leaving she was asked directly by Mr. Kuzmin what the Committee voted; she responded that the Committee voted unanimously, without her voting.*

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Lopez, seconded by Mr. Matthews): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves the recommendation of its Beautification Committee to allocate funding in the amount of \$5,000 for the Granada Hills improvement association/Business Improvement District for a town clock on White Oak Ave.

**DISCUSSION:** Stakeholder William Kuzmin was concerned that it is too soon in the Fiscal Year to allocate funding because other projects may need funding. Mr. Turmell “doesn’t see a direct benefit.” Mr. Khurana was concerned that a clock will not provide enough outreach or return on investment. Mr. Schindelheim reminded that the GHSNC Budget can be adjusted during the Fiscal Year. Mr. Trinidad believed the funds would be better spent on community projects. Ms. Kolstad suggested Tabling this Item and waiting to see how much funding the BID raises. Mr. Summers believed the allocation would not fulfill the GHSNC’s outreach purpose. Mr. Miller said the BID in its 15 years “has never asked for money from any outside group”; this is the first time. Mr. Mansker suggested allocating \$1,000 now and to later “revisit” the project.

**AMENDED MOTION** (by Mr. Trinidad, seconded by Mr. Mansker): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council will allocate funding in the amount of \$1,000 for the Granada Hills improvement association/Business Improvement District for a town clock on White Oak Ave. and possibly will revisit this Item at a later date.

**AMENDED FUNDING MOTION FAILED** by a roll call vote of 12 of the 13 eligible voters present with five in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Askew, Benedetto,

Kolstad, Mansker and Trinidad); five opposed (Daush, Lopez, Matthews, Summers and Turmell); two abstained (Greschner and Schindelheim); one recused (Bursk). Mr. Khurana was ineligible to vote due to not yet being of age (18) to vote on financial matters.

**ORIGINAL FUNDING MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the 13 eligible voters present with seven in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Askew, Greschner, Lopez, Mansker, Matthews, Schindelheim and Smith); six opposed (Benedetto, Daush, Kolstad, Summers, Trinidad and Turmell); one recused (Bursk). Mr. Khurana was ineligible to vote due to not yet being of age (18) to vote on financial matters.

*Board Member Bonnie Bursk returned to the room at this time.*

## 2. Budget

Mr. Schindelheim indicated that there was no report at this time.

## 3. Bylaws and Rules

a) Report from the Bylaws and Rules Committee; no Board action expected.

Ms. Grant said “this is . . . how we should treat each other.”

## 4. Education

a) Report from the Education Committee; possible request for Board actions on pending Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG); these include:

Valley Academy of Arts and Sciences (VAAS) students presented about their robotics program, demonstrated two robots and described how funding would be used. The GHSNC logo would be included on their materials and at competition sites.

a) Recommendation (from Committee) to approve a Neighborhood Purposes Grant for the Valley Academy of Arts and Sciences (VAAS) for the robotics program for the full amount of \$3140. VAAS representative Anthony Milanese expected to attend and present.

[The second Item #VIII. 1. 4. a).]

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Turmell, seconded by Mr. Mansker): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves a Neighborhood Purposes Grant for the Valley Academy of Arts and Sciences (VAAS) for the robotics program for the full amount of \$3,140.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Khurana reported that, at the August 20<sup>th</sup> Committee Meeting, the vote to support the allocation was all in favor with one abstention.

Stakeholder Richard Fisk said “engineering is very important”; Mr. Turmell agreed.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the 14 eligible voters present with 13 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Askew, Benedetto, Bursk, Daush, Greschner, Kolstad, Lopez, Mansker, Matthews, Schindelheim, Smith, Summers and Turmell); one abstained (Trinidad). Mr. Khurana was ineligible to vote due to not yet being of age (18) to vote on financial matters.

- b) Consideration of request by Granada Hills Charter High School (GHCHS) regarding a NPG application for the amount of \$4,635 for .stations for School Gate Guardian (system that scans and tracks visitors). One will be at the Virtual a Program and one at the Plant Office where contractors and vendors can entry. This is to bolster security on campus. Note: Tabled at last Committee meeting; will need a motion and second. GHCHS representative Jennifer Avant Eustice to attend and present.

Ms. Eustice, COO of Granada Hills Charter High School, described the need and that “one gate is not sufficient.”

*Board Members Brad Smith and Ross Turmell recused themselves and left the room at this time. Jerry Askew became the Presiding Officer.*

**FUNDING MOTION** (by the Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves a Neighborhood Purposes Grant for the amount of \$4,635 for two stations for School Gate Guardian (system that scans and tracks visitors) at Granada Hills Charter High School. One will be at the Virtual a Program and one at the Plant Office where contractors and vendors can enter. This is to bolster security on campus.

**DISCUSSION:** Ms. Eustice continued that they would promote the GHSNC at the security stations and could at other places, including their digital signs. Mr. Schindelheim noted that, so far, \$8,140 has been allocated in this Meeting; he encouraged the board to consider from which Budget Category funding might be allocated.

**AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Mansker, seconded by Ms. Kolstad): to amend the wording “\$4,635 for two stations for School Gate Guardian (system that scans and tracks visitors) at Granada Hills Charter High School. One will be at the Virtual a Program and one at the Plant Office where contractors and vendors can enter” to “\$1,500 toward the cost of one station for School Gate Guardian (system that scans and tracks visitors) at Granada Hills Charter High School.”

**AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of 11 of the 12 eligible voters present with 10 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Benedetto, Bursk, Daush, Greschner, Kolstad, Lopez, Mansker, Matthews, Schindelheim and Summers); one abstained (Trinidad); two recused (Smith and Turmell). Mr. Khurana was ineligible to vote due to not yet being of age (18) to vote on financial matters.

**AMENDED FUNDING MOTION** (by the Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves a Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) for the amount of \$1,500 toward the cost of one station for School Gate Guardian (system that scans and tracks visitors) at Granada Hills Charter High School. This is to bolster security on campus. \$1,000 would be reallocated from GHSNC Budget Category Temporary Staff Services toward the NPG.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the 12 eligible voters present with 11 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Askew, Benedetto, Bursk, Daush, Greschner, Kolstad, Lopez, Mansker, Matthews, Schindelheim and Summers); one abstained (Trinidad). Mr. Khurana was ineligible to vote due to not yet being of age (18) to vote on financial matters.

*Board Members Brad Smith and Ross Turmell returned to the room at this time.*

5. Outreach

- a) Report from the Outreach Committee and possible Board action on recommendations from Committee; to include Board Member sign-up sheets for upcoming events:

Mr. Summers reported on a “very successful” Movie in the Park. There were more than 700 attendees; 53 Stakeholders signed in for the GHSNC.

*Brad Smith resumed as the Presiding Officer at this time.*

- a) Emergency Preparedness Event (Sept. 27th); and

[The second Item #VIII. 5. a.)] See below Item #VIII. 7.

- b) Granada Hills Street Fair (Oct. 11th)

The above was noted.

6. Planning and Land Use – Report from the PLUM Committee and possible Board action on recommendations regarding:

- a. Appeal of Proposed Cell Tower: 10341 N. Woodley Ave. (ZA 2014-1075-CUW)
  - Committee to review issues raised by appellants in opposition to the proposed Wireless Telecommunications Facility for Verizon Wireless. Action



by Committee may include rescinding and/or amending positions taken at a prior meeting.

Mr. Askew reported on the project. Verizon representative John Scheiss reported that Verizon is “amenable” to entering negotiations Mr. Askew said “the talks are in progress.”

**MOTION to TABLE** (by Mr. Askew, seconded by Mr. Mansker).

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Summers reported that there was “no negative impact from the neighbors.”

**MOTION to TABLE PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 15 eligible voters present with all 15 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Askew, Benedetto, Bursk, Daush, Greschner, Khurana, Kolstad, Lopez, Mansker, Matthews, Schindelheim, Smith, Summers, Trinidad and Turmell)

7. Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness – Report from the Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Committee and possible Board actions on recommendations from Committee regarding:
  - a) Request to [see the below Motion].

Mr. Turmell explained the Motion. SOS is used by many organizations.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by the Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves funding for up to \$500 for disaster preparedness kits. The supplies will be purchased from SOS Products SOS Survival Products 15705 Strathern St., #11 Van Nuys, CA 91406. Each kit will cost between 6 to 10 dollars. The kits would be given out to the public at The Valley Disaster Preparedness Fair to be held on September 27th 2014 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at Fire Station 87 (10124 Balboa Blvd.).

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Beauvais noted that this will be the Fair’s ninth year and the GHSNC has supported it before. He said “there’s a ton of educational material . . . we’re going to give away 700 kits . . . several Neighborhood Councils” have allocated funds. “Last year we drew over 1,200 people . . . all . . . the fliers . . . have the Neighborhood Council logos on them.”

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the 14 eligible voters present with 13 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Askew, Benedetto, Bursk, Daush, Greschner, Kolstad, Lopez, Mansker, Matthews, Schindelheim, Smith, Summers, Turmell); one abstained (Trinidad). Mr. Khurana was ineligible to vote due to not yet being of age (18) to vote on financial matters.

b) Request to [see the below Motion].

Mr. Turmell explained the Motion.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by the Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves funding for up to \$250 for food to be purchased at a local market (i.e. Smart and Final, Ralphs, etc.). The food would be given out to the public at The Valley Disaster Preparedness Fair to be held on September 27th 2014 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at Fire Station 87 (10124 Balboa Blvd.).

**DISCUSSION:** Funding would be allocated from the General Outreach Budget Category. Ms. Bursk suggested asking local markets to donate food to the event.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 14 eligible voters present with all 14 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Askew, Benedetto, Bursk, Daush, Greschner, Kolstad, Lopez, Mansker, Matthews, Schindelheim, Smith, Summers, Trinidad and Turmell). Mr. Khurana was ineligible to vote due to not yet being of age (18) to vote on financial matters.

**IX. Board Member Comments**, announcements and Agenda Items for next general meeting and Committee meetings.

Mr. Turmell explained concerns about a pedestrian crossing at the intersection of Chatsworth Street and Yarmouth Avenue. Ms. Bursk requested that the GHSNC fund the Granada Hills Holiday Party. Mr. Summers requested that Board Members give him Stakeholder sign-in sheets from Committee Meetings to add information for the Stakeholders database. Mr. Smith said the GHSNC needs a filing cabinet.

**X. Adjournment**

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

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

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

**Approved by Board Secretary**

**03/05/2015 5:02:43 PM**