



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

Thursday, February 5, 2015

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; 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: Motion(s) (included as stated at the Meeting, or, if not stated, as written on the Agenda); quotes (words that have quotation marks (“ ”) at the beginning and ending of a word or words); and Agenda wording copied into the Minutes.

I. Call to Order and the Pledge of Allegiance (Smith)

President Brad Smith called the Meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Stakeholder Mark Morris.

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, Jeffrey Bohrer, Bonnie Bursk, Jett Dunlap, Gina Greschner, Varun Khurana, Deron Lopez, Eric Mansker, Brad Smith, Rene Trinidad and Ross Turmell. Anthony Matthews, Brandon Schindelheim and Jim Summers arrived later. Four Board Members were absent: Krisna Crawford-Velasco, Arthur Daush, Sally Kolstad and Cindy Wu Freedman (all 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 Organizations) were vacant. Also attending: 24 Stakeholders and Guests.

Board Member Anthony Matthews arrived at this time, making 13 Board Members present (the GHSNC quorum is 11).

III. Approval of Minutes from the December 2014 regular meetings (Matthews)

[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #IV.] [The December 4, 2014 Board Meeting Minutes were approved on January 8th.] The following correction to the January 8, 2015 General Board Meeting Minutes was requested: the page two, Item #IV Public Comment “\$35 each for Chamber Board Members” should be “GHSNC Board Members are invited at a reduced price of \$35 each.”

MOTION (by Mr. Matthews, seconded by Mr. Mansker): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its January 8, 2015 General Board Meeting as corrected.

MOTION PASSED by a hand vote; six abstained (Dunlap, Greschner, Khurana, Summers, Trinidad and Turmell).

IV. Public Comment

Stakeholder Maria Fisk believed that recommendations approved by the GHSNC Board on July 28, 2008 regarding the Granada Hills Specific Plan were ignored by the City Planning Dept. in their May 2013 recommendations regarding the Specific Plan. Also, she will work with LAPD Senior Lead Officer Dario Del Core and Alin Sahagian, L.A. City Deputy Attorney, Devonshire Division, Neighborhood Prosecutor Program (818-374-7534; Alin.Sahagian@LACity.org; <http://atty.LACity.org/CRIMINAL/NeighborhoodProsecutorProgram/index.htm>) regarding commercial uses and criminal activity.

Stakeholder Maria Smith of the Chamber of Commerce reminded about the February 27th Chamber of Commerce dinner at the Odyssey Restaurant [Athena Room, 15600 Odyssey Dr., Granada Hills, CA 91344, 818-366-5817; www.TheOdysseyRestaurant.com]. Tickets are \$75 each. GHSNC Board Members are invited at a reduced price of \$35 each.

Carl Peterson, a Candidate for the L.A. Community College Board, described his background and goals.

Stakeholder Dave Beauvais announced the 10th Annual Citrus Sunday May 17th for which there are organizing meetings on third Tuesdays (email DaveBeauvais@verizon.net). He would like the Outreach Committee to recommend and the Board to allocate \$500 for event expenses.

Stakeholder William Kuzmin would like approved Meeting Minutes posted on the website; he noted that none have been posted since April 2014.

Board Member Jim Summers arrived at this time, making 14 Board Members present (the GHSNC quorum is 11).

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; <http://CD12.LACity.org>), reported that the Councilman “asked the LAPD to use a hit-and-run mass notification system . . . nearly half of all the accidents in the City are hit-and-run.” “Councilman Englander supports the ban of alcohol ads on City property.”

Tamar Galatzan, L.A. Unified School District 3 Board Member (213-241-6386; Tamar.Galatzan@lausd.net; www.lausd.net), reported that Patrick Henry Middle School requested funds for additional arts and sciences classes. She described the successful iPad and other programs at the Valley Academy of Arts and Sciences; security measures include that “we can remotely shut down the computer.” A student at Granada Elementary School received a rare nomination for a Presidential excellence award. Porter Middle School has a new Principal. Tulsa Elementary School had “a day of service” for the community. Ms. Galatzan held technology forums for teachers, including website-building. She will email academic stories to the GHSNC Outreach Committee for Facebook posting.

(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), reported that crime is down from last year. However, he believed that statistics will show an increase because some crimes are being re-categorized and many “valuables are being left unattended,” including in vehicles with “doors that were left unlocked.” Two suspects were arrested with stolen items in their car trunk. There have been “middle-of-the-night commercial burglaries”; he recommended leaving the cash register open and visible and maybe a sign on the window indicating that the register is empty. The next Neighborhood Watch Meeting will be Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. at St. Euphrasia Church. Security has been improved at the Trader Joe’s at San Fernando Mission and Balboa. Officer Del Core reported that many vehicles are being parked outside the lot at the new DMV Office at Woodley and San Fernando Mission; the DMV may require appointment-only visits.

Neighborhood Prosecutor Alin Sahagian works with City agencies to “deal with all the quality-of-life issues.” There will be a Town Hall Meeting March 11th at 6:30 p.m. at the Granada Hills Women’s Club [10666 White Oak Ave., Granada Hills; 818-363-9078; info@ghwc.org; <http://www.granadahillswomansclub.org>].

VI. Board Issues and Updates: Note that Members voting on financial issues must have passed the necessary Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) training courses.

Board Member Brandon Schindelheim arrived at this time, making 15 Board Members present (the GHSNC quorum is 11).

1. Appointment and confirmation and/or oath of office of new Board Members/assignments
 - a) Community Organizations: Pending; note that President has met with one candidate and application is pending; may nominate in March pending reference check, discussion with DONE and City Attorney, etc.

Mr. Smith described the vacant Seats.

- b) Faith-Based: Discussion and possible action appointing Mark Morris to the Faith Based Seat on the Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council. Mr. Morris is filling the seat (vacant since 2014), and, if appointed, would serve a term until the end of the current (DONE Region 2) council term, presumably 2016. Mr. Morris is a 13-year Granada Hills resident and is or has been affiliated with the Granada Hills Church of Religious Science, the Valley Interfaith Council (including current service on the Council Board), the Social Concerns Committee of the Sepulveda Unitarian Universalist Church (in North Hills), and the Southern California Parliament of World Religions. Mr. Morris comes with excellent references from Rabbi Jonathan Klein, a former Granada Hills resident (Temple Ahavat Shalom in Northridge), who knows Mr. Morris through interfaith volunteer work, and from Ms. Carol Hart, chair of the Valley Interfaith Council Social Concerns Committee and also secretary of North Hills West Neighborhood Council. Public Comment. Mr. Morris to present his qualifications; further action requires a Motion; Motion requires a second and a vote. If appropriate, oath of office to be administered by president.

Mr. Smith described Mr. Morris' background. Mr. Morris described his interests and desire to serve the community.

MOTION (by Mr. Matthews, seconded by Mr. Turmell): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council appoints Mark Morris to its Faith-Based Organizations Board Seat for a term ending in 2016 with a finding that he meets the qualifications for the Seat based on his residency in Granada Hills and long-term involvement in faith-based organizations in the community and across the City of Los Angeles.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a voice vote.

Mr. Smith led Mr. Morris in reading aloud the Oath of Office. *Mr. Morris was Seated with the Board at this time, making 16 Board Members present (the GHSNC quorum is 11).* Mr. Smith noted that there are two applicants for the vacant Community-Based Organizations Board Seat.

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

1. President

- a) Request that Board Members interested in service on the new Government Affairs Committee contact the president and indicate their interest. Same for any Board Members interested in switching their current Committee assignments; with new Board Members and a new Committee, there is a need to balance workloads. Note that current Committees are Beautification, Budget, Bylaws and Rules, Education, Outreach, Planning and Land Use, and Safety and Emergency Preparedness. With 21 Board Members and eight Committees (each of at least five Members; $8 \times 5 = 40$) we need every Board Member serving on two Committees, and interested stakeholders, to fill the Committees, especially if Committee membership increases to seven ($8 \times 7 = 56$).

Mr. Smith noted the above and said “I really appreciate that the Committees are running.”

- b) Discussion of potential special Board Meeting to deal with language regarding NPG applications (follow-on from Bylaw and Budget Committees meeting on same issue, considered at January meeting), and interest/offer from President Linda Gravani (Lake Balboa NC) regarding council files and NC involvement; possible dates week of Feb. 23- 27, 2015.

Mr. Smith noted the above. There may be a Special Board Meeting February 26th. The Board will consider co-sponsoring a City Attorney Town Hall Meeting.

2. Vice-President -- Mr. Askew indicated that there was no report at this time.

3. Treasurer

- a) Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council Budget Report FY 2014 - as of January- February 2015

Mr. Schindelheim distributed and reviewed the “[GHSNC] Budget Report FY 2015 – as of January 31, 2015.”

- b) Monthly Expenditure Report(s) for: January, 2015

Mr. Schindelheim distributed and reviewed the “[GHSNC] Monthly Expenditure Report for: January 31, 2015.” The balance is \$11,107.36. He would like to reallocate \$1,000 from Temporary Services to Storage.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Schindelheim, seconded by Mr. Mansker): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves its Monthly Expenditure Report and Treasurer’s Report for January 2015, including the reallocation of \$1,000 from Budget Category 100 Operations, line item “Temp Services” to line item “Facilities and Space Rental.”

DISCUSSION: The storage would be used for lights and other equipment.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 14 eligible voters present with 13 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Askew, Benedetto, Bohrer, Bursk, Dunlap, Lopez, Mansker, Matthews, Schindelheim, Smith, Summers, Trinidad and Turmell); none opposed (“No” or “Nay”); one abstained (Greschner). Mr. Morris was ineligible to vote due to not yet having completed Funding Training. Mr. Khurana was ineligible to vote due to not yet being of age (18) to vote on financial matters.

- c) NC Budget Advocates report (Crawford-Velasco /Wu Freedman)

Ms. Crawford-Velasco and Ms. Wu Freedman were not present and there was no report.

4. Secretary -- Mr. Matthews indicated that there was no report.

VIII. Committee Reports

1. Outreach (Summers) - Report from the Outreach Chair; possible Board actions/updates on the following:

- a) Candidate Forums: Possible Motion to approve \$100.00 from Outreach, to support a Candidate Forum for LAUSD School Board District 3 (6 candidates) and Board of Trustees for the Los Angeles Community College District 3 (4 candidates). Co-sponsored with the League of Women Voters, and 5-6 Neighborhood Councils. Date: February 17th, 2015 at 6:00-8:30 pm at the Canoga Park Elks Lodge. Will need a Motion and a second.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Summers, seconded by Mr. Bohrer): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves allocating \$100.00 from Outreach to support a Candidate Forum for LAUSD School Board District 3 (6 candidates) and Board of Trustees for the Los Angeles Community College District 3 (4 candidates). Co-sponsored with the League of Women Voters, and 5-6 Neighborhood Councils. Date: February 17th, 2015 at 6:00-8:30 pm at the Canoga Park Elks Lodge.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Summers described the above; five or six other Neighborhood Councils are allocating funds.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the 14 eligible voters present with 13 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Askew, Benedetto, Bohrer, Bursk, Dunlap, Greschner, Lopez, Mansker, Matthews, Schindelheim, Smith, Summers and Trinidad); none opposed ("No" or "Nay"); one abstained (Turmell). Mr. Morris was ineligible to vote due to not yet having completed Funding Training. Mr. Khurana was ineligible to vote due to not yet being of age (18) to vote on financial matters.

- b) GH Annual Spring Egg Hunt Possible Motion to approve \$500 from Outreach, to help with the purchases of supplies. Co-sponsored with L.A. Dept. of Parks & Recs and GHNNC, on Sat. March 28, 2015 at Granada Hills Rec Center. This event is free to the community and includes Arts & Crafts, Face Painting, Carnival games, a moon bounce, music, prizes and an Egg Hunt to conclude the event. Will need a Motion and a second

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Summers, seconded by Mr. Lopez): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves \$500 from Outreach to help with the purchases of supplies for its Annual Spring Egg Hunt. Co-sponsored with L.A. Dept. of Rec and Parks and GHNNC on Sat. March 28, 2015 at Granada Hills Rec Center. This event is free to the community and includes Arts & Crafts, Face Painting, Carnival games, a moon bounce, music, prizes and an Egg Hunt to conclude the event.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Summers described the event and GHSNC outreach material will be there. Annette Dib of the Granada Hills Recreation Center gave more information. Their new Director is Mark Gross.

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, Bohrer, Bursk, Dunlap, Greschner, Lopez, Mansker, Matthews, Schindelheim, Smith, Summers, Trinidad and Turmell); none opposed (“No” or “Nay”); none abstained). Mr. Morris was ineligible to vote due to not yet having completed Funding Training. Mr. Khurana was ineligible to vote due to not yet being of age (18) to vote on financial matters.

Mr. Summers requested that other committee Chairs write a short description of their Committee’s work.

2. Planning and Land Use (Askew) – Report from the PLUM Chair and possible Board actions/updates on the following issues:

- a) Motion from PLUM Committee to resubmit our prior recommendations for Specific Plan changes and request a response for each recommendation detailing how that recommendation was addressed in the updated Specific Plan.

Mr. Askew described the need for the Motion. Mr. Mansker explained that the recommendations made in 2009 and 2011 were “from the [Old Granada Hills] Residents Group and Stakeholders alike” and that land use planner Dick Platkin “helped us . . . we spent . . . months and months on it . . . we want an explanation.”

MOTION (by Mr. Summers, seconded by Mr. Lopez): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council will resubmit its prior recommendations for Specific Plan changes and request a response for each recommendation detailing how that recommendation was addressed in the updated Specific Plan.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 15 eligible voters present with all 15 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Askew, Benedetto, Bohrer, Bursk, Dunlap, Greschner, Khurana, Lopez, Mansker, Matthews, Schindelheim, Smith, Summers, Trinidad and Turmell); none opposed (“No” or “Nay”); none abstained). Mr. Morris was ineligible to vote due to not yet having completed Funding Training.

3. Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness (Turmell) – Report from the Chair on the CERT class to occur in March; no Motions from Committee.

Mr. Turmell reminded that there will be a free CERT [Community Emergency Response Team; 818-756-9674; www.cert-la.com, lafdcert@LACity.org] class here on Tuesdays from March 3 – April 14, 2015 from 6:30 – 9:30 p.m. for adults and teens. See <http://EventBrite.com>; “type in CERT” to sign up [and/or see <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/lafd-cert-granada-hills-tickets-15620665832?aff=es2&rank=2>]. A Certificate will be issued if you attend all classes. He reminded that the GHSNC allocated \$500 for safety vests.

4. Beautification (Bursk) - Report from the Beautification Chair; nothing from Committee.

Ms. Bursk reported that improvements were made at the intersection of White Oak and Chatsworth and noted the value of community groups working together.

5. Budget (Schindelheim) - Report from the Budget Chair; nothing from Committee.

Mr. Schindelheim reported that more than \$13,319 has been spent this Fiscal Year.

6. Bylaws and Rules (Mansker) - Report from the Bylaws and Rules Chair; nothing from Committee.

Mr. Mansker indicated that there was no report.

7. Education (Kolstad) - Report from the Education Chair; no Motions from Committee.

Ms. Kolstad indicated that there was no report.

IX. Board Member comments, announcements and agenda Items for next general meeting and Committee meetings.

Mr. Trinidad distributed copies of new GHSNC meeting directional signs. Mr. Mansker met with John Lee of CD12 about the GHSNC's request for the City of Los Angeles to not place a stop light at the corner of Chatsworth and Yarmouth; this will be discussed at CD12's Conversations with Councils. Mr. Mansker relayed that Mr. Lee said "they didn't put in any request to have a light at Yarmouth." Mr. Matthews reported that Board Member business cards will be ordered. Mr. Turmell said to contact him if you want a Neighborhood Watch sign. Mr. Summers requested to Agendize starting an ad hoc Holiday Tree Lighting Committee. Mr. Smith encouraged submitting street repair requests as soon as possible; he will request repairs on Louise by San Fernando Mission Rd.

X. Adjournment

MOTION to ADJOURN (by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Askew).

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a voice vote.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 8:14 p.m.

[Each Item's first paragraph may be directly from the Agenda.]