



CITY OF LOS ANGELES
GRANADA HILLS SOUTH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
GENERAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES, Thursday, August 1, 2019
Granada Hills Charter H.S., Rawley Hall, 10535 Zelzah Ave., Granada Hills, CA 91344
APPROVED MINUTES (Approved October 3, 2019)

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 Beauvais called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. and explained procedures. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by resident Larry Yoder.

II. Roll Call (Secretary)

Roll Call was taken by the Secretary. Twelve of the 17 Board Members were present at the Roll Call: Dave Beauvais (President), Michael Benedetto (Vice-President), Bette Biers, Bonnie Bursk, Maria Fisk, Mark Morris, Emayatzy Oliver, Abbey Ronquillo, Brandon Schindelheim (Treasurer), Brad Smith, Colleen Toumayan, and Ross Turmell. Carlos Amador, Sally Kolstad and Sarah Tran arrived later. Julie Carson (Secretary) and John Horn were absent (both excused). The GHSNC quorum (the minimum number of Board Members needing to be present to take binding votes on agendized Items) is nine so the Board could take such votes. All 17 Board Seats were filled (by election or appointment). No Board Seat was vacant. Also attended: 22 Stakeholders and Guests.

Board Member Sarah Tran arrived at this time (6:36 pm), making 13 Board Members present.

III. Public Comment:

Jennifer Hernandez, a Social Worker for L.A. County Mental Health, announced an August 31 discussion of mental health and spirituality. Robert Jackson, Deputy Director of Community Engagement for LAUSD Board Member Scott Schmerelson (ofc. 818-654-3785; Robert.Jackson@lausd.net; <http://achieve.lausd.net/schmerelson>), introduced himself.

Board Member Sally Kolstad arrived at this time (6:38 pm), making 14 Board Members present).

Mr. Jackson reported that Mr. Schmerelson will "revamp the safety procedure" for schools to include a mandatory two drills per year, and sponsored a clean energy resolution for School District vehicles regarding climate change.

IV. Community Speakers

A. Council District 12 (Matt Vallecilla)

Matthew Vallecilla, Field Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilman Greig Smith (818-882-1212; Matthew.Vallecilla@LACity.org; http://CD12.LACity.org), was not present; there was no report.

B. Budget Advocate (Brian Allen)

Mr. Allen reported that the Budget Advocates met with the Mayor regarding the City budget.

C. Senior Lead Officer, LAPD or alternate rep (Officers DelCore/Sellers/Richard Fisk)

Stakeholder Richard Fisk, for Dario Del Core, an LAPD Devonshire Division Senior Lead Officer (office 818-756-9011, x1727, mobile/text phone 818-634-0577), reported that Burglary Theft from Motor Vehicles still is a problem; they reminded not to leave valuables in vehicles. The Police are asking for authorization to receive privately-made videos that can help with investigations; they encourage saving videos.

D. DONE Representative (Jose Galamez)

No representative was present and there was no report.

Mr. Beauvais announced between Item #'s V. and VI. that Congressman Brad Sherman would sponsor a 20th anniversary memorial event of the Jewish Center incident.

V. Approval of July 11, 2019 Special Meeting Minutes

Mr. Beauvais requested and this Item was WITHDRAWN from the Agenda.

VI. Budget Issues

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

Copies were available of the GHSNC June "Monthly Expenditure Report" that Mr. Schindelheim reviewed.

FUNDING MOTION moved by Mr. Schindelheim, seconded by Mr. Morris: The GHSNC approves its Monthly Expenditure Report for June 2019.

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, Fisk, Kolstad, Morris, Oliver, Ronquillo, Schindelheim, Smith, Toumayan and Turmell); zero opposed; zero abstained. Ms. Tran was ineligible to vote due to not yet being of age (18) to vote on financial matters.

[There was no Item #VII on the Agenda.]

VIII. Board Issues

Board Members Dave Beauvais, Michael Benedetto and Bette Biers recused from voting [they are Foundation Board Members] and left the room at this time, making 10 Board Members present and eligible to vote on funding Motions. Recusing is different from abstaining, which is declining to vote "yes" or "no." Mr. Schindelheim became the Presiding Officer.

A. Discussion and possible action to approve an NPG in the amount of \$2500 to the Granada Hill Community Foundation to support the Granada Hills Holiday

Parade on December 1, 2019. Funding to go towards city permits, security and publicity.

It was noted that the Parade will be on December 8, not December 1.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Schindelheim, seconded by Ms. Bursk): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves a Neighborhood Purposes Grant in the amount of \$2,500 to the Granada Hills Community Foundation to support the Granada Hills Holiday Parade on December 8, 2019.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Schindelheim explained the Foundation's purpose. Stakeholder Dr. Carl Melnik and Ms. Bursk added information.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 10 eligible voters present with all 10 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Bursk, Fisk, Kolstad, Morris, Oliver, Ronquillo, Schindelheim, Smith, Toumayan and Turmell); zero opposed; zero abstained; three recused (Beauvais, Benedetto and Biers). Ms. Tran was ineligible to vote due to not yet being of age (18) to vote on financial matters.

Mr. Beauvais', Mr. Benedetto's and Ms. Biers' recusals ended and they returned to the room at this time, making 13 Board Members present and eligible to vote on funding Motions. Mr. Beauvais continued as Presiding Officer.

- B. Discussion and possible action to approve an NPG in the amount of \$2000 to the Granada Hills Rotary Foundation to support maintenance of the Veteran's Memorial Park at Chatsworth and Zelzah. Funding for ongoing maintenance and improvements.

FUNDING MOTION moved by Ms. Fisk, seconded by Ms. Bursk: The GHSNC approves a Neighborhood Purposes Grant in the amount of \$2,000 to the Granada Hills Rotary Foundation to support maintenance of the Veteran's Memorial Park at Chatsworth and Zelzah. Funding for ongoing maintenance and improvements.

DISCUSSION: Dr. Melnik explained the need. It originally took \$150,000 to revamp the area; "it was a community effort." Two years ago \$30,000 was spent for lights. The monthly "total expense is around \$5,000 to \$6,000 . . . the electric bill, gardening, maintaining." The Foundation "pays the bills every month . . . none of it's covered by the BID" [Business Improvement District]. Mr. Beauvais noted that the Park is on City property that wasn't being maintained "until the Rotary stepped in . . . to make improvements . . . it's an ongoing project."

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, Fisk, Kolstad, Morris, Oliver, Ronquillo, Schindelheim, Smith, Toumayan and Turmell); zero opposed; zero abstained. Ms. Tran was ineligible to vote due to not yet being of age (18) to vote on financial matters.

- C. Discussion and possible action to approve an NPG in the amount of \$1,000 to Enrich LA. Funds to support the Garden Ranger Program at Tulsa Street Elementary.

FUNDING MOTION moved by Mr. Beauvais, seconded by Ms. Oliver: The GHSNC approves a Neighborhood Purposes Grant in the amount of \$1,000 to Enrich LA. Funds to support the Garden Ranger Program at Tulsa Street Elementary.

DISCUSSION: Joanna, of Enrich L.A. [<http://EnrichLA.org>], said “we maintain and build school gardens throughout L.A. . . . the cost of the program is around \$7,000.” She explained it and funding outreach. “We have 100 schools”; Tulsa Street “is our northernmost school . . . we mostly focus Kindergarten through fifth” grade but also serve Middle Schools and High Schools. Mr. Beauvais, speaking for himself and Ms. Carson, encouraged supporting Elementary Schools in addition to High Schools.

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, Fisk, Kolstad, Morris, Oliver, Ronquillo, Schindelheim, Smith, Toumayan and Turmell); zero opposed; zero abstained. Ms. Tran was ineligible to vote due to not yet being of age (18) to vote on financial matters.

- D. Discussion and possible action to approve an NPG up to \$5,000 to Northridge Beautification Foundation / Clean Streets Clean Starts.

FUNDING MOTION moved by Mr. Benedetto, seconded by Mr. Morris: The GHSNC approves a Neighborhood Purposes Grant up to \$5,000 to Northridge Beautification Foundation / Clean Streets Clean Starts.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Benedetto explained the program; they “solicit the homeless . . . to clean up their own encampments . . . they’re then given food vouchers” and “directions to various providers.” There was discussion of what amount to allocate. Ms. Fisk, Mr. Schindelheim and Mr. Turmell were concerned that no program representative was present. Mr. Benedetto noted that Clean Streets/Clean Starts President “Don [Larson] has been here twice before.” Ms. Bursk was concerned where the money would be used and wanted Granada Hills use to be in the motion.

MOTION to TABLE moved by Mr. Benedetto, seconded by Mr. Turmell: The GHSNC TABLES Item #VIII. D.

MOTION to TABLE PASSED unanimously by a hand vote of the 14 eligible voters present with all 14 in favor; zero opposed; zero abstained. Mr. Beauvais will re-agendize this for the September [5] Meeting.

- E. Discussion and possible action to sponsor a “Concert in the Park” series during summer 2020. (Cultural affairs and outreach committees)

MOTION moved by Ms. Oliver, seconded by Mr. Benedetto: The GHSNC will sponsor a “Concert in the Park” series during summer 2020.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Oliver explained that the series would be “similar” to “NoHo Summer Nights” and Woodland Hills’ “Concerts in the Park.”

Board Member Brandon Schindelheim left at this time (7:29 pm), making 13 Board Members present.

There was discussion of possible venues. Mr. Morris suggested engaging local school music departments. Mr. Smith suggested using one of Granada Hills’ three High Schools.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a hand vote of the 13 eligible voters present with all 13 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”); zero opposed; zero abstained.

Mr. Beauvais gave the Presiding Officership to Mr. Benedetto.

- F. Discussion and possible approval of the Granada Hills Chamber 2040 initiative. Mr. Benedetto explained the Initiative and noted that the Chamber is partnering with many other local community organizations.

MOTION moved by Mr. Benedetto, seconded by Ms. Tran: The GHSNC endorses the Granada Hills Chamber 2040 Initiative.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a hand vote of the 13 eligible voters present with all 13 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”); zero opposed; zero abstained.

Mr. Beauvais retrieved the Presiding Officership to Mr. Benedetto.

- G. Discussion and possible action to [see the below Motion].

MOTION moved by Mr. Morris, seconded by Ms. Kolstad: The GHSNC establishes three new Committees and Members under Neighborhood Council Rules: Seniors (Sally Kolstad, Chair, Mark Morris, Julie Carson, Sarah Tran); Youth (Sarah Tran, Chair, Student Stakeholder from VAAS) Cultural Affairs (Emayatzy Oliver, Chair, Carlos Amador, Stakeholder).

DISCUSSION: Mr. Beauvais reminded that the Board discussed this at the recent Retreat.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a hand vote of the 13 eligible voters present with all 13 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”); zero opposed; zero abstained.

IX. Committee Reports

[The following sub-section first paragraphs are copied from the Agenda.]

A. PLUM

- 1) **MOTION** moved by Ms. Fisk, seconded by Mr. Yoder: The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council Planning and Land Use Management Committee, before it makes any recommendation regarding the proposed cell tower at 17655 W. Devonshire St., Granada Hills, CA 91344, Case Nos ENV-2019-2793-CE and ZA-2019-2792-CUW, requests that: 1) Abraham Joshua Heschel Day School contact its Board Members, parents and stakeholders, and have a written position statement on the location of the unmanned telecommunications facility by October 10, 2019; 2) Temple Ramat Zion contact its Board Members, parents and stakeholders, and have a written position statement on the lease agreement and location of the unmanned telecommunications facility by October 10, 2019; and 3) for the applicant to work on finding commercial sites in the near vicinity and to bring back prior reports and new considerations by October 10, 2019.

Photos were shown. Ms. Fisk explained the project. The site is Temple Ramat Zion. Resident Brian Finnegan relayed that the School Director “didn’t know anything about this.”

MOTION (by the PLUM Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council, before it makes any recommendation regarding the proposed cell tower at 17655 W. Devonshire St., Granada Hills, CA 91344, Case Nos ENV-2019-2793-CE and ZA-2019-2792-CUW, requests that: 1) Abraham Joshua Heschel Day School contact its Board Members, parents and stakeholders, and have a written position statement on the location of the unmanned

telecommunications facility by October 10, 2019; 2) Temple Ramat Zion contact its Board Members, parents and stakeholders, and have a written position statement on the lease agreement and location of the unmanned telecommunications facility by October 10, 2019; and 3) for the applicant to work on finding commercial sites in the near vicinity and to bring back prior reports and new considerations by October 10, 2019.

Board Member Carlos Amador arrived at this time (7:55 pm), making 14 Board Members present.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Fisk clarified that the October 10 date was the Temple's request. She and Mr. Beauvais noted that, if the Temple wants more time, it can have it.

Board Member Sarah Tran left at this time (7:58 pm), making 13 Board Members present.

Ms. Bursk believed the Neighborhood Council may be "interfering" in a Temple decision. Mr. Beauvais reminded that the "Stakeholder within 500 feet law [gives] a right to weigh in on it."

MOTION to TABLE moved by Mr. Benedetto, seconded by Ms. Bursk: The GHSNC tables Item #IX. A.

MOTION to TABLE FAILED by a hand vote with two in favor; eight opposed; zero abstained.

MAIN MOTION PASSED by a hand vote with 10 in favor; one opposed; two abstained (the GHSNC does not count abstentions).

Council File 11-1705, Citywide Sign Regulations/Revision

2) **MOTION PLUM** Committee recommends to the Board to support Version B+ of the proposed Sign Ordinance as approved by City Planning Commission on October 22, 2015 that:

- Disapproves any amnesty for existing billboards that lack permits or have been altered in violation of their permits.
- Disapproves the "grandfathering" of any sign districts that weren't approved or applied for in April, 2009, when the CPC approved the initial version of the new sign ordinance.
- Restricts any new off-site signs, including digital billboards, to sign districts in 22 areas zoned for high-intensity commercial use.
- Requires existing billboards to be taken down before any new off-site signs can go up in sign districts. The takedown ratio of existing signs to new signs would be 5 to 1 for conventional and 10 to 1 for digital.
- Sets administrative civil penalties for sign violators that will act as a real deterrent to illegal billboards and other signage.
- Prohibits off-site signage in city parks and recreation facilities.

Furthermore, we strongly oppose the placement of any new digital/electronic or static billboards outside of Sign Districts.

Ms. Fisk explained the issue.

MOTION (by the PLUM Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council supports Version B+ of the proposed Sign Ordinance as approved by City Planning Commission on October 22, 2015 that:

- Disapproves any amnesty for existing billboards that lack permits or have been altered in violation of their permits.
 - Disapproves the “grandfathering” of any sign districts that weren’t approved or applied for in April, 2009, when the CPC approved the initial version of the new sign ordinance.
 - Restricts any new off-site signs, including digital billboards, to sign districts in 22 areas zoned for high-intensity commercial use.
 - Requires existing billboards to be taken down before any new off-site signs can go up in sign districts. The takedown ratio of existing signs to new signs would be 5 to 1 for conventional and 10 to 1 for digital.
 - Sets administrative civil penalties for sign violators that will act as a real deterrent to illegal billboards and other signage.
 - Prohibits off-site signage in city parks and recreation facilities.
- Furthermore, we strongly oppose the placement of any new digital/electronic or static billboards outside of Sign Districts.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a hand vote; zero opposed; zero abstained.

Proposed Lot Subdivision, 17240 Tribune St., Granada Hills, CA 91344.

MOTION (by Ms. Fisk, seconded by Mr. Yoder): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council Planning and Land Use Management Committee recommends to the Board to recommend that the proposed project at 17240 Tribune St., Granada Hills, CA 91344 complies: 1) with the Community Plan, discouraging flag lots; 2) to the underlying zoning; and 3) with the Old Granada Hills Residential Floor Area (RFA) Overlay District.

Ms. Fisk explained that “flag lots are a safety issue.” A Stakeholder believed that no more regulation is needed. There was discussion of why the owner wants to split the lot.

MOTION (by the Planning and Land Use Management Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council Board recommends that the proposed project at 17240 Tribune St., Granada Hills, CA 91344 comply: 1) with the Community Plan, discouraging flag lots; 2) to the underlying zoning; and 3) with the Old Granada Hills Residential Floor Area (RFA) Overlay District.

AMENDMENT to the MOTION (by the Planning and Land Use Management Committee): replace the word “comply” with the words “must comply.”

AMENDMENT to the MOTION PASSED by a hand vote with 12 in favor; zero opposed; one abstained (the GHSNC does not count abstentions) (Bursk).

AMENDED MOTION PASSED by a hand vote with nine in favor; zero opposed; three abstained (the GHSNC does not count abstentions).

B. Outreach

i. Report on July 20, 2019 CD 12 Town Hall Debate.

Mr. Benedetto reported that it “was a tremendous event . . . just shy of 300 people attended.” Mr. Beauvais thanked Mr. Benedetto, Ms. Biers, Ms. Fisk, Ms. Oliver, Ms. Toumayan, Mr. Horn and Mr. Smith, and Dave Brown for the

sound system. Mr. Benedetto thanked Stakeholder Mark Hovatar for photography.

ii. National Night Out- need volunteers.

Mr. Benedetto reported that volunteers are needed. Mr. Morris, Ms. Toumayan and Ms. Ronquillo volunteered for the August 6th event.

C. Beautification. Report on initial goal setting meeting.

Mr. Amador reported that the Committee met; Ms. Oliver and Mr. Turmell also were present. They established priorities and will map the neighborhood for beautification needs. They discussed the Veterans Park NPG and five-year-old street banners that are worn out and need removal or replacement. Mr. Benedetto reported that 90% of banner replacement funding is in place. The next Committee Meeting will be August 15th at 6:30 p.m. at a location to be determined.

D. Public Safety. Street Vendor complaint.

Mr. Turmell reported that a street vendor in front of Target at 11133 Balboa Blvd. "is not abiding by" public safety rules; the L.A. County Public Health Dept. [Armik Mkrtchyan, AMkrtchyan@ph.lacounty.gov] "promised to send a team" to investigate. There were comments about safety and health concerns. Mr. Turmell also reported that he requested a four-way stop at the corner of Tulsa St. and Shoshone Ave., MyLADOT Service Request #126064; a crosswalk by the Granada Hills Women's Club, 10666 White Oak Ave., MyLADOT Service Request #125895; and a stop sign at the corner of Septo and Debora, MyLADOT Service Request #125894.

X. Board Member comments and submission of agenda items.

Mr. Morris announced that the Education Committee would meet August 15. Mr. Turmell announced that Public Safety would meet August 14. Mr. Smith requested to agendize "due diligence" regarding NPG allocations. Ms. Oliver suggested the establishment of another BID from Chatsworth and Balboa to Lassen. Ms. Fisk requested cost-effective PLUM Committee outreach ideas. Ms. Bursk announced an upcoming BID [GranadaHillsBID.com] event. Ms. Kolstad noted that there is a warning sign in front of a cell tower. Mr. Beauvais noted that, at this meeting, three new Committees [Seniors; Youth; and Cultural Affairs] were created and the next Board Meeting will be September 5.

XI. Adjournment

MOTION to ADJOURN (by Mr. Beauvais, seconded by Mr. Morris).

MOTION to ADJOURN PASSED unanimously by a voice vote.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 9:08 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>.