



**CITY OF LOS ANGELES**  
**GRANADA HILLS SOUTH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**  
**GENERAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES**, Thursday, November 7, 2019

Granada Hills Charter H.S., Rawley Hall, 10535 Zelzah Ave., Granada Hills, CA 91344

**APPROVED MINUTES (Approved December 5, 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 Dave Beauvais called the Meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Parliamentarian Mike Kabo.

**II. Roll Call** (Secretary)

Roll Call was taken. Eleven of the 17 Board Members were present at the Roll Call: Dave Beauvais (President), Michael Benedetto (Vice-President), Bette Biers, Bonnie Bursk, Sally Kolstad, Mark Morris, Emayatzy Oliver, Brandon Schindelheim (Treasurer), Brad Smith, Colleen Toumayan and Sarah Tran. Carlos Amador, Maria Fisk and Abbey Ronquillo arrived later. Julie Carson (Secretary), John Horn and Ross Turmell were absent (all 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: 34 stakeholders and guests.

**III. Public Comment**: Community and Public Comment on non-agenda items.

Glenn Bailey, of VANC [Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils; VANC@EmpowerLA.org; <http://empowerla.org/vanc-2>], announced the postponement of the November planning workshop at CBS Studios.

*Board Member Maria Fisk arrived at this time (6:39 pm), making 12 Board Members present.*

Abby Bales, a Northridge West Neighborhood Council Board Member and parent of two Granada Hills Charter High School students, was concerned about schools' sex education.

*Board Member Carlos Amador arrived at this time (6:40 pm), making 13 Board Members present.*

Ms. Bales called it “highly pornographic” and “pleasure-based.” She believed that students “cannot opt-out, which is illegal.” There may be a Town Hall meeting. She would like the GHSNC to agendize this subject. Esther Chung, a Teacher and parent, distributed copies of textbook examples and other information. She said “they will bring . . . sex down to the fifth grade . . . they teach you how to play with

fluids.” She referenced Assembly Bill 329. She noted “website resources . . . you will be shocked.”

#### **IV. Community Speakers**

A. Council District 12 (Matt Vallecilla)

Matthew Vallecilla, Field Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilman John Lee (818-882-1212; Matthew.Vallecilla@LACity.org; www.CD12.org), reported on illegal dumping; cleanup volunteers are needed.

B. Budget Advocate (Brian Allen)

Mr. Allen reported that the Budget Advocates [<http://ncbala.com>] completed meeting with City departments; reports are being prepared and recommendations made. Budget Day will be June 20. He asked that each Neighborhood Council have two Budget Representatives.

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

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Mr. Jackson’s Item #IV report.*] Mr. Beauvais noted that Officer Del Core is retiring at year-end and noted Officer Del Core’s long community service [applause]. Dario Del Core, an LAPD Devonshire Division Senior Lead Officer reported that in 2018, crime in Devonshire was down 22% from 2017; now it is 10% lower than 2018. Residential burglaries are down 25%; auto theft is down 78%; Burglary Theft from Motor Vehicle, including of air bags, is down 14%. He lauded the Volunteer Surveillance Team (VST) for its volunteer help.

D. DONE Representative (Jose Galdamez)

[*The following was addressed after Item #IV. C. Mr. Valencia’s report.*] Jose Galdamez, Neighborhood Council Advocate, L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE; 818-374-9895; Jose.Galdamez@LACity.org; www.EmpowerLA.org), encouraged being a “2020 Census Ambassadors . . . to make sure everybody gets counted”; contact him to volunteer. He reminded the Board to approve and then submit the GHSNC inventory to the City Clerk. Election 2019 materials can be retrieved from the City Clerk Election Division (213-978-0444). NC’s can spend up to \$1,000 for emergencies such as fires.

E. Remarks by Empower LA General Manager Raquel Beltran

Mr. Galdamez introduced Raquel Beltran, new General Manager, L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) (213-978-1551; Raquel.Beltran@LACity.org; www.EmpowerLA.org). She described her mission, extensive community service and administrative background. Her goals are to improve and strengthen the Dept. relationship with NC’s; have good relationships with NC’s; provide support advocacy and engagement; and improve City Hall’s relationship with NC’s. She will send a description of how NC’s need to participate in RYLAN (Ready Your LA Neighborhood) [<https://emergency.lacity.org/rylan>] and encouraged using interns.

F. Remarks by LAPD Deputy Chief Jorge Rodriguez

Mr. Beauvais will re-schedule this.

G. Presentation by Advocates for the Fair Workweek

[Also see below Item #VII. B.] Edgar Ortiz, Researcher, presented. City Council File 19-0229 is being considered “to provide increased work protections.” He reported on “volatility . . . unpredictability in work scheduling,” especially in retail; “eight in 10 do not have a set work week” which has a “significantly negative effect on families . . . not getting sufficient advance notice of schedules.” He described proposed improvements and wanted GHSNC support; so far, 21 NC’s and 49 other organizations already support this.

[The following was addressed after Item #IV. B.] 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>), will tomorrow address concerns about sex education. Also, VAAS [Valley Academy of Arts and Sciences] is hiring a new Principal.

[The following was addressed after Item #IV. C.] Ryan Valencia, District Director for State 38th District Assemblymember Christy Smith (661-286-1565; Ryan.Valencia@asm.ca.gov; <https://a38.asmdc.org>), reported that they’ve been busy helping deal with recent fires; information is at [Response.CA.gov](http://Response.CA.gov). If your property was damaged by a fire, the Ca. Dept. of Insurance can help; if your business lost income, the Employment Development Dept. can help. The State Board of Education website may have an updated list of sex education books. Legislation is being considered regarding power safety shut-offs.

[The following was addressed after Item #VII. B.] L.A. City District 12 Councilman John Lee (818-882-1212; 818-701-5253; 213-473-7012; Councilmember.Lee@LACity.org; [www.CD12.org](http://www.CD12.org)), explained the City’s responsibility in the Governor’s regional housing plan.

**V. Approval of September 5, 2019 and October 3 Regular Meeting minutes.**

Copies were available of draft September 5, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes.

**MOTION** (moved by Mr. Morris, seconded by Ms. Oliver): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council (GHSNC) approves the Minutes of its September 5, 2019 General Board Meeting as written.

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

Copies were available of draft October 3, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes.

**MOTION** (moved by Mr. Morris, seconded by Ms. Oliver): The GHSNC approves the Minutes of its October 3, 2019 General Board Meeting as written.

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

**VI. Budget Issues**

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

Copies were available of the GHSNC September “Monthly Expenditure Report.” Mr. Schindelheim reviewed expenses. Funding of \$31,791.91 is available.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Schindelheim, seconded by Ms. Biers): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves its September 2019 Monthly Expenditure Report.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 12 eligible voters present with all 12 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Amador, Beauvais, Benedetto, Biers, Bursk, Fisk, Kolstad, Morris, Oliver, Schindelheim, Smith and Toumayan); zero opposed; zero abstained. Ms. Tran was ineligible to vote due to not yet being of age (18) to vote on financial matters.

## **VII. Board Issues**

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

**MOTION** (moved by Ms. Fisk, seconded by Mr. Smith): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves Marion Seletos as a Stakeholder member of the GHSNC PLUM Committee.

**DISCUSSION:** Ms. Fisk noted that Ms. Seletos is a long-time Stakeholder and described her qualifications.

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

B. Discussion and possible action to support Community Impact Statement on Council File number 19-0229, Fair Workweek Motion (Carlos Amador, Julie Carson, Abbey Ronquillo).

Copies were available of a flier regarding “Unstable Schedules in the Los Angeles Retail Sector” and a proposed letter to the City Council.

**MOTION** (moved by Ms. Fisk, seconded by Mr. Smith): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves a Community Impact Statement in support of Council File number 19-0229, the Fair Workweek Ordinance.

**DISCUSSION:** Ms. Oliver reported that the City Bureau of Contract Administration is working with the Granada Hills Chamber of Commerce and that business managers have been worked with to understand their needs. Mr. Amador reported that he, Ms. Carson and Ms. Ronquillo drafted the proposed letter; he explained that it is “helpful to have a reliable work schedule.” Ms. Oliver noted that this issue affects the food, healthcare, hospitality, retail and other industries. Nine other governments recently passed such an Ordinance, including New York City, Chicago, San Francisco and the State of Oregon. She attended City Council meetings where VICA [the Valley Industry Commerce Association; 818-817-0545; <https://www.vica.com>] and other business groups were present during such discussions. Ms. Bursk believed “it can’t be a one-size-fits-all” approach; “it’s going to bring a lot of lawsuits against employers . . . it could make more businesses just leave Los Angeles . . . unless it’s done correctly.” Ms. Oliver explained that the Ordinance “would apply to . . . employers that have 300 or more employees . . . not mom-and-pop stores.” Councilman Lee reported that he is negotiating with businesses to make penalties administrative.

**MOTION PASSED** by a hand vote with seven in favor; five opposed; one abstained.

Mr. Beauvais noted that arbitration panels could “handle it administratively . . . as opposed to going to a lawsuit.”

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

Copies were available of a proposed letter to Dept. of Recreation and Parks Superintendent Charles Singer.

**MOTION** (moved by Mr. Amador, seconded by Ms. Tran): The GHSNC approve a letter to LA City Recreation and Parks requesting retention of Michelle Gross De La Hoya as Granada Hills Park Director.

*Board Member Sarah Tran left at this time, making 12 Board Members present*

**DISCUSSION:** It was noted that Ms. De La Hoya has been the Director for three years. Mr. Amador said “she has done an excellent job . . . building relationships with community Stakeholders . . . she is very much liked . . . when the fires were happening . . . she . . . made sure the Center was available . . . by 3 a.m. . . . she always goes above and beyond . . . she’s very much invested . . . they want her to build up another Park . . . they want to prioritize another Park.” Glenn Bailey recommended copying the letter to Steve Cline, Supervisor of Park Directors. Mr. Amador noted that “she doesn’t want to go . . . staff members do like her . . . she very much would like to stay.”

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

### **VIII. Committee Reports and Motions**

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

#### Cultural Affairs

##### A. Motion from Committee:

GHSNC approve \$3000.00 to the Valley Cultural Foundation to co-sponsor and support a “Concert in the Park” event in conjunction with the annual Granada Hills Memorial Park Tree Lighting ceremony on December 6, 2019.

Copies were available of a filled-in Neighborhood Purposes Grant application.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by the Cultural Affairs Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves an NPG in the amount of \$3,000.00 to the Valley Cultural Foundation to co-sponsor and support the Arts on the Move “Concert in the Park” event in conjunction with the annual Granada Hills Memorial Park Tree Lighting ceremony on December 6, 2019.

**DISCUSSION:** Ms. Oliver said “the concert [will] support the tree lighting.” Stakeholder Richard Fisk believed the allocation to be “an excessive amount of money for a two-hour event.” Ms. Bursk noted that less funding was allocated to the Street Faire and the Parade; “it’s very disproportionate.” Ms. Oliver reported that the Foundation has, for a long time, done many events around the area. There would be “professional singers . . . this is going to elevate that . . . intention . . . to add to” the tree-lighting ceremony. “The money for this event is going to be spent here.” Mr. Amador believed “it’s an important, unique opportunity . . . we’re going to have a cover band [of] the Beatles”; nearby stores will have “economic benefit.” Mr. Benedetto said “this is a wonderful event” but he would “completely oppose” it because “they wanted to re-organize the entire event.” Mr. Morris believed “community participation” would be “taken out of this and replaced by a

professional.” Ms. Kolstad believed the Outreach Committee should handle this. Mr. Smith noted that, for this event, “the appeal was it was extremely local.” Councilman Lee reminded about the event’s long history; he offered to allocate \$10,000 if the GHSNC will allocate \$1,000 in funding. Ms. Toumayan was concerned that there were only three weeks to outreach for the event. Ms. Oliver described extensive planned promotion.

*Board Member Abbey Ronquillo arrived at this time, making 13 Board Members present.*

**AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION** (by the Cultural Affairs Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council revises the main Motion amount to \$1,000 from \$3,000.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Benedetto believed “we could put this on for half the price.” Ms. Oliver noted that this was brought up at the August Board meeting and that “it’s still going to be a community event . . . that doesn’t change.” Ms. Biers believed the community “should have more input.” Mr. Beauvais clarified that “this would be a pilot project”; and that funding “is going to the Foundation . . . a 501(c)3”; the applicant quickly submitted an NPG application upon request. Mr. Benedetto believed the applicant was disrespectful to Board Members.

**AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION PASSED** by a hand vote of the 13 eligible voters present with nine in favor; three opposed; one abstained (the GHSNC does not count abstentions) (Beauvais).

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Amador reminded that non-profits do not make a profit. Ms. Fisk believed that “we all need to . . . come together.”

**AMENDED FUNDING MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the 13 eligible voters present with five in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Amador, Beauvais, Bursk, Oliver and Smith); four opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Benedetto, Biers, Fisk and Kolstad); four abstained (the GHSNC does not count abstentions) (Morris, Ronquillo, Schindelheim and Toumayan).

## **PLUM**

B. Motion from Committee: [see the below Motion].

Ms. Fisk reported that “based on a 1996 Federal law that prohibits the denial of placement of wireless electronic facilities based on emissions,” cities cannot make decisions based upon that.

**MOTION** (by the Planning and Land Use Management Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council, based on the following communications regarding the proposed construction, use and maintenance of a 45’0” unmanned wireless facility, 17655 W. Devonshire St., Northridge, CA, 91325, Case Nos. ENV-2019-2793-CE and ZA-2019-2792-CUW: • The Temple Ramat Zion Executive Committee voted unanimously not to allow cell towers on their property (Executive Committee Minutes Thursday, August 1, 2019) • The Abraham Joshua Heschel Day School Board of Directors letter that strongly opposes the installation of the proposed unmanned wireless facility on the Temple property (letter from Doran Tajkef, President, Board Of Directors, October 2, 2019) • Lisa Desmond, Land Use Entitlement Specialist, representing Verizon, indicated that the

submitted site is on hold with the City (email October 8, 2019); Therefore, the GHSNC supports the above organizations in opposition to the installation of an unmanned wireless facility on the Temple Ramat Zion property.

*Board Member Mike Benedetto left the room at this time (9:27 pm), making 12 Board Members present.*

**MOTION PASSED** by a hand vote with 11 in favor; zero opposed; one abstained (the GHSNC does not count abstentions) (Morris).

### **Outreach**

C. Motion from Committee:

GHSNC [see the below Motion].

**FUNDING MOTION** (by the Outreach Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves up to \$2000.00 for giveaway items for upcoming 2020 Outreach events; items to include, but not limited to, mugs, chip clips, pens, shirts and caps.

**DISCUSSION:** Ms. Kolstad noted that the Committee will “do a lot of giveaways.”

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 12 eligible voters present with all 12 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Amador, Beauvais, Biers, Bursk, Fisk, Kolstad, Morris, Oliver, Ronquillo, Schindelheim, Smith and Toumayan); zero opposed; zero abstained.

D. GHSNC [see the below Motion].

**FUNDING MOTION** (by the Outreach Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves up to \$500.00 for name tags, name placards and lanyards to identify Board members at meetings and Outreach events.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Beauvais explained the items. Ms. Kolstad displayed and explained some of them. There was discussion of what to put on materials. Mr. Beauvais recommended and Ms. Kolstad agreed that the Committee will decide.

*Board Member Mike Benedetto returned to the room by this time, making 13 Board Members present*

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 13 eligible voters present with 12 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Amador, Beauvais, Biers, Bursk, Fisk, Kolstad, Morris, Oliver, Ronquillo, Schindelheim, Smith and Toumayan); zero opposed; one abstained (the GHSNC does not count abstentions) (Benedetto).

### **Homelessness**

Motion from Committee:

E. GHSNC to [see the below Motion].

**MOTION** (by Mr. Amador, seconded by Ms. Tran): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council will be a host site for the homeless count location for the Granada Hills area in the 2020 Greater Los Angeles Homeless count to be conducted on January 21, 2020.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Morris clarified that the location is for counters, not homeless people. Mr. Amador added that this is part of a “Countywide . . . three nights” count and described the event.

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

**Beautification:** Report

Mr. Amador reported that overgrown weeds at Hayvenhurst and Lassen “have been cleared.”

**Public Safety:** Report

There was no report.

**Education:** Report

Mr. Morris reported that the Committee next will probably meet on November 21<sup>st</sup>.

**IX. Board Member comments and submission of agenda items.**

Mr. Smith said the Bylaws Committee will meet as soon as possible. Mr. Morris requested more discussion of community event planning. Ms. Kolstad preferred event planning to be brought earlier to the Board. Ms. Fisk recommended to “open up our Committees as joint meetings.” Ms. Ronquillo wanted more clarification in the future regarding event funding. Mr. Beauvais believed regarding conflict that “this too shall pass”; he recommended “cooling-off time” as needed. Ms. Bursk thanked Councilman Lee for his attendance here and support; Mr. Beauvais will email thanks.

**X. Adjournment**

**MOTION to ADJOURN** (moved by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Morris).

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a voice vote; zero opposed; zero abstained.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 9:58 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>.*