



CITY OF LOS ANGELES
GRANADA HILLS SOUTH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (GHSNC)
GENERAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES, Thursday, May 7, 2020
APPROVED MINUTES (Approved at the June 4, 2020 Regular Meeting)

In conformity with the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 (March 17, 2020) and due to concerns over COVID-19, this duly noticed meeting was held entirely online and telephonically.

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 and instructions for participating in the virtual meeting (Presiding officer and moderator).

President Dave Beauvais called the Meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. Moderator Jose Galdamez, Neighborhood Council Advocate, L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE; 818-374-9895; Jose.Galdamez@LACity.org; www.EmpowerLA.org), explained how Stakeholders could make public comments.

II. Roll Call (Secretary)

Roll Call was taken by the Secretary. All 17 of the 17 Board Members were present online at the Roll Call: Carlos Amador, Dave Beauvais (President), Michael Benedetto (Vice-President), Bette Biers, Bonnie Bursk, Julie Carson (Secretary), Maria Fisk, John Horn, Sally Kolstad, Mark Morris, Emayatzy Oliver, Abbey Ronquillo, Brandon Schindelheim (Treasurer), Brad Smith, Colleen Toumayan, Sarah Tran and Ross Turmell. No Board Members were absent. The GHSNC quorum (the minimum number of Board Members needing to be present to take binding votes on agenda 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: at least nine stakeholders and guests.

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

[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #VI. C.] Cindy Cleghorn reported that the annual Neighborhood Councils "Congress is cancelled, but will be held in September 2021." Meanwhile, educational programming will be done; volunteers are welcome. Brian Allen, of the Budget Advocates [<http://ncbala.com>], reported that the June 20th Budget Day was postponed. David Meza, SoCal Gas Public Affairs Manager, reported that "we are not shutting off service if [a customer] cannot pay their bills . . . we are still responding to emergencies." Glenn Bailey reported that "planning for the 2021 [NC] elections is proceeding."

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), encouraged maintaining social distance to avoid COVID-19 transmission. CD12 still is providing services; they partnered with an angel donor to provide food gift cards to needy families; and with Change Reaction to support small businesses. CD 12 is collecting citrus to donate to food pantries. Regarding the City using the Recreation Center as a homeless shelter, answers were sent to Mr. Beauvais and Ms. Fisk's questions; Mr. Beauvais will ensure that the answers are posted by tomorrow morning. CD12 is helping create face masks and face shields.

"Caroline's daughter" was concerned about "a lot of homeless people" around the Park, saying "I don't feel safe." Esther wanted to know who authorized homeless people gathering around the Park and what can be done. A woman believed that "Hope of the Valley does not do background checks . . . it looks like Skid Row in front of the Library . . . it risks us . . . all kinds of dangerous situations"; she wanted dangerous people "moved to a non-residential location." Mr. Vallecilla said "we try to clean up the encampments frequently . . . the Police don't have the authority to remove people from the sidewalks." He encouraged contacting him to request cleanups.

B. LAUSD District 3 (Tara Vahdani)

Ms. Vahdani showed and explained a map and list of "Free Meals at Grab & Go Food Centers," which will continue "through the summer months." She encouraged calling a 213-241-3840 mental health hotline if needed. The LAUSD has "Virtual Parent Workshops." Contact her to receive weekly updates.

Pam Rhodes, Senior Librarian, reported that "the Mayor does not allow us to move the encampments off the [Library] parkway" . . . We are having regular inspections . . . The Library is closed . . . There's no timetable" for re-opening.

C. DONE, (NEA Jose Galamenz)

Mr. Galdamez, reported that the Bylaws amendments deadline was extended to June 5. Roberts Rules of Order training is available at www.EmpowerLA.org/evg. Meeting procedures and Board Member trainings are available online; contact him if you have an access issue. He reminded everyone to be sure that their Code of Conduct and Trainings are current. A recording of this meeting will be available on Zoom.

Oswaldo Ramirez, Field Representative for U.S. 29th District of California Congressman Tony Cardenas (ofc. 818-221-3718; Oswaldo.Ramirez@mail.house.gov; <http://cardenas.house.gov>), reported that the Congressman introduced legislation regarding "COVID testing for uninsured" people and that "we've been working a lot of small businesses."

V. Approval of February 13, 2020 Special Meeting minutes.

Copies were available of the draft Minutes. The following amendment was requested: page six, Item #VIII. D.: "Council File: 19-0002-S191 [the number to be corrected]" should read "Council File: 19-0002-S138."

MOTION moved by Ms. Carson, seconded by Mr. Horn: The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council [GHSNC] approves the Minutes of its February 13, 2020 General Board Meeting as amended.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 16 eligible voters present with all 16 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Amador, Beauvais, Benedetto, Biers, Bursk, Carson, Fisk, Horn, Kolstad, Morris, Oliver, Ronquillo, Smith, Toumayan, Tran and Turmell); zero opposed; zero abstained.

Approval of March 5, 2020 Regular Meeting minutes.

MOTION moved by Ms. Carson, seconded by Ms. Fisk: The GHSNC approves the Minutes of its March 5, 2020 General Board Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the 16 eligible voters present with 13 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Amador, Beauvais, Benedetto, Biers, Bursk, Carson, Fisk, Horn, Oliver, Ronquillo, Smith, Toumayan and Turmell); zero opposed; three abstained (Kolstad, Morris and Tran).

VI. Budget Issues

A. Approval of Budget report and Monthly Expenditures for February 2020.

Copies were available of and Mr. Schindelheim reviewed the report.

FUNDING MOTION moved by Mr. Schindelheim, seconded by Mr. Morris: GHSNC approves its Monthly Expenditure Report for February 2020.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the 16 eligible voters present with 15 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Amador, Beauvais, Biers, Bursk, Carson, Fisk, Horn, Kolstad, Morris, Oliver, Ronquillo, Schindelheim, Smith, Toumayan and Turmell); zero opposed; one abstained (Benedetto). Ms. Tran was ineligible to vote due to not yet being of age (18) to vote on financial matters.

B. Approval of Budget report and Monthly Expenditures for March 2020.

Copies were available of and Mr. Schindelheim reviewed the report.

FUNDING MOTION moved by Mr. Schindelheim, seconded by Ms. Bursk: The GHSNC approves its Monthly Expenditure Report for March 2020.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Beauvais report that, as of this day, funding available was approximately \$15,000, minus encumbrances.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 16 eligible voters present with all 16 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Amador, Beauvais, Benedetto, Biers, Bursk, Carson, Fisk, Horn, 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).

C. Approval of Budget report and Monthly Expenditures for April 2020.

Mr. Beauvais reported that “the April MER was not available yet.”

Board Member Brandon Schindelheim left at this time (7:02), making 16 Board Members present online).

- D. Approval of Emergency Funds authorized for expenditure by DONE to Hope of the Valley and the North Valley YMCA by GHSNC President.

FUNDING MOTION moved by Mr. Benedetto, seconded by Mr. Morris: The GHSNC approves Emergency Funds authorized for expenditure by DONE to Hope of the Valley and the North Valley YMCA by GHSNC President.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Beauvais reported that DONE authorized \$5,000 for this. Approximately \$805 was spent for toiletries delivered to the Recreation Center by himself, Mr. Horn and Mr. Benedetto. Funding of \$2,500 was provided to the YMCA: \$2,000 for face shield materials and \$500 for cleanup. Face masks were made and distributed to hospitals including Northridge, Martin Luther King, Glendale Memorial and Children's.

AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION: moved by Mr. Beauvais, seconded by Mr. Amador to add the wording "approximately \$805 to Hope of the Valley and \$2,500 to the YMCA."

AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the 15 eligible voters present with 14 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Amador, Benedetto, Biers, Bursk, Carson, Fisk, Horn, Kolstad, Morris, Oliver, Ronquillo, Smith, Toumayan and Turmell); zero opposed; one abstained (the GHSNC does not count abstentions) (Beauvais). Ms. Tran was ineligible to vote due to not yet being of age (18) to vote on financial matters.

AMENDED FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the 15 eligible voters present with 14 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Amador, Benedetto, Biers, Bursk, Carson, Fisk, Horn, Kolstad, Morris, Oliver, Ronquillo, Smith, Toumayan and Turmell); zero opposed; one abstained (the GHSNC does not count abstentions) (Beauvais). Ms. Tran was ineligible to vote as described above.

VII. Board Issues

- A. Discussion and possible action on a Neighborhood Purpose Grant (NPG) in the amount of \$2500 to the Granada Hills Rotary Foundation for maintenance of Granada Hills Veteran's Memorial Park.

It was agreed to correct the Motion amount to match the NPG \$2,000 amount.

FUNDING MOTION moved by Ms. Bursk, seconded by Ms. Fisk: The GHSNC approves a Neighborhood Purpose Grant (NPG) in the amount of \$2,000 to the Granada Hills Rotary Foundation for maintenance of Granada Hills Veteran's Memorial Park.

DISCUSSION: Larry McGloughlin of the Granada Hills Rotary Club explained the need for "constant maintenance"; the Park needs cleaning, electrical and decking work, and more. He said "it costs over \$6,000 to maintain the Park every year." Some previous grant information is available from the Rotary. Ms. Bursk said that "the Rotary has been very generous" in maintaining the Park; "it is a good use of our money . . . [and] contribution to our community."

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 15 eligible voters present with all 15 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Amador, Beauvais, Benedetto, Biers, Bursk, Carson, Fisk, Horn, Kolstad, Morris, Oliver, Ronquillo, Smith, Toumayan and Turmell); zero opposed; zero abstained. Ms. Tran was ineligible.

B. Discussion and possible action to send a letter to Councilperson John Lee requesting the following information regarding the use of the Granada Hills Recreation Center use as temporary homeless shelter: • What are the long-term plans for the Rec Center after the pandemic crisis has resolved? • Will a portion of the Rec center remain as a homeless shelter? • What are the plans for 26 trailers in the parking lot south of the Granada Hills Branch Library? • Initially, the temporary homeless shelter was to house local homeless individuals – are homeless from other areas being transferred to the Rec Center or trailers? • How are individuals that have been diagnosed with COVID-19 being isolated or treated? • What non-pharmaceutical interventions been implemented to prevent the spread of COVID-19? • What is being done to protect the safety of the homeless within the large encampment surrounding the library and the surrounding community and residents? • What will be done with the large encampment and the homeless within the Rec Center once the pandemic crisis is resolved? Where will the homeless be placed?

Mr. Beauvais indicated that this was addressed in the Item #III Pub Comments.

C. Discussion and possible action to support Community Impact Statement on Council File number 17-0046-S2, The Los Angeles Justice Fund.

Mr. Amador explained that the program between L.A. City and County “provides opportunity for legal defense” for homeowners and also deportation defense. Ms. Fisk was concerned about taxpayers paying for it and wanted more vetting.

MOTION to REFER to COMMITTEE moved by Mr. Benedetto, seconded by Ms. Fisk.

Mr. Amador reported that the City Council is now considering this.

MOTION to REFER to COMMITTEE FAILED by a roll call vote of the 16 eligible voters present with five in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Benedetto, Biers, Bursk, Fisk and Kolstad); 11 opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Amador, Beauvais, Carson, Horn, Morris, Oliver, Ronquillo, Smith, Toumayan, Tran and Turmell); zero abstained.

MOTION moved by Mr. Amador, seconded by Ms. Carson: The GHSNC supports a Community Impact Statement on Council File number 17-0046-S2, The Los Angeles Justice Fund.

MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the 16 eligible voters present with 12 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Amador, Beauvais, Bursk, Carson, Horn, Morris, Oliver, Ronquillo, Schindelheim, Smith, Toumayan and Turmell); four opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Benedetto, Biers, Fisk and Kolstad); zero abstained.

VIII. Committee Reports and Motions

Outreach

Mr. Benedetto reported the Chamber of Commerce met and that the West Valley Neighborhood Alliance on Homelessness is moving forward on projects regarding “unsheltered” people. The Aliso Canyon Community Advisory Group is “working towards having a virtual Town Hall.” Mr. Benedetto said County Supervisor Deputy Jason Maruca wants information on businesses that are opening.

PLUM

Ms. Fisk reported that projects are being considered by the City in June or July.

Cultural Affairs

Ms. Oliver said that there was “no report.”

Public Safety

Mr. Turmell thanked everyone who contributed to the restaurant list. He reported that “Granada Hills is doing a little better than the rest of LA” regarding COVID-19 diagnosis and that the virus “is real.”

Education

Mr. Morris reported that Tulsa Elementary School Principal Dr. Lester Powell will submit an NPG application for a mural. Mr. Morris and Ms. Tran will create a presentation for High School student government bodies and Clubs “encouraging them to participate in the Neighborhood Council system.”

Beautification

Mr. Amador indicated that there was no report.

Homelessness

Mr. Horn encouraged helping homeless people to transition to permanent housing.

IX. Board Member comments and submission of agenda items.

Ms. Tran announced that she will have to resign in August. Mr. Turmell said that “therapies are very promising” for COVID-19. Mr. Smith wanted the Board to recognize local school graduating classes of 2020 and requested to adjourn in honor of Americans who’ve died from the COVID-19 virus. Mr. Morris said the Education Committee will meet Thursday, May 21. Ms. Kolstad encouraged helping seniors who need it. Ms. Fisk encouraged Committees to consider issues before the Board does. Ms. Bursk reported that “the Business Improvement District is up for renewal” and explained that BID funding is used for tree trimming, alley paving and more. She encouraged supporting local businesses. Ms. Carson had emailed Training information to Board Members. Mr. Benedetto prefers the Retreat to be “in-person.” Mr. Beauvais announced that the next Board meeting will be June [4], also online.

X. Adjournment

MOTION to ADJOURN in memory of the 73,297 Americans who have died in this pandemic moved by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Benedetto.

MOTION PASSED unanimously; zero opposed; zero abstained.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 9:35 p.m.

The first paragraph of some Items, Motions/Resolutions and other wording may have been copied from the Agenda. Minutes written by DL, possibly edited by GHSNC. The GHSNC Minutes page is <http://www.ghsnc.org/resources/minutes-and-agendas>.