



**CITY OF LOS ANGELES**  
**GRANADA HILLS SOUTH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**, Thursday, June 3, 2021  
Approved July 1, 2021

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, flag salute 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. He noted that the new Board will be Seated July 1<sup>st</sup> and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**II. Roll Call (Secretary)**

Roll Call was taken by the Secretary. Twelve of the 17 Board Members were present online at the Roll Call: Carlos Amador, Dave Beauvais (President), Michael Benedetto (Vice-President), Bonnie Bursk, Julie Carson (Secretary), John Horn, Jerilyn Mendoza, Mark Morris, Emayatzy Oliver, Brad Smith, Chavon Smith and Colleen Toumayan. Abbey Ronquillo and Ross Turmell arrived later. Sally Kolstad (excused), Rachel Lee (excused) and Brandon Schindelheim (Treasurer) (excused) were absent. The GHSNC quorum (the minimum number of Board Members needing to be present to take binding votes on Agendized Items) was nine (see the Bylaws link at [www.empowerla.org/ghsnc](http://www.empowerla.org/ghsnc)), so the Board could take such votes. All 17 Board Seats were filled (by election or appointment). No Board Seat was vacant. Also attended: approximately 20 Stakeholders and Guests.

**III. Public Comment**

Jason Hector, PRNC Board Member, commented that the 118 Freeway was adopted between Balboa and Tampa; volunteers were "removing encampments" and trash; "We're making a lot of progress . . . years and years of trash . . . brush removal." He encouraged GHSNC help. Stakeholder John Hales said that there is a plan to build 100 Proposition HHH units by Devonshire and [Chatsworth] across from the Ralph's; he encouraged the GHSNC to outreach about and evaluate the project.

*President Beauvais turned over the Presiding Officership to Vice-President Benedetto at this time.*

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

- A. LAUSD District 3 (Tara Vahdani, Scott Schmerlson)  
Tara Vahdani, Deputy Director of Community Engagement for LAUSD District Three Board Member Scott Schmerlson [ofc. 818-654-3785; [Tara.Vahdani@lausd.net](mailto:Tara.Vahdani@lausd.net); <http://achieve.lausd.net/schmerelson>], introduced Mr. Schmerlson ([Scott.Schmerelson@lausd.net](mailto:Scott.Schmerelson@lausd.net)), who described COVID-19 vaccination work and availability, and many LAUSD programs. “Daily child supervision” will be available from 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
- B. Council District 12 (Matt Vallecilla)  
Matthew Vallecilla, Field Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilman John Lee [ofc. 818-882-1212; [Matthew.Vallecilla@LACity.org](mailto:Matthew.Vallecilla@LACity.org); [www.CD12.org](http://www.CD12.org)], reported that vaccinations are available for all L.A. County residents 12 years of age and older. Many facilities are scheduled to re-open on June 15<sup>th</sup>. Masks still are recommended to wear indoors. City Recreation and Parks summer programs now are registering. The LAPD Devonshire Division seeks volunteers; contact Officer Mike Duarte. Brad Smith requested that CD12 provide information about the Devonshire and Chatsworth housing project.
- C. Mayor’s Office (Vahid Khorsand)  
Vahid Khorsand, West Area Representative for Mayor Eric Garcetti (323-552-6730; [Vahid.Khorsand@LACity.org](mailto:Vahid.Khorsand@LACity.org); <http://LAMayor.org>), was not present and there was no report.
- D. DONE, (NEA Freddy Cupen-Ames)  
Freddy Cupen-Ames, Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate, L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment [DONE; 818-374-9890; [Freddy.Cupen-Ames@LACity.org](mailto:Freddy.Cupen-Ames@LACity.org); [www.EmpowerLA.org](http://www.EmpowerLA.org)], reported that “June 20<sup>th</sup> is the last date for any bank card transaction . . . Neighborhood Councils can roll over \$10,000 to the next Fiscal Year.” He noted upcoming Board Member trainings. The Congress of Neighborhoods will be online September 25<sup>th</sup>. The every-10-years L.A. City Council Redistricting Commission website is being built. Cannabis.LACity.org has cannabis information. He urged that new Board Members complete the financial training.
- E. Budget Advocate (Brian Allen)  
[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Hannah Kelley’s below report.*] Mr. Allen reported that the BAs [<http://BudgetAdvocates.org>] reported on City budget work. All are invited to give input and feedback. Advocate Glenn Bailey reported that City Council File 21-0600 has budget recommendations. August 21<sup>st</sup> will be the virtual Budget Day.

*Board Member Abbey Ronquillo arrived by this time (7:35), making 13 Board Members present online (the GHSNC quorum is nine).*

F. Congressional District 29 (Osvaldo Ramirez)

Osvaldo Ramirez, Field Representative for U.S. 29th District of California Congressman Tony Cardenas [ofc. 818-221-3718; cell 818-388-0685; [Osvaldo.Ramirez@mail.house.gov](mailto:Osvaldo.Ramirez@mail.house.gov); <http://cardenas.house.gov>], was not present and there was no report.

G. Congressional District 30 (Mikalye Lowrey)

Mikayle Lowery, a Field Deputy for U.S. 30th District of California Congressman Brad Sherman [818-501-9200; [Mikayle.Lowery@mail.house.gov](mailto:Mikayle.Lowery@mail.house.gov); <https://sherman.house.gov>], was not present and there was no report.

H. LAPD Senior Lead Officer or alternate rep (Lead Officers Sellers/Parker/Volunteer Richard Fisk)

Stakeholder Richard Fisk, for Phillip Sellers, an LAPD Devonshire Division Senior Lead Officer [office 818-756-9011; [31934@LAPD.LACity.org](mailto:31934@LAPD.LACity.org); [http://www.LAPDOnline.org/devonshire\\_community\\_police\\_station](http://www.LAPDOnline.org/devonshire_community_police_station)], reported on a July 24<sup>th</sup> 20 and 40-mile memorial ride (see [www.active.com](http://www.active.com)). Demolition of existing buildings looks complete for the 440 project [at 16201 San Fernando Mission Blvd.]

Hannah Kelley, District Representative for State 18th District Senator Bob Hertzberg (818-901-5588; [Hannah.Kelley@sen.ca.gov](mailto:Hannah.Kelley@sen.ca.gov); <http://senate.ca.gov/hertzberg>), reported that the Senator recognized the Granada Hills Charter High School national Decathlon-winning team. The Senator also recognized Mr. Benedetto as the latest Hertzberg Hero for his community service. She noted that small business loans are available and PPP loan forgiveness may be available; contact the Senator's office for help. Senator Hertzberg sponsored legislation to help homeless people with pets.

**V. Approval of May 6, 2021 Regular Meeting minutes.**

The following correction was requested: page five, Item #VII. B. discussion: "He reported that the City Attorney and DONE [the L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment; 818-374-9890; [www.EmpowerLA.org](http://www.EmpowerLA.org)] suggested that he (Mr. Benedetto) call them regarding whether joining such an alliance was acceptable" should read "He reported that the GHSNC suggested that he (Mr. Benedetto) call the City Attorney and DONE [the L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment; 818-374-9890; [www.EmpowerLA.org](http://www.EmpowerLA.org)] regarding whether joining such an alliance was acceptable."

**MOTION** (by Ms. Carson, seconded by Mr. Morris): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its May 6, 2021 General Board Meeting as corrected.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 13 eligible voters present with 11 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Amador, Beauvais, Benedetto, Bursk, Carson,

Horn, Morris, Oliver, Ronquillo, Brad Smith and Toumayan); zero opposed; two abstained (the GHSNC does not count abstentions) (Mendoza and Chavon Smith).

*President Beauvais had resumed as the Presiding Officer.*

## **VI. Budget Issues**

A. Approval of Budget report and Monthly Expenditures for April, 2021.

Mr. Beauvais distributed and reviewed the GHSNC “Monthly Expenditure Report.”

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Beauvais, seconded by Mr. Smith): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves the April MERS.

**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, Carson, Horn, Mendoza, Morris, Oliver, Ronquillo, Brad Smith, Chavon Smith and Toumayan); zero opposed; zero abstained. Bonnie Bursk was ineligible to vote due to not having current Ethics Training and/or Funding Training.

B. Approval of a check in the amount of \$688.48 to Board Member Sally Kolstad for expenditures on the Senior Greeting Card project. These expenditures were previously approved at the October 2020 regular meeting (\$600.00) and the December 2020 meeting (additional \$200).

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Beauvais, seconded by Mr. Benedetto): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves a check in the amount of \$688.48 to Board Member Sally Kolstad for expenditures on the Senior Greeting Card project.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Cupen-Ames reported that “there are no more encumbrances for this year.”

**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, Carson, Horn, Mendoza, Morris, Oliver, Ronquillo, Brad Smith, Chavon Smith and Toumayan); zero opposed; zero abstained. Bonnie Bursk was ineligible to vote due to not having current Ethics Training and/or Funding Training.

## **VII. Board Issue**

A. Motion to support former Board Member Rene Trinidad’s request to have a U.S, Naval vessel named in honor of his grandfather, Telosoro Trinidad, the first and only sailor of Filipino descent to earn the medal of honor. Information and resolution attached.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Beauvais, seconded by Mr. Benedetto): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council supports former Board Member Rene Trinidad’s

request to have a U.S, Naval vessel named in honor of his grandfather, Telosoro Trinidad, the first and only sailor of Filipino descent to earn the medal of honor

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Beauvais explained the Motion.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 13 eligible voters present with all 13 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Amador, Beauvais, Benedetto, Bursk, Carson, Horn, Mendoza, Morris, Oliver, Ronquillo, Brad Smith, Chavon Smith and Toumayan); zero opposed; zero abstained.

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

PLUM

*[The following sub-section first paragraphs are copied from the Agenda.]* Report on May 19, 2021 meeting and motions from the committee: The PLUM Committee recommends the board

- A. MOTION: The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council Planning and Land Use Management Committee recommends to the Board to support the facade changes on the existing building at 10823 Zelzah Ave., Granada Hills, California, 91344.

Chair Ms. Mendoza reported that this is in the Chatsworth and Zelzah shopping center. Representative Patrick Conway and Architect Anna Zolotareva showed slides and described the changes.

*Board Member Ross Turmell arrived by this time (8:18), making 14 Board Members present online (the GHSNC quorum is nine).*

Mr. Conway said that the tree will remain.

**MOTION** (by the Planning and Land Use Management Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council supports the facade changes on the existing building at 10823 Zelzah Ave., Granada Hills, California, 91344.

*Board Member Emayatzy Oliver left by this time (8:29), making 13 Board Members present online (the GHSNC quorum is nine).*

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 13 eligible voters present with all 13 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Amador, Beauvais, Benedetto, Bursk, Carson, Horn, Mendoza, Morris, Ronquillo, Brad Smith, Chavon Smith, Toumayan and Turmell); zero opposed; zero abstained.

- B. MOTION: The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council Planning and Land Use Management Committee recommends to the Board to no opposition to the application for a liquor license at the proposed Grand Ridge Market to be located at 11118 Balboa Blvd., Granada Hills, California, 91344.

**MOTION** (by the Planning and Land Use Management Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves no opposition to the application for a liquor license at the proposed Grand Ridge Market to be located at 11118 Balboa Blvd., Granada Hills, California, 91344.

**DISCUSSION:** Representative Steve Rawlings presented the “Armenian market” of 6,100 square feet. He showed slides and said that “It’ll conform to the [center’s] sign program.” Owner Armen Takayan has lived in the San Fernando Valley since the early 80’s and raised his family here. The hours of operation will be from 6:00 a.m. – 11 p.m. The landlord “is in the process of evicting” a tenant. Mr. Takayan said they are now in the permitting process, “hoping to be in by the end of the year.”

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 13 eligible voters present with all 13 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Amador, Beauvais, Benedetto, Bursk, Carson, Horn, Mendoza, Morris, Ronquillo, Brad Smith, Chavon Smith, Toumayan and Turmell); zero opposed; zero abstained.

Outreach Report on storage locker inventory.

Chair Ms. Toumayan reported on the inventory.

Homelessness Report on meeting/upcoming event.

Chair Mr. Horn will seek updates about CD12-area Proposition HHH housing.

Education Report on May 20, 2021 meeting

Mr. Morris reported that the Committee reviewed accomplishments, including outreaching to schools; and a successful library Town Hall that introduced library functions.

Seniors

Chair Ms. Kolstad was not present; no report or Motion was made or vote taken.

Youth

Chair Ms. Lee was not present; no report or Motion was made or vote taken.

Beautification

Chair Mr. Amador reported that he spoke with City Arborist Scott Harmon about care of the Deodar trees on White Oak Ave. from Devonshire to the 118 Freeway; Mr. Harmon will be invited to present in July.

Public Safety

Mr. Smith reported that masks were bought and transferred to the United Commercial Workers; “they appreciated it.” Chair Mr. Turmell added that the masks are American-made N-95’s. He “reported the Jamba Juice drive-through

to the DOT as a dangerous” one; Jamba Juice’s corporate office hasn’t responded to communications.

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

Incoming Board Members Michael Jordan and Carolyn Sanderson said they are “ready to serve.” Mr. Amador, Mr. Horn, Ms. Mendoza, Ms. Ronquillo, Mr. Smith, Ms. Smith, Ms. Toumayan and Mr. Turmell thanked outgoing Board Members for their service; newer Board Members thanked veteran Board Members for their welcoming, guidance and mentoring. Ms. Bursk thanked the “informed and dedicated Board” and encouraged support for the future Chamber of Commerce Street Faire and the Parade. Mr. Morris thanked the Board for the “wonderful experience.” Ms. Carson was “proud of our service” and for “putting money back into the community”; she encouraged new Board Members to call her for help. Mr. Beauvais said the Board “made it much easier” to be President.

**X. Adjournment**

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

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

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 9:19 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 the GHSNC. The GHSNC Board Meeting Minutes page is <http://www.ghsnc.org/resources/minutes-and-agendas>.*