



**CITY OF LOS ANGELES**  
**GRANADA HILLS SOUTH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**  
**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES**, Tuesday, May 24, 2022  
Approved July 7, 2022

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**

President Mike Benedetto called the Meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

**II. Roll Call** (Secretary)

Roll Call was taken by the Secretary. Ten of the 17 Board Members were present online at the Roll Call: Carlos Amador, Mike Benedetto (President), Launa Bogartz, Cheri Norum Derohanian, John Horn, Christine LaMonica (Secretary), Brad Smith, Chavon Smith, Colleen Toumayan (Vice-President) and Christina Wallis (Treasurer). Seven Board Members were absent: Verej Isanians (unexcused), Michael Jordan (excused), George Karam (unexcused), Sally Kolstad (excused), Abbey Ronquillo (unexcused), Carolyn Sanderson (unexcused) and Chantal Serrano (unexcused). The GHSNC quorum (the minimum number of Board Members needing to be present to take binding votes on Agendized Items) is 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.

**III. Public Comment**

Stakeholder Monice requested that Petit Park be repaired and cleaned. Stakeholder Mark Morris said he'd be willing to volunteer as the Parliamentarian.

**IV. Community Speakers**

NONE.

**V. Approval of the Minutes** of the Regular Meeting for April 7, 2022.

Mr. Benedetto indicated that those Minutes already were approved.

**VI. Appointment of Board, Committee Members & Swearing-in.**

NONE.

## **VII. Budget Issues**

- A. Discussion and possible action to approve \$200 to host our webinars required by DONE.

Marilu Guevara, a Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate of the L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment [DONE; 818-374-9890; [Marilu.Guevara@LACity.org](mailto:Marilu.Guevara@LACity.org); [www.EmpowerLA.org](http://www.EmpowerLA.org)], reported that DONE is “transferring the cost of the Zoom licenses to Neighborhood Councils; this cost is \$200 per year” and includes support.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Benedetto, seconded by Ms. Derohanian): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves \$200 to host our webinars required by DONE.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 10 eligible voters present with all 10 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Amador, Benedetto, Bogartz, Derohanian, Horn, LaMonica, Brad Smith, Chavon Smith, Toumayan and Wallis); zero opposed; zero abstained.

- B. Discussion and possible action on the option to give each committee their own access to zoom/webinars at \$200 each per year.

**DISCUSSION:** Stakeholder Monice believed this would be “a waste” of funding. Mr. Benedetto explained that Committees cannot share the Board’s Zoom license; each Committee must have their own license. Ms. Smith recommended that, for Committees, to “have a single multi-user account” or “one Committee account . . . not tied to any one person.” Ms. Guevara noted the security concern of multiple people sharing passwords. She will report back.

**MOTION to TABLE** (by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Derohanian): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council TABLES Item #VII. B. until more information is provided by DONE.

**MOTION to TABLE PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 10 eligible voters present with all 10 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Amador, Benedetto, Bogartz, Derohanian, Horn, LaMonica, Brad Smith, Chavon Smith, Toumayan and Wallis); zero opposed; zero abstained.

## **VIII. Board Issues**

- A. Discussion and possible action to approve a Neighborhood Purpose Grant in the amount of \$ 2,500.00 to Granada Hills Robotics team.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Benedetto, seconded by Ms. Smith): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves a Neighborhood Purposes Grant in the amount of \$2,500.00 to Granada Hills Robotics team.

**DISCUSSION:** Team members explained team activities.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 10 eligible voters present with all 10 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Amador, Benedetto, Bogartz, Derohanian, Horn, LaMonica, Brad Smith, Chavon Smith, Toumayan and Wallis); zero opposed; zero abstained.

- B. Discussion and possible action to approve a NPG in the amount of \$5000 to Granada Hills Charter High School band to purchase instruments.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Benedetto, seconded by Ms. LaMonica): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves an NPG in the amount of \$5,000 to Granada Hills Charter High School band to purchase instruments.

**DISCUSSION:** GHSNC’s Joseph Cooper, Director of Bands, reported that “over 30% of [the instruments are] deemed unusable.”

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 10 eligible voters present with all 10 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Amador, Benedetto, Bogartz, Derohanian, Horn, LaMonica, Brad Smith, Chavon Smith, Toumayan and Wallis); zero opposed; zero abstained.

- C. Motion to reflect that Sally Kolstad had prior permission to purchase to purchase greeting cards for Seniors. The motion for reimbursement was already approved. This matter was discussed and Ok’d by the previous board and was held over to this term for some reason.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Benedetto, seconded by Ms. Derohanian): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council reflects that Sally Kolstad had prior permission to purchase greeting cards for Seniors.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 10 eligible voters present with all 10 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Amador, Benedetto, Bogartz, Derohanian, Horn, LaMonica, Brad Smith, Chavon Smith, Toumayan and Wallis); zero opposed; zero abstained.

- D. Motion to reflect that Mike Benedetto had prior permission to pay Public Storage, Postal Plus. Since our account was frozen; the motion for reimbursement was already approved. The payment to Public storage is also considered a custodial payments and is part of our annual administration package. Also discussed at the November 17, 2021 meeting.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Benedetto, seconded by Ms. Toumayan): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council reflects that Mike Benedetto had prior permission to pay Public Storage and Postal Plus.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Benedetto spoke about this. Ms. Toumayan reported that the payment needed to be made or the “they would’ve shut us out” of the storage.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 10 eligible voters present with all 10 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Amador, Benedetto, Bogartz, Derohanian, Horn, LaMonica, Brad Smith, Chavon Smith, Toumayan and Wallis); zero opposed; zero abstained.

Mr. Benedetto reported that GHSNC funding soon should be unfrozen.

**IX. Committee Reports and Motions** all I a Gary Mike Benedetto here

PLUM

A. Home Depot Town Hall

Mr. Smith reported that he and Mr. Benedetto are working to secure a Town Hall Meeting location. It is now project #CPC2022-1981-CUSPPSPR.

Outreach

A. GHSNC to host a Movie Night at the Granada Hills Recreation Center switched July 1st or 2nd, volunteers requested.

Mr. Benedetto updated about the above.

B. Discussion and possible action or GHSNC to approve up to \$14,000 for outreach giveaways and materials along with refilling the helium balloon tanks.

Mr. Benedetto described possible outreach items to purchase.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Benedetto, seconded by Ms. Toumayan): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves up to \$14,000 for outreach giveaways and materials along with refilling the helium balloon tanks.

**DISCUSSION:** Stakeholder Lisa suggested allocating funding to Petit Park. There was much discussion about the budget and what could be funded. Mr. Benedetto clarified and Ms. Guevara confirmed that, though approximately \$30,000 remained as unspent funding this Fiscal Year [ending June 30<sup>th</sup>], only up to \$10,000 in funding can be rolled over into the next Fiscal Year; any remaining unspent funding this Fiscal Year must be returned to the City.

*Board Member Chavon Smith was unavailable to vote at this time, making nine Board Members present online (the GHSNC quorum is nine).*

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the nine eligible voters present with all 10 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Benedetto, Derohanian, LaMonica, Brad Smith, Toumayan and Wallis); one opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Horn); two

abstained (the GHSNC does not count abstentions as either “yes” or “no” votes) (Amador and Bogartz).

#### Homelessness

Mr. Horn indicated that there was no report

#### Education

##### A. Retreat update

Mr. Benedetto relayed that Ms. Ronquillo will report at the June 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

#### Youth

Mr. Benedetto requested and it was agreed to skip this Item.

#### Cultural Affairs

Mr. Benedetto requested and it was agreed to skip this Item.

#### Seniors

Mr. Benedetto requested and it was agreed to skip this Item.

#### Beautification

##### A. Report on May 15 cleanup along with VCC.

There was no report.

Discussion and possible action on recommended motion from the Beautification Committee to allocate up to \$3,864 to receive tree watering services by the J & B Landscaping Company, a company based in the San Fernando Valley. The Granada Hills Business Improvement District (BID) has used the watering services of J & B Landscaping Company for the watering of the Cedar Deodar Trees. Recommended motion: The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves a payment of up to \$3,864 to J & B Landscaping Company to provide a series of watering cycles to the Cedar Deodar Trees on White Oak Avenue.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by the Beautification Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves a payment of up to \$3,864 for J & B Landscaping Company to provide a series of watering cycles to the Cedar Deodar Trees on White Oak Avenue.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Amador explained some of the issue’s history and that J & B Landscaping is used by the Granada Hills Business Improvement District.

*Board Members Chavon Smith had returned and John Horn was unavailable to vote at this time, keeping nine Board Members present online (the GHSNC quorum is nine).*

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the nine eligible voters present with all nine in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Amador, Benedetto, Bogartz, Derohanian, LaMonica, Brad Smith, Chavon Smith, Toumayan and Wallis); zero opposed; zero abstained.

REPORT and Update on Beautification Committee to participate in a Beautification Day with the Volunteers Cleaning Communities. The goal is for the neighborhood council to spread the word, recruit volunteers, and show up to the Beautification Day. Recommend motion: The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council will participate in a Beautification Day with Volunteers Cleaning Communities in Granada Hills on Devonshire Boulevard from the 405 Freeway west on Saturday, May 15th, from 8 am to 10 AM.

Mr. Amador briefly reported. No Motion was made or vote taken.

Public Safety

Mr. Benedetto requested and it was agreed to skip this Item.

Sustainability

Mr. Benedetto requested and it was agreed to skip this Item.

**X. Board Members Comments and Submission of Agenda Items.**

Ms. Smith requested and Ms. Toumayan agreed to have a standing Agenda item of a Treasurer’s report.

*[This is copied from the Agenda.]* Next Regular Meeting of the Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council - Thursday JUNE 2, 2022 at 6:30 PM

**XI. Adjournment**

**MOTION to ADJOURN** (by Ms. LaMonica, 2Ms. Derohanian).

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

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 8:27 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>.