



CITY OF LOS ANGELES GRANADA HILLS SOUTH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES, Thursday, August 3, 2023 Granada Hills Charter H.S., Rawley Hall, 10535 Zelzah Ave., Granada Hills, CA 91344 Minutes Approved September 14, 2023

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 Mark Morris called the Meeting to order at 6:39 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. He noted the GHSNC's role.

II. ROLL CALL.

Roll Call was taken by the Secretary. Nine of the 14 Board Members were present at the Roll Call: Mike Benedetto (Vice-President), Launa Bogartz, Carol Hart, Mark Morris (President), Ashley Pena, Abbey Ronguillo (Treasurer), Brad Smith, Colleen Toumayan (Secretary) and Linda Williamson. Five Board Members were absent: John Horn (excused), George Karam (excused), Michael Koch (excused), Sally Kolstad (excused) and Rox Poon (unexcused). New At Large Seat Board Member Michelle Waldenmeyer was appointed to the Board during below Item #IV. 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), so the Board could take such votes. Fourteen of the 17 Board Seats were filled (by election or appointment). Three Board Seats were vacant [all At Large]; to apply, see www.ghsnc.org. Also attended: approximately 100 Stakeholders and Guests.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM JULY 6TH, 2023 BOARD MEETING.

No corrections or amendments were made.

MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Mr. Benedetto): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its July 6, 2023 Regular Board Meeting as written.

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

IV. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPOINTMENT OF MICHELLE WALDENMEYER TO THE GHSNC BOARD.

MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Mr. Benedetto): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council appoints Michelle Waldenmeyer to the GHSNC Board.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Waldenmeyer, a resident, introduced herself and described her background.

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

Freddy Cupen-Ames, a Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate, L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment [DONE; 818-374-9890; Freddy.Cupen-Ames@LACity.org; www.EmpowerLA.org], led Ms. Waldenmeyer in saying aloud the Oath of Office.

Ms. Waldenmeyer was Seated at this time, making 10 Board Members present (the GHSNC quorum is nine).

V. ADMINISTRATIVE/FUNDING MOTIONS

A. Approval of Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) for April 2023.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Benedetto, seconded by Ms. Hart): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves the April Monthly Expenditure Report.

DISCUSSION: Copies were available of and Ms. Ronquillo reviewed the April Report.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the nine eligible voters present with eight in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Benedetto, Bogartz, Hart, Morris, Ronguillo, Smith, Toumayan and Williamson); zero opposed; one abstained (the GHSNC does not count abstentions as either "yes" or "no" votes) (Pena). One (Waldenmeyer) was ineligible to vote due to not having completed one or more of the required trainings and/or not having signed the Code of Conduct.

B. Approval of Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) for May 2023.

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Mr. Smith): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves its Monthly Expenditure Report for May 2023.

DISCUSSION: Copies were available of and Ms. Ronguillo reviewed the May Report.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the nine eligible voters present with seven in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Benedetto, Hart, Morris, Ronquillo, Smith, Toumayan and Williamson); zero opposed; two abstained (the GHSNC does not count abstentions as either "yes" or "no" votes) (Bogartz and Pena). One (Waldenmeyer) was ineligible to vote due to not having completed one or more of the required trainings and/or not having signed the Code of Conduct.

C. Approval of Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) for June 2023.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Benedetto): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves its Monthly Expenditure Report for June 2023.

DISCUSSION: Copies were available of and Ms. Ronquillo reviewed the June Report.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the nine eligible voters present with eight in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Benedetto, Hart, Morris, Pena, Ronquillo, Smith, Toumayan and Williamson); zero opposed; one abstained (the GHSNC does not count abstentions as either "yes" or "no" votes) (Bogartz). One (Waldenmeyer) was ineligible to vote due to not having completed one or more of the required trainings and/or not having signed the Code of Conduct.

D. Move to approve Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Administrative Packet

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Benedetto, seconded by Ms. Hart): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves its Fiscal Year budget for 2023-2024, also known as the Administrative Packet.

AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Hart): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council corrects Packet page three to show that the Vice-President is Mike Benedetto and the Secretary is Colleen Toumayan.

AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a voice vote; zero opposed; zero abstained.

AMENDED FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the nine eligible voters present with all nine in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Benedetto, Bogartz, Hart, Morris, Pena, Ronquillo, Smith, Toumayan and Williamson); zero opposed; zero abstained. One (Waldenmeyer) was ineligible to vote due to not having completed one or more of the required trainings and/or not having signed the Code of Conduct.

E. Move to authorize executive committee members to use personal credit cards in the event purchases exceed \$333.00 for the month of August.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Benedetto): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council authorizes Executive Committee Members to use personal credit cards in the event purchases exceed \$333.00 for the month of August.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Morris explained the Motion. Former Board Member Cheri Derohanian noted that Board Members have had to wait months for

reimbursements. Mr. Cupen-Ames noted that "no more than a thousand dollars would be reimbursed."

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the nine eligible voters present with all nine in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Benedetto, Bogartz, Hart, Morris, Pena, Ronguillo, Smith, Toumayan and Williamson); zero opposed; zero abstained. One (Waldenmeyer) was ineligible to vote due to not having completed one or more of the required trainings and/or not having signed the Code of Conduct.

- F. Appointment of Financial Officers of the Board
 - 1. Neighborhood Council Bank Card Holder (Colleen Toumayan)

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Mr. Smith): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves Colleen Toumayan as the Neighborhood Council Bank Card Holder.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the nine eligible voters present with all nine in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Benedetto, Bogartz, Hart, Morris, Pena, Ronguillo, Smith, Toumayan and Williamson); zero opposed; zero abstained. One (Waldenmeyer) was ineligible to vote due to not having completed one or more of the required trainings and/or not having signed the Code of Conduct.

2. Second Card Holder (Mike Benedetto)

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Smith, seconded by MLB): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves Mike Benedetto as the Second Card Holder.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the nine eligible voters present with all nine in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Benedetto, Bogartz, Hart, Morris, Pena, Ronguillo, Smith, Toumayan and Williamson); zero opposed; zero abstained. One (Waldenmeyer) was ineligible to vote due to not having completed one or more of the required trainings and/or not having signed the Code of Conduct.

3. Second Signer (Mark Morris)

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Mr. Benedetto): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves Mark Morris as the Second Signer.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the nine eligible voters present with all nine in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Benedetto, Bogartz, Hart, Morris, Pena, Ronguillo, Smith, Toumayan and Williamson); zero opposed; zero abstained. One (Waldenmeyer) was ineligible to vote due to not having completed one or more of the required trainings and/or not having signed the Code of Conduct.

4. Alternate Signer (Mike Benedetto)

FUNDING MOTION (by MLW, seconded by Ms. Hart): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council approves Mike Benedetto as the Alternate Signer.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the nine eligible voters present with all nine in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Benedetto, Bogartz, Hart, Morris, Pena, Ronguillo, Smith, Toumayan and Williamson); zero opposed; zero abstained. One (Waldenmeyer) was ineligible to vote due to not having completed one or more of the required trainings and/or not having signed the Code of Conduct.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A. PLANNING AND LAND USE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (PLUMC)
 - 1. Discussion and possible action on a Planning and Land Use Management Committee recommendation to the Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council (GHSNC) Board regarding Los Angeles City Planning Case Number ZA-2022-2796-CUB (17511-13 CHATSWORTH ST., GRANADA HILLS, CA, 91344); i.e. Project Description: "A request for a full-line, on-site alcohol sales in an existing 3,075 sq. ft. restaurant with 88 indoor seats, and daily hours of 11:00am to 1:00am." On May 11, 2023, the PLUM Committee voted 4-0 not to oppose this request.
 - a) DRAFT Motion: The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council accepts the recommendation of the Planning and Land Use Management Committee (PLUMC) not to oppose the request for full-line on-site alcohol sales at 17511-13 Chatsworth St., Granada Hills, CA 91344.

Mr. Smith explained that the PLUM Committee considered this and that "there was pretty extensive testimony."

MOTION (by the Planning and Land Use Management Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council accepts the recommendation of the Planning and Land Use Management Committee (PLUMC) not to oppose the request for full-line on-site alcohol sales at 17511-13 Chatsworth St., Granada Hills, CA 91344.

DISCUSSION: Resident Maria Fisk noted that the store would be open until 1:00 a.m., "much later than it is now." Mr. Smith reported that "there was no opposition" at the Committee meeting and that the developer promised to comply with the conditions. A Stakeholder also said that the developer agreed to all the conditions.

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

2. Discussion and possible action on a Planning and Land Use Management Committee recommendation to the Board regarding testimony and information presented by Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) at the Tuesday, May 2 meeting of the Van Nuys (VNY) Airport Citizens Advisory Council.

a) See "Vision Study," regarding the capacity expansion proposals; note that all three alternatives include aviation capacity expansion (i.e. from 2-4 new "change to Aviation Area," options, all beyond current uses, at the airport). Also note that the "Vision Study" is the first step for future planning," at Van Nuys Airport, according to LAWA, and that LAWA is at the "select Vision Study Preferred Land Use Alternative" as of May, 2023.

MOTION (by the Planning and Land Use Management Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council accepts the recommendation of the Planning and Land Use Management Committee (PLUMC) to contact other Neighborhood Councils in the San Fernando Valley to determine their interest in co-sponsoring a joint public forum on issues regarding the management of Van Nuys Airport, at a date and location to be determined.

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

b) See upcoming-procurements.ashx (lawa.org), page one, regarding the "Leasing opportunity for continued use as a big box store on commercial land" (16800 Roscoe Blvd; 20-year-lease); page one, regarding the "Leasing and redevelopment opportunity for continued recreational uses on open space/ recreational land" (6550 Odessa Ave., 20-year-lease); and page eight "Reconstruction of six crossing taxiways and three exit taxiways at Van Nuys Airport (VNY)." (\$30M); "Leasing and redevelopment opportunity of commercial land (7277 Valjean Ave.)" (30-year-lease); and "Leasing and redevelopment opportunity of aviation land." (Note: this refers to two separate 30-year-leases, 7701 Woodley Ave. AND 16425 Hart St. / 16431 Vanowen St.); and page nine "Planned reconstruction of Van Nuys Airport (VNY) Airfield." (\$15-\$25M), among others.

The above was noted.

c) See Van Nuys Airport History of Aircraft Operations" (2017: 231K; 2021: 301K); and "Santa Monica Airport 2021 Annual Operations Report, Jet Aircraft Trend" (2017: 15,360); 2021: 2,725.

The above was noted.

d) Note the Los Angeles City Council in 2022-23 has adopted three motions (22-1125, 22-1127, and 22-1489) dedicated, in part, to investigating and addressing the: (aa) increased jet charter activity at VNY airport, (bb) a new specific plan for the airport, and (cc) projects that have allegedly allowed for changes in aviation capacity at VNY.

The above was noted.

e) May 11, 2023, the PLUM Committee voted 4-0 to recommend the following to the GHSNC Board:

The above was noted.

f) DRAFT Motion: The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council accepts the recommendation of the Planning and Land Use Management Committee (PLUMC) to contact other Neighborhood Councils in the San Fernando Valley to determine their interest in co-sponsoring a joint public forum on issues regarding the management of Van Nuys Airport, at a date and location to be determined.

See above Item #VI. A. 2. a.

- 3. Discussion and possible action on a Planning and Land Use Management Committee recommendation to the Board regarding Los Angeles City Planning Case Number CPC-2022-1981-CU-DRB-SPP-SPR; (i.e. proposed Home Depot development located at 16830 West Devonshire Street (CPC-2022-1981-CUSPP-SPR/ENV-2022-1982-EAF) by representatives of the applicant. On May 11, 2023, the PLUM Committee voted 4-0 0 to recommend the following to the GHSNC Board:
 - a) DRAFT Motion: The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council accepts the recommendation of the Planning and Land Use Management Committee (PLUMC) to request the City of Los Angeles require a full Environmental Impact Report (EIR) on Los Angeles City Planning Case Number CPC-2022-1981-CU-DRB-SPP-SPR; (i.e. proposed Home Depot development located at 16830 West Devonshire Street (CPC-2022-1981-CUSPP-SPR/ENV-2022-1982-EAF), in order to comply with all requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

MOTION (by the Planning and Land Use Management Committee): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council accepts the recommendation of the Planning and Land Use Management Committee (PLUMC) to request the City of Los Angeles require a full Environmental Impact Report (EIR) on Los Angeles City Planning Case Number CPC-2022-1981-CU-DRB-SPP-SPR; (i.e. proposed Home Depot development located at 16830 West Devonshire Street (CPC-2022-1981-CUSPP-SPR/ENV-2022-1982-EAF), in order to comply with all requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

DISCUSSION: Ms. Derohanian said "Home Depot does not belong . . . in Granada Hills." Another Stakeholder said having a Home Depot here "is a bad idea . . [and would cause].traffic . . . pollution . . . possible toxic hazard." Another said "there's no storm drains in that whole area," which goes by Bull Creek, a wildlife area. Resident Steven Hubbard, of Stop Home Depot, said "the EIR is desperately needed." Resident Mickey Martinez was concerned about traffic and other negative effects on small businesses and residents. Nearby resident Howard Cohen said "the abutting neighborhood will be negatively impacted" and believed that Kroger plans to build a distribution

center across the street. Les Claypool, a construction consultant, said "it's the wrong thing in the wrong place." Nearby resident Jeremy said there's "no open space" planned and "mom-and-pop restaurants" would be negatively affected. Lance Selfridge was concerned about pedestrian safety and believed that Home Depot "would upend" peoples' lives. Ms. Fisk said that "an EIR is just the first step," noting that there would be deliveries after open hours. Long-time resident Candace Stein believed that "the current studies are very inadequate . . . I don't think Home Depot . . . did their due diligence." She reported that 1,944 people had signed a Change.org petition supporting requesting an EIR. Les Claypool has been "a dedicated Home Depot shopper for decades . . . There's nothing that occurs in Home Depot lots that you want happening in your neighborhood . . . the traffic is just insane." Another nearby resident was "strongly opposed" to the project and noted nearby traffic collisions. Mr. Cohen requested that the PLUM Committee Agendize the Kroger distribution center. Bob Herrigan reported that holes have been drilled in the lot where Home Depot wants to locate. Long-time resident Marty Krager said Home Depot would have two loading docks and that "you're going to have a line of semi-trucks" in the street. A current worker in the shopping center said there is not enough truck turning area. Long-time resident Sandra Ralling wanted Home Depot to consider other locations and for CD12 to help.

Ms. Williamson thanked Stop Home Depot for their research. Ms. Bogartz was concerned about the effect on parents picking up their children at schools, and the loss of small businesses that contribute to schools. Dan Rosales, Planning Director for L.A. City District 12 Councilmember John Lee [ofc. 818-882-1212; Dan.Rosales@LACity.org; https://councildistrict12.lacity.gov], reported that City Planner Renata Ooms was assigned to the Home Depot project. He added that Councilmember Lee is "in support of an EIR . . . the Stop Home Depot group has done an awesome job . . . we want an EIR." Mr. Rosales emphasized that people need to speak City Planners' language. Nearby resident Ms. Hart said the "traffic report was done by Home Depot."

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

4. Discussion and possible recommendation to the Board regarding the status of the Design Review Board and Granada Hills Specific Plan.

MOTION to REFER (by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Hart): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council REFERS Item #VI. 4. to the Planning and Land Use Management Committee.

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

VII. Appointment of Standing Committee Chairs.

Mr. Morris read aloud the below list. Ms. Derohanian supported the appointments.

Beautification-John Horn Cultural Affairs-Launa Bogartz Educations-Abbey Ronquillo
Homelessness-John Horn
Outreach-Michael Benedetto
Planning and Land Use-Brad Smith
Public Safety-Brad Smith
Youth-Abbey Ronquillo
Sustainability-George Karam
Seniors-Sally Kolstad

MOTION (by Mr. Morris): The Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council appoints the following Standing Committee Chairs: Beautification-John Horn; Cultural Affairs-Launa Bogartz; Educations-Abbey Ronquillo; Homelessness-John Horn; Outreach-Michael Benedetto; Planning and Land Use-Brad Smith; Public Safety-Brad Smith; Youth-Abbey Ronquillo; Sustainability-George Karam; and Seniors-Sally Kolstad.

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

VIII. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS.

Ms. Derohanian reported that the Museum of the San Fernando Valley [818-347-9665; https://TheMuseumSFVNow.org; 18904 Nordhoff St, Northridge, CA 91324] Pan-Asian Festival "was a real success." She thanked the GHSNC for having previously allocated \$1,500 in funding to the Museum. Nearby Petit Park resident Laurie said that the Park "has been failing and falling apart for years." She noted three recent area shootings of people and other shots fired. "There's a high amount of drug dealing, gang activity . . . [and] prostitution." Park hours are being ignored; "we really need more security." Guest Glenn Bailey encouraged attending VANC [Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils; VANC@EmpowerLA.org; http://empowerla.org/vanc-2] meetings on second Thursday nights.

IX. ELECTED OFFICES/DEPARTMENTS/ORGANIZATION ANNOUNCEMENTS.

- A. City Council District 12 Representative.

 Jonathan Coto, Special Projects Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilmember

 John Lee [ofc. 818-882-1212; Jonathan.Coto@LACity.org; www.CD12.org], was
 not present and there was no report.
- B. LAPD Senior Lead Officer or alternate representative.

 Resident Richard Fisk, for Alan Sellers, an LAPD Devonshire Division Senior
 Lead Officer for the east and south (of Chatsworth St.) sides of Granada Hills
 [office 424-364-5568; 31934@LAPD.LACity.org; DevonshireSLO@LAPD.Online;
 https://www.lapdonline.org/lapd-contact/valley-bureau/devonshire-communitypolice-station]], reported that a recent Petit Park shooting was confirmed as gangrelated. The LAPD is hiring. Crime statistics are available online.

Sophia Sudani, a Field Deputy for L.A. County District Three Supervisor Lindsey Horvath (818-901-3831; SSudani@SophiaSudani@bos.LACounty.gov; https://lindseyhorvath.lacounty.gov), reported that cooling center, small landlord (1-4 units) mortgage relief, and non-profit 501(c)3 discretionary funds information was available.

Board Member Launa Bogartz left at this time, making nine Board Members present, (the GHSNC Board quorum was nine).

X. PRESENTATION BY DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT. Mr. Cupen-Ames presented and noted the need for Board Members to complete trainings. The Congress of Neighborhoods, with breakfast, lunch and workshops, will be in-person Saturday, September 23rd at City Hall. Parking will be provided. There will be online Treasurer training September 28th 6:30-7:30 p.m.

XI. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.

Mr. Smith wanted to Agendize requesting a CD12 report on the Petit Park pool replacement project, noting that "this is a crucial recreation facility" and that, for a long time, the City has promised to repair it. He also wanted to Agendize "who is responsible for accidents when City sidewalks are obstructed?" Mr. Benedetto noted broken Petit Park equipment and that funding was approved six to seven months ago. He believed that the Kroger plan is against the Specific Plan. He noted that homeless people immediately moved back to an area just cleaned by the City. Ms. Tournayan thanked Stakeholders for attending, and she and Ms. Ronquillo thanked Stop Home Depot for their work. Ms. Ronquillo wanted to Agendize about website accessibility and adding pronouns to website profiles. Mr. Morris thanked everyone for attending, noting "we're here first Thursdays every month."

XII. ADJOURNMENT.

MOTION to **ADJOURN** (by Ms. Hart, seconded by Mr. Benedetto).

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

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 8:39 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.