



Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council

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Board Meeting Minutes July 3, 2025 7:14PM-7:52PM (DRAFT)

Regular Meeting Location: Granada Hills Charter High School Rawley Hall

10535 Zelzah Ave. Granada Hills, CA 91344
(MAIL NOT ACCEPTED AT THIS ADDRESS)

Boardmember	Roll Call	Funding Vote Eligible*	Category
Michael Benedetto	Present		At Large Director
Anush Danielyan	Present		At Large Director
Brendel Geddes	Present		At Large Directors
Carol Hart	Present		At Large Director
John Horn	Present		At Large Director
Sally Kolstad	Excused		At Large Director
Amanda Mercado-Nguyen	Present		At Large Director
James Mercado-Nguyen	Present		At Large Director
Mark Morris	Absent		At Large Director
Jeremy Oberstein	Present		At Large Director
Abbey Ronquillo, President	Present		At Large Director
Brad Smith	Present		At Large Director
Emily Tarverdyan	Absent		At Large Director
Vacant			Youth Boardmember
Vacant			At Large Director
Vacant			At Large Director
Vacant			At Large Director
Total Board Members -17	10 Present 03 Absent		At Large Director

*Funding vote eligibility key: **A**=age less than 18 yrs.; **E**=Ethics training; **F**=Funding training; **N**=not taken; **X**=expired

** Advance notice given for absence (VOTE KEY: Yes, No, Abstain, Ineligible, Recuse, Absent)

I. CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE The meeting was called to order by Jose Galdamez, NEA from DONE at 7:14PM- Jose Galdamez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. ROLL CALL

GHSNC ITEM II. Roll Call		
Present –10	Absent 02	Excused-01
Benedetto, Danielyan, Geddes, Hart, Horn, A. Mercado-Nguyen, Oberstein, Ronquillo, Smith, J. Mercado-Nguyen	Morris, Tarverdyan	Kolstad

III. SPECIAL ORDERS Stakeholder called for a Point of Order. She stated that DONE General Manager Carmen Chang told her she could. It is according to The Los Angeles Administrative Code 22801.1 Stakeholders and Bylaws 2.2. The Treasurer and other Board members did not complete their trainings and were not eligible

to vote in the previous meetings including the MERS. She stated who was not eligible and they voted anyways. She wanted the President to rule on this. There is currently no President so Mr. Galdamez suggest it that she state it to the Board. She raised concerns about the previous meetings minutes. At this time there is not a set of minutes that the Board will be able to vote on due to gross errors. This is not a Public Comment, it is a Point of Order and she expects a ruling. The votes that were done last month are wrong. Mr. Galdamez was told he can't rule. Mike Benedetto stated that all of the votes from last month are re-agendized for tonight.

- a. Installation of newly-elected Board of Directors (Oath of Office) Jose Galdamez swore in the Board.
- b. Election of new Executive Officers:
 - i. President/Chair-**Oberstein nominated Ronquillo seconded by A. Mercado-Nguyen**
 1. **Abbey Ronquillo stated that she has been on the Neighborhood Council for three terms. Her background is in Psychology and Organizational Leadership. She has done the Robert's Rules of Order Training.**

Public Comment:

- a. **Stakeholder Brian- He understands that the members of this Board colluded and had communications behind the scenes, and came to a decision on who should be elected to the Executive Positions. He asked them to be honest and admit to it.**
- b. **Stakeholder Maria we have gone through many Presidents because it is overwhelming and then they leave.**
- c. **Garry- Mike is a seasoned President and has done nothing wrong this is Dirty Politics. This is very sad.**
- d. **Glenn- following the rules is very important. The last few meetings he witnessed that the BACS were being signed when people who voted were ineligible. This a primary responsibility. The buck stops with you and you need to be compliant.**
- e. **Stakeholder- You (Ms. Ronquillo) had not finished your training- can you explain why?**

Motion: Passed

GHSNC ITEM III a. Motion to appoint Abbey Ronquillo as the Board President.				
Moved: Oberstein Seconded: A. Mercado-Nguyen				
Yes-10	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-00	Absent-03
Benedetto, Danielyan, Geddes, Hart, Horn, A. Mercado-Nguyen, J. Mercado-Nguyen, Oberstein, Ronquillo, Smith	None	None	None	Kolstad, Morris, Tarverdyan

- ii. Vice President- **Mike Benedetto was nominated by Hart and seconded by J. Mercado-Nguyen. Jeremy Oberstein was nominated by Smith and seconded by J. Mercado-Nguyen. Jeremy recognizes that Mike has a lot of experience on the Board. He ran for the Board to be a part of public service and sees opportunity to work together. Mike-stated that he and Abbey have worked together for a long time. He has a love for the Neighborhood Council.**

A Boardmember-stated that it is a rumor that Jeremy Oberstein is not a stake holder. Jeremy Oberstein stated he is a Stakeholder and has a small business that is based in Granada Hills. For whatever reason it was looked into by DONE and they ruled on it today. Motion to Postpone the entire Agenda until the next meeting.

Public Comment:

- a. Stakeholder-What is your business and what kind of business is it?
- b. Stakeholder-Why won't you answer the question?
- c. Glenn Stakeholder- Saw the email from the Department. There is nothing in there that includes the documentation used. I was an Election Administrator and reviewed hundreds of filing forms for Neighborhood Council applicants and their documentation. The issue is that the City Clerk was given a P.O. Box for Granada Hills Post Office. You cannot work at the Granada Hills Post Office running your business. You can't live at the Granada Hills Post Office and you can't own property at the Granada Hills Post Office. I hope this is addressed after Public Comment.

Jeremy Oberstein stated he had no role in the adjudication of the matter with DONE. According to the laws of the City and the Neighborhood Council Bylaws, I am a stakeholder in this volunteer position. My business, a communications firm, where I work with foundations and non-profit organizations to help them communicate their message and have worked in city hall for more than 10 years, for councilmembers and elected officials. I am a Stakeholder for all intents and purposes. I am not sure how else I can say that. He responded that he lives in Northridge. Th P.O Box is the address of his office.

Brian Allen stated that in his opinion it does not qualify him for the Board.

NEA, Jose Galdamez for a qualifying address a P.O. Box can not be used for stakeholder ship.

Jeremy Oberstein-If that is what you rule as the NEA, then that is okay. Look, this is a volunteer position

Jose Galdamez said he would follow up as well.

Jeremy Oberstein-stated that in light of that he would withdraw from the nomination and resign from the Neighborhood Council.

Motion: Passed

GHSNC ITEM II. Motion to Postpone all items on the agenda until the next Board meeting so they can get clarification. Moved: Smith Seconded: Ronquillo				
Yes-10	No-00	Abstain-01	Ineligible-00	Absent-03
Benedetto, Danielyan, Geddes, Hart, Horn, A. Mercado-Nguyen, J. Mercado-Nguyen, Oberstein, Ronquillo, Smith	None	Oberstein	None	Kolstad, Morris, Tarverdyan

President Ronquillo moved the meeting to Item VIII., Public Comment

- iii. Secretary
- iv. Treasurer
- v. Parliamentarian

- c. Appointment of Financial Officers of the Board
 - i. Neighborhood Council Bank Card Holder
 - ii. Second Card Holder (optional)
 - iii. Second Signer

iv. Alternate Signer (optional)

d. Appointment of Standing Committee Chairs and Members

- i. Budget –
- ii. Beautification- John Horn
- iii. Public Safety– Brad Smith
- iv. Outreach- Mike Benedetto
- v. Planning and Land Use- Brad Smith
- vi. Homelessness – John Horn
- vii. Sustainability – Anush Danielyan
- viii. Education – Abbey Ronquillo
- ix. Youth – Abbey Ronquillo
- x. Seniors – Sally Kolstad
- xi. Culture affairs-

See list of proposed Committee members as fully incorporated herein

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE/FUNDING MOTIONS

- a. Discussion and possible action to re-confirm and or reapprove the following General Board and meeting items in this agenda mark with a (*). These designated agenda items in question were heard at the June 5, 2025
- b. * Approval of Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) June 2025
- c. Approval of Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) for April, May 2025
- d. * Approval of Board minutes May 1, 2025 and None for June 5, 2025
- e. Approval of the 2025- 2026 Admin Budget

V. NEW & OLD BUSINESS

- a. Discussion and possible action to for a CIS and or Letter to Mayor Bass and others on Council File to five – 0600 –7 to restore our yearly funds back to \$32K. BACKGROUND: NCs expenses are skyrocketing, including but not limited to, Google/Web costs, addition of Canva cost, printing, virtual meeting cost, storage, minute writer, refreshments, Outreach giveaways, community improvements and in the coming term we may have to pay for our meeting place. In short, as the prices are going up all around us, we are expected to function for less.
- b. * Discussion and possible action to approve up to \$ 275.00 to refill our helium tanks and Purchase and Balloons for outreach events
- c. * Discussion and possible action and taking a position on Councilman Blumenfield’s proposal to make Hanoi North Vietnam a sister city to Los Angeles CF - 25 – 0193 and a related file of\ CF – 19 – 0002 – S101

VI. ELECTED OFFICES/DEPARTMENTS/ORGANIZATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Council District 12 (John Lee) Lorena Espinal
- b. DONE, (NEA Mario Hernandez)
- c. Budget Advocate (Brian Allen)
- d. LAPD Senior Lead Officer or alternate representative ONLY

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS-NONE

VIII. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT OF NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS

- a. **Stakeholder Glenn-when people write an address with a P.O. Box, they write P.O. Box then the number, generally they don't use the street address of the Post Office. If they are not trying to show that it is not P.O. Box they use the street address of the Post Office.**
- b. **Stakeholder Garry says that he does usually hear of someone saying they own a business when it is a non-profit, No one made any reference to the Bylaws of this Board.**

President Ronquillo moved the meeting to Item X., Adjournment

IX. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

X. **ADJOURNMENT The meeting was adjourned at 7:52PM**

NEXT MEETING WILL BE August. 7, 2025