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2 **Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council**

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4 **Minutes for Board Meeting, February 27, 2006**

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6 **Van Gogh Street School, 17160 Van Gogh Street, Granada Hills, Ca. 91344**

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10 **Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Welcome** to audience by Chairperson Michael Greenwald.

11 **Public Comment on Non Agenda Items:**

12 Stakeholder Alan Litt spoke about emergency preparedness and the importance of having an
13 emergency preparedness kit on hand. He represents Alamar Products, a local company that
14 provides discounts on these items to schools.

15 Mary Ellen Crosby, Chairman of Friends of O'Melveny Park, requested volunteers to help with the
16 Egg Hunt on April 8th as well as donations of baskets. She reported on the progress of replacing
17 trees, which has been postponed, for the moment, by the City. Friends of the Park are having their
18 next meeting at March 8th at Mary Ellen's home.

19 Stakeholder Frank Nolan, a 5th grade teacher at Knollwood Elementary School, asked about the
20 progress of getting speed bumps on his street. GHNNC Vice Chairperson Kim Thompson said his
21 street is on the list to be done by the City.

22 Jane Stanton, Director of N. Valley YMCA, made a presentation to the Board requesting the Board
23 help the Y.M.C.A. with Camp funding and money to repair their child care facility. Becky Bendikson
24 opposed the Board taking any action to contribute financially to the "Y" and read a statement from
25 City Attorney Darren Martinez regarding the expenditure of public funds (Govt. Code 1090). She also
26 asked Board member Donna Zero, principal of Van Gogh Elementary School, to recuse herself from
27 this discussion, saying there was a conflict of interest.

28 Chair Mike Greenwald clarified that they were being asked to help make repairs on the
29 modular unit for the Y; not make a donation, since the GHNNC cannot offer scholarships or
30 donations to non-profits. Becky recommended to the Board that action be postponed until this
31 matter is clarified.

32 Donna Zero said that she did not have a conflict of interest and that her school does not
33 receive any financial gain from this matter; that the "Y" only leases the land from the School
34 District.

35 **Sid Gold made a motion, seconded by Dev Parikh, that this article be sent to the Executive**
36 **Committee, which meets on March 20th. Vote: .For: 19 Opposed 0 Abstentions 0**

37 ? Kim Thompson's report on Budget Day was tabled for next month.

38 **3 Acceptance of minutes: The Board approved the minutes of December 19th on a**
39 **vote of 17 for and 2 abstentions.**

40 The minutes of November 28th (Regular and Special Meeting) were not approved. Becky Bendikson
41 suggested to the Board that the minutes (which were transcribed off a taped recording) were not complete.
42 She committed to listening to the tape from that meeting and filling in the missing information.

43 She also said the minutes of January 30, 2006 were incomplete. Becky committed to listening to that
44 meeting's tape and filling in the missing information.

45 4. Nominations to fill Neighborhood Organization Position open District 3 Positions. The
46 Ad Hoc Nominating Committee introduced Leon Marzillier for the existing opening on
47 the GHNNC Board. Tom Tcimpidis, a longstanding volunteer and husband of Board
48 member Linda Tcimpidis, was also presented as a candidate for the open seat,
49 recommended by Chairperson Mike Greenwald. A heated discussion took place over
50 whether the Ad Hoc Committee overlooked Tom for the seat, whether Tom followed
51 correct procedures in applying for the Board seat, and whether the Chair had purposely
52 delayed a vote on the Ad Hoc Nominating Committee's recommendation of Leon
53 Marzillier.

54 Sid Gold suggested appointing both candidates but Kim Thompson said there was only one seat
55 available and that the Ad Hoc Committee had already presented their candidate. Ben Pedrick suggested
56 that it was not advisable to have two members of the same family serve on the Board. Linda Tcimpidis noted
57 that she and her husband were separate entities and neither tells the other what to do.

58 Tom Tcimpidis was then asked to return to the room (after being recused during discussion). He said
59 that the Ad Hoc Committee never contacted him to follow up on his interest in the position. Bill Cotter then
60 suggested that Tom could have spoken with him at any of the meetings. Tom Tcimpidis then withdrew his
61 name from the Board opening. **A motion was put forth by the Ad Hoc Nominating Committee to**
62 **nominate Leon Marzillier to the open position in District 3. The motion passed with a vote of For**
63 **14, Opposed 1 and Abstentions 4.**

64 **The Chair then nominated Tom Tcimpidis to fill the open seat on the Neighborhood Organization.**
65 **The Board approved this motion with a vote of: For 11, Opposed 3, and Abstentions 6.**

66 5. Grievance Procedures: Seeking input from DONE:

67 The Board discussed whether there is a grievance policy that works for Board members who have issues.
68 The Chair suggested that either the Ethics Committee or Policy and Rules should review this item. **Becky**
69 **Bendikson made a motion, seconded by Wayne Aller, to send a description of a Grievance Policy**
70 **to the Ethics Committee.** The Chair asked the Board to forward any thoughts on this to Ben Pedrick,
71 Chair of the Ethics Committee before their next meeting on March 20; Michael then changed the date for the
72 Executive Committee's next meeting to March 21.

73 6. Appoint representative to City Attorney Roundtable. Kim Thompson and Becky
74 Bendikson reported to the Board on what takes place at this meeting. Becky said that she went to the
75 most recent meeting where she received photocopies that she would distribute to Board at the next
76 meeting. **Becky then volunteered to be the official representative for the GHNNC at the City**
77 **Attorney Roundtable meetings.**

78 7. Send rep for GHNNC to National CERT Conference in L.A. May 15 B 17th funding up to
79 \$500.00: The Board discussed this motion presented by Linda Tcimpidis. **Wayne**
80 **Aller made a motion, seconded by Sue DeVandry, that the Board approve the**
81 **appointment of a representative to the National CERT Conference, May 15 B**
82 **17th.** Mary Ellen Crosby suggested Scott Manatt for a back up but Scott said he
83 couldn't make it. **The Board approved this motion with a vote of: For 18,**
84 **Opposed 1 and Abstention 1.**

- 85 **8.** Discussion of possible motion to appoint a rep to Neighborhood USA Conference,
86 Kansas City, with funding of \$1,100.00. **The Board discussed Linda Tcimpidis's**
87 **motion, seconded by Sue DeVandry, for having a Board Member attend this**
88 **upcoming training in Kansas City, Memorial Day weekend.** Questions were
89 raised about whether Board members really needed to go so far to get this training and
90 whether the expenditure was worthwhile. Linda pointed out, as Financial Officer, that
91 the GHNNC has about \$95,000 in funding which will be pulled by the City if they don't
92 spend it. **The Board opposed sending a rep to this conference by a vote of: For**
93 **3 , Opposed 13 , and Abstentions 3 .**
- 94 **9.** Discussion and possible formation of a stakeholder committee to develop Board
95 members for the 2005/2006 Board Officers. **Becky Bendikson introduced a**
96 **motion, seconded by Wayne Aller, ATo form an Ad Hoc committee comprised**
97 **of stakeholders to seek out board members for the 3/27/06 election of officers.@**
98 There were questions about whether this motion could be voted on since the words,
99 AAd Hoc,@ referred to stakeholders and it was not posted as such. Mary Anna
100 Keinholtz noted that the Brown Act states that if you are going to have a stakeholder on
101 the Ad Hoc Committee, you have to post it. **Scott Manatt made a friendly**
102 **amendment, accepted by Becky, to remove the words AAd Hoc.@ ATo form a**
103 **committee comprised of stakeholders to seek out board members for the**
104 **3/27/06 election of officers.@** Sue DeVandry mentioned that she received numerous
105 stakeholders' surveys expressing interest in serving on committees. **The Board**
106 **approved this motion with a vote of: For 14 , Opposed 2 , and Abstentions 4 .**
- 107 **10.** Treasurers Report, Donna Zero: Donna reviewed her report on credit card expenses,
108 demand warrants, and petty cash disbursements. The Board then asked DONE rep
109 Tom Soong how they could resolve reimbursement delays with DONE over providing
110 original documents, when the originals have previously been sent to DONE and
111 reportedly lost. Tom said he would find an answer to that problem and get back to the
112 Board on it.

113 Linda Tcimpidis: Financial Officer Report: Linda said that DONE has requested new financial procedures
114 for new board members to follow (motions come up later in the minutes).

115 On petty cash, Linda said some signatures by Board Members were illegible. She requested Board
116 Members and Committee Chairs sign and print name then turn petty cash receipts in to Donna Zero.
117 Charges by Postal Plus were discussed relating to the way the owner bills the Board. Bill Cotter suggested
118 the vendor be told to record all invoice charges to remain in compliance with Brown Act rules. Discussion
119 also involved the wording of Sign Out forms used when recorders and other Board equipment is borrowed
120 and whether that language is too restrictive. The Chair suggested discussing this further at the next
121 Executive Committee meeting.

122 Committee Reports.

123 Policy and Rules: Mary Anna Kienholz: Acting Committee Chairperson reported that Board member Mary
124 Edwards is very ill. A Get Well card was circulated outside the meeting after the meeting adjourned.

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Mary Anna presented four motions:

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#1: **A**The Policy and Rules Committee asks that the Executive Board meet every month and as part of their agenda, discuss all grievances and issues from the GHNNC Board, stakeholders, or other interested parties and make a report of the Committee's recommendations within two Board Meetings. @ Mary Anna said this motion was approved by the Board on Dec. 21, 2004 but has not been observed on a regular basis. The Chair responded that there has been a lack of a quorum and that's why meetings have not been held monthly. Chair ruled that this motion did not require any vote since it was already approved.

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2: **A**That the minutes of the GHNNC Board be sent each month to Board Members as soon as they are received from the recording officer. @

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Michael said the minutes transcriber from PDQ would be asked to email the minutes to Board members to avoid any delays. This motion did not require a vote.

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#3: **A**The Policy and Rules Committee rules to wait until the next round of bylaws are approved before sending them to DONE for approval. @ The Board approved this motion with a vote of: For 18, Opposed 1, and Abstention 1.

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#4: **A**The Policy and Rules Committee moves to add to the policy and guidelines that the members of the Executive Committee, i.e. chairperson, vice chairperson, financial officer, treasurer, and recording officer may serve up to two consecutive terms, one year each, in any particular office, and may thereafter run for any seat for which she or he is qualified. @

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Scott Manatt offered a friendly amendment accepted by Mary Anna changing it to:

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AThe Policy and Rules Committee moves to add to the policy and guidelines that the members of the Executive Committee, i.e. chairperson, vice chairperson, financial officer, treasurer, and recording officer may serve up to two consecutive terms, one year each, in any particular office, and may thereafter run for any other seat for which she or he is qualified. @ The Board did not approve this motion with a vote of: For 5, Opposed 14, and Abstentions 2.

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Financial Committee: Linda Tcimpidis presented four motions from her committee; two others were postponed for the next meeting:

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#1: **A**To approve \$96.00 per year for the GHNNC PO Box expense, per year. @ The Board approved this motion, unanimously.

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#2: **A**To request that all petty cash reimbursements be for \$100.00 or less, per request, and that all petty cash receipts must be turned in within 30 days for reimbursement. @ The Board approved this motion with a vote of: For 19, Opposed 1, and Abstention 1.

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#3: **A**To approve a budget of up to \$200 for supplies for the Spring Egg Hunt in O'Melveny Park. @ The Board approved this motion with a vote of: For 19, Opposed 0, and Abstention 1. @

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#4: **A**To approve the GHNNC participation in the Community Service Partnership Project planned for April 1st, 2006 and for funding of up to \$500.00 for supplies and/or equipment for this event. @ The Board approved this motion with a vote of: For 17, Opposed 1, and Abstentions 4.

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Ad Hoc Technology Committee Report: Linda made a motion, recommended by her Committee, *That the Board request RFPs be sent out for competitive bids for website design services and for website hosting services.* The Board passed the motion by a vote of: For 18, Opposed 1, and Abstention 1.

Public Safety Committee: Tabled.

Planning and Land Use Committee: Anne Ziliak presented 3 motions:

#1: Possible cell tower on Sesnon and Constable. *That the GHNNC Board write a letter to the Bureau of City Engineering telling them that the design for this cell phone tower is unacceptable.* The Board passed this motion, unanimously.

#2: *To support Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council in the planning and land use process of the Target store project at 17055 San Fernando Mission Boulevard, if needed.* The Board passed this motion with a vote of: For 15, Opposed 1, and Abstentions 4.

#3: *That the GHNNC write a letter requesting information from the Metropolitan Water District regarding any building or treatment facility to treat sludge onsite at the Joseph Jensen Filtration Plant including information on the current processing equipment: spreaders being used in the spreading, drying, or treatment of sludge.* The Board approved this motion with a vote of: For 19, Opposed 0, Abstention 1.

Other discussion involved the Auto Use Ordinance. Anne asked the Board to help set up meetings with small businesses in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce. Anne also updates the Board on the Bull Canyon development, which was approved for 13 homes instead of 16. Anne said she anticipates a lawsuit as the developer is going to move forward on this without retaining walls. Lastly, Anne said the City Council is discussing how they will enforce Senate Bill 1818 on inclusionary zoning and said she would report on the status of this bill.

Executive Committee: The Chair reported on the Executive Committee's last meeting on February 20th.

Outreach Committee: Sue DeVandry gave an update on the receipt of over 500 surveys for the Mayor's Office. She said many contained helpful suggestions. She asked the Board to review her report and to discuss it at the next Board meeting.

DONE Rep Comment: Tom Soong gave a short report alerting the Board that he will be moving to another assignment next month but will come to the meeting to introduce his replacement.

Next meeting: March 27, 2006, 6:30pm at Van Gogh School. Meeting Adjourned.

Minutes prepared by Pat Kramer, PDQ Personnel