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**Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council \**  
**Board Meeting Monday, November 26, 2007**  
**Van Gogh School Auditorium, 17160 Van Gogh Street**  
**Granada Hills, CA**

**1. Meeting Called to Order: 6:45 p.m.** Pledge of allegiance.

**Roll Call:** Leon Marzillier, Anne Ziliak, Jonalyn Cooper, Mary Ellen Crosby, Michael Deering, Sue DeVandry, Scott Fisher, Sid Gold, Michael Greenwald, Wayde Hunter, Joshua Jordahl, William Lillenberg, Scott Manatt, Kathy Wagenbach. Quorum reached with 14 members.

Chair Leon Marzillier read Mayor Villaraigosa's letter regarding the passing of DONE GM Carol Baker-Tharp, who helped transform the Department over the last year.

**2. Approval of Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> minutes.** Tabled.

**3. Change of December's board meeting location:** The next GHNNC meeting will be held on Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> at Knollwood Methodist United Church, 12121 Balboa Blvd., Granada Hills.

**4. Public Comment:**

Raymond Yue announced various community parades and events including the Hollywood Holiday Parade and Martin Luther King Jr. parade.

Ernest Hilberg reported a problem with trees planted too close together. Mike Greenwald recommended an L.A. City Arborist check out the situation as well as the Dept. of Recreation and Parks.

**5. Treasurer's Report:** Scott Manatt reported that there is approximately \$125,000 left in the GHNNC account. With spending at about \$1,200 a month, he estimates there will be money left in the budget at the end of the fiscal year and that money will be rolled over to the City. If some good community projects could be found to spend this money on, more of this money could go toward helping the community. He urged the board and stakeholders to suggest any projects they believe are worthwhile.

- Mary Edwards suggested funding local schools' books and educational field trips, as well as helping feed the homeless. She noted that with the community's help, some of these people could get off the street.
- Jonalyn Cooper asked whether funding school projects would fall under Outreach. Outreach Chair Sue DeVandry said it would not; she believed it would fall under Education.
- DONE Rep Amelia Herrera-Robles pointed out that NCs are not permitted to spend city money on private facilities like homeless shelters. However, they can designate funding to purchase items for schools. She suggested sending letters to local schools asking them to submit requests for what they need. This would be considered public money for public use. Amelia also said that private schools cannot receive NC funding.
- Jonalyn asked for an item on this to be put on the next agenda.

**John Bwarie, Council member Smith's Report:** John said the Council office is continuing to focus on emergency preparedness, specifically earthquakes. CD 12 is the only district where its entire staff is CERT trained. He then mentioned that the DWP leadership is going through a change with a new GM waiting to be approved. He said the DWP Oversight Committee was formed to examine the rate increases. The Councilman is looking into this as well as members of the Oversight Committee.

Regarding questions about the Police Dept. being over their budget, John said he would look into it. On the need for building another police station in the West Valley, he attributed this to Prop Q.

56 He noted that Devonshire is one of the two largest police divisions in the city. By adding a new  
57 police station, it will reduce response time. It is also the area with the highest potential growth.  
58

59 Mary Edwards asked whether pharmacies are able to store extra medication in case of an  
60 emergency. She noted that consumers can't stockpile because they can't order advance  
61 prescriptions.  
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63 **6. Motion from the Executive Committee:** Sid Gold introduced this motion:  
64 **"That GHNNC establish an Ad Hoc Committee to plan and organize a special meeting to**  
65 **discuss the enhancement of our NC in the decisions of the L.A. City government."** Sid  
66 explained the reason behind this motion referring to lack of preparation time and a lack of  
67 information when dealing with city decisions needing input locally. Mike suggested having CDs  
68 made that can be played at NC meetings. Jonalyn suggested having online access to information.  
69 **The motion carried: 12-0-2.**  
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71 (Greenwald/Manatt) moved to appoint Sid Gold head of the Ad Hoc committee. The motion  
72 carried unanimously.  
73

74 **7. GHNNC Opposition to City Council Action on Mayerling Project:** Leon introduced this  
75 motion from GHNNC's PLUM committee pertaining to the City's recent approval of the zoning  
76 change on a K Overlay area at Mayerling, even though it was in conflict with the Community Plan.  
77 He noted that three members of the GHNNC went to City Hall to speak on this issue but their  
78 comments were ignored by Councilperson Smith. **(Gold/Marzillier) moved, "Whereas it is the**  
79 **duty of the City Councilperson to act as a representative the best interests of the**  
80 **community, and whereas City Councilperson Greig Smith acted by writing a letter to the**  
81 **City Planning Committee encouraging that they approve the Mayerling Project (MP), and**  
82 **whereas the MP was opposed by a vast percentage of the neighbors of the proposed (MP),**  
83 **and whereas the MP went against the specific plan and the K Overlay as designated for**  
84 **that area, and whereas the City Council, at the request of the Councilperson Greig Smith,**  
85 **voted in favor of MP, be it resolved that the GHNNC condemns the actions of**  
86 **Councilperson Greig Smith and the Los Angeles City Council and be it further resolved**  
87 **that a letter of condemnation be sent to the City Council and Council person Greig Smith.**  
88 **Be it further resolved that this letter be posted on the GHNNC websites and also posted at**  
89 **all notice locations of the GHNNC. And be it further resolved that copies of this**  
90 **condemnation be sent to all appropriate news outlets."**  
91

92 (Hunter/Greenwald) made a friendly amendment to have the letter of condemnation composed by  
93 the Exec Committee and sent to the City Council. 10-0-4.  
94

95 (Lillenber) made a friendly amendment to change the word "actions" to "action" (singular) of  
96 Councilperson Greig Smith. The friendly amendment was accepted.  
97

98 The motion carried: 12-0-2.  
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100 **8. Motion:** (Ziliak/Hunter) moved, "That the GHNNC request the results of the Recreation and  
101 Parks survey of the City parks in the North Valley that are suitable planting areas for the  
102 mitigation Oaks. In addition, the GHNNC also identify other planting areas in the North Valley and  
103 plant as many Oaks as close as possible to Sunshine Canyon (the area Oaks were removed).  
104 The unplanted balance be offered to Griffith Park and/or other areas of L.A. for their immediate  
105 planting provided that the City guarantee that an equal amount of replacement Oaks will be made  
106 available when additional areas in the North Valley are identified. Then the GHNNC send a letter  
107 with the recommendation to the City for completion of this required mitigation."  
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109 Anna Ziliak spoke about the need to keep the 1,000 trees in the North Valley.

110 (Gold) made a friendly amendment recommending splitting the motion into three, separate  
111 motions. The friendly amendment was accepted.

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#1: "That the GHNNC request the results of the Recreation and Parks survey of the City parks in the North Valley that are suitable planting areas for the mitigation Oaks. In addition, the GHNNC also identify other planting areas in the North Valley and plant as many Oaks as close as possible to Sunshine Canyon (the area Oaks were removed). **Motion carried unanimously.**

#2: "The unplanted balance be offered to Griffith Park and/or other areas of L.A. for their immediate planting provided that the City guarantee that an equal amount of replacement Oaks will be made available when additional areas in the North Valley are identified." **Motion failed: 2-9-3**

#3: "That the GHNNC send a letter with the recommendation to the City for completion of this required mitigation." **Motion carried: 12-0-2.**

**9. Committee Reports:**

**PLUM Report:** Anne Ziliak reported that Hillcrest Christian School is seeking a change in their conditional use permit increasing the number of special events they can have from three to 25. They are also asking for the right to hold outdoor activities on weekends. Anne said they have agreed to meet with the community and have given her a PowerPoint presentation to distribute to neighbors. They are currently looking for another location for their school.

PLUM is also speaking with Design Review Board's John Wycamp to talk to the GHNNC about this.

Las Lomas: PLUM is now working with a group of Santa Clarita residents to oppose this development. Leon read a letter by Council member Richard Alarcon (7<sup>th</sup> District), dated Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>, stating his opposition to the proposed Las Lomas project.

Public Safety Motions:

**#1: "That GHNNC work with CD12 and LADOT to install signs and paint Balboa Blvd. at Knollwood Center at the two main driveways with "Keep Clear" areas. This will help ingress and egress at the center until a signal is installed. We would ask them to extend the "Keep Clear" area at the Fire Station to the southbound lanes."** Motion carried unanimously.

**#2: Balboa/Foothill Light: "That the GHNNC recommends that CD12 work with LADOT and CD7 to reconfigure the northbound lanes of Balboa at Foothill to make Lane 1, left turn and straight through traffic, while making Lane 2 right turn only. This will facilitate traffic moving more efficiently and safety through the intersection. The current configuration is going to be even more restrictive as new residents occupy the new homes being built north of Foothill."** Motion carried: 13-0-1.

**#3: Reverse 911: "That GHNNC ask the City of L.A. to explain their Reverse 911 capabilities and training plans for residents in case of an emergency."** (This was in reference to San Diego PD's ability to call and evacuate people quickly during the recent wildfires). **The motion carried unanimously.**

**#4: Bob Ricketts, Safety Committee member, introduced this motion regarding I-5 Corridor Plans: "That the GHNNC create an Ad Hoc Committee to focus on the recent proposals to develop the I-5 corridor. The program as presented does not seem to address any need for improvement of the I-5 by the developers. We see a great amount of incentive for developers and very few for the communities."** Motion carried unanimously.

**#5: Motion to appoint a chair to the Ad Hoc Committee:** To be agendized for the next board meeting.

Mike then read a list of possible discussion topics for the Ad Hoc Committee on Blucher Avenue.

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**Communication Committee:** Sue DeVandy asked on behalf of Communication Chair Aaron DeVandry for submissions to the first GHNNC newsletter by Dec. 21. Please submit articles to Skip Leifer, recording secretary.

**Ad Hoc Office:** Leon noted a possible location available to share office space with GHSNC at Chatsworth and White Oak. He would like to ask DONE to negotiate the price. After discussion on why they are looking at a location outside GHNNC's boundaries, Leon said he would discuss whether this location is adequate at next Exec Comm. Meeting.

**Parks and Beautification:** Mary Ellen Crosby invited the board/stakeholders to attend her next committee meeting on Dec. 12. It will be followed by a Potluck Holiday Party. She said efforts recently got underway to prepare the ground for a poppy field but due to the injury of a worker, the work was stopped.

**Outreach:** Sue DeVandry asked the board for volunteers to participate in the Granada Hills Holiday Parade on Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>. She also mentioned that on Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>, GHSNC is holding a community picnic and an adopt a tree program at the Granada Hills Rec Center.

**Board Member Comments:**

Bill Lillenberg suggested putting the case number on the Mayerling project when writing the letter of condemnation.

Josh Jordahl announced a water briefing on Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> with MWD at Castaways Restaurant at 7:30 p.m.

**Meeting adjourned:** 9:02 p.m.

Minutes by Pat Kramer, Apple One, modified by Skip Leifer, Recording Officer