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Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council
Van Gogh Elementary School, Granada Hills
Monthly Board Meeting
Monday, August 25, 2008

1. Call to Order, Roll Call: Mary Ellen Crosby, Michael Deering, Sue De Vandry, Sid Gold, Michael Greenwald, Wayde Hunter, Skip Leifer, William Lillenberg, Leon Marzillier, Natasha Vetlugin, Joe Vitti, Kathy Wagenback, Anne Ziliak, Joshua Jordahl and Mil Tossoun (late). Absent: Jonalyn Cooper, Scott Manatt (excused), Pat Casparian, and Mak Jalil. Quorum established with 15 board members.

2. Chair Comments: Chairman Leon Marzillier addressed stakeholders on the guidelines and mission of the GHNNC.

3. Approval of Minutes for July 2008: (Gold/Greenwald) moved that the minutes be approval. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Public Comment:

Steve Simons, candidate for LA Superior Court, Judge #72, addressed the board and stakeholders speaking about his experience. He has tried 35 jury trials, most of which he has won. He encouraged everyone to learn about the candidates before voting.

Jennifer Low, an associate at Porter Ranch Wal-Mart and a stakeholder introduced herself. Wal-Mart is reaching out to the surrounding communities.

Richard Fisk, Granada Hills South NC and police community rep. informed the board that LAPD Senior Lead Officer Dario Del Core will be on medical leave for an unknown amount of time.

Robert Ruhl, a stakeholder in Granada Hills, spoke about a problem with excessive dust from a hillside area in his neighborhood and asked how to get speed humps on Wood Ranch Road.

5. LAPD Officer Jaime Brien updated the board on crime in the area: There have been a rash of residential burglaries where the suspects are using residents' ladders to enter their homes through a second story unlocked window. She spoke about a recent burglary where one of the suspects was shot and killed by his cohorts during a home invasion on the 17100 block of Sunderland. An organized theft ring stealing catalytic converters off of cars was broken up recently. The suspects were a family - a mother, father and two of their children. Two major task forces are wrapping up a sweep of illegally altered vehicles racing in the Porter Ranch shopping area. Over 100 owners were cited and their cars impounded. They now must modify their vehicles to meet with state requirements for noise control and exhaust control. Overall, crime is down 1.2% in the area.

6. DONE rep. Amelia Herrera-Robles reported on upcoming events including Safety Day, the Neighborhood Congress and Mayor's Budget Day. She also discouraged the board from holding any NC related meetings in private residences due to required access for the disabled.

50 **Council District 12, John Bwarie** announced there will be training on
51 Saturday, September 27 for those stakeholders or board members who are
52 interested in learning about the removal of illegal signage. Go to:
53 www.Cd12.org for more info. The Council Office is holding the final movie in
54 the park this summer on Sept. 6. "Grease" will be shown at Northridge Park.
55

56 **7. Chairman's Message:** Leon asked the board whether to change the date
57 of the next board meeting as it falls on the Jewish holiday Rosh Hashanah.
58 **(Leifer/Greenwald) moved to reschedule the next board meeting to**
59 **Monday, Sept. 22. The motion carried: 13-0-1.**

60
61 Leon announced that GHNNC is initiating its "**Stakeholder of the Month**
62 **Award.**" The first recipient to receive this honor was **Ralph Kroy**, an active
63 member of several GHNNC committees and a regular attendee of board
64 meetings.
65

66 **8. Treasurer's Report:** Scott Manatt was not in attendance however his
67 report was available. The revised budget for fiscal year July 1, 2008 – June
68 30, 2009 showed a total budget of \$142,236. Of that amount, \$27,600 was
69 designated for Community Improvements, \$57,400 for Outreach and \$57,236
70 for Operations.
71

72 **9. Mario DeCampos Trail: (Lillenberg/Ziliak) moved, "That GHNNC do**
73 **whatever is necessary to reopen the beginning of the Mario DeCampos**
74 **Trail** (in support of a GHSNC letter presented at the last board meeting).
75 During discussion, GHSNC president Jim Summers said that the letter was
76 actually withdrawn due to a conflict of interest with one of their board
77 members on this issue. Anne Ziliak noted that her PLUM committee is asking
78 that Southern Ca. Gas restore the trail and remove fencing it erected on
79 Sulpher Springs Road leading to the trail. **(Gold) made a friendly**
80 **amendment, "That GHNNC support all legislative and negotiative efforts**
81 **to reopen the Mario DeCampos Trail."** The motion carried: 14-0-2.
82

83 **10. Neighborhood Council Appeals: (Gold/Greenwald) moved, "That**
84 **GHNNC write a letter to Councilman Alarcon to express our**
85 **approval for the rights of neighborhood councils to have appeal rights."**
86 Sid explained that Councilman Alarcon is chairman of Education and
87 Neighborhoods Committee which oversees this issue. He asked that the letter
88 state that the appeal right for NCs is an important issue and needs to be
89 taken off the table, discussed, then brought back to the City Council for
90 discussion. (Lillenberg/Hunter) made a friendly amendment to the motion's
91 language. However, during discussion, that friendly amendment was
92 withdrawn. (Greenwald) then made a friendly amendment changing the
93 motion to state, **"That GHNNC express our firm support for the right of**
94 **neighborhood councils to have appeal rights."** The motion carried: 13-
95 **0-2.**
96

97 **11. L.A. Business Council at UCLA: (Jordahl/Leifer) moved “That the**
98 **GHNNC spend up to\$270 for the price of two tickets to the 2008**
99 **LA Business Council Housing Summit to be held Fri, Sept. 5th at UCLA.”**
100 Gold recommended that Jordahl present a report on the summit after the fact.
101 **The motion carried: 14-0-1.**

102
103 **12. Griffith Park Designation: (Crosby/Vitti) moved, “That the GHNNC**
104 **wholeheartedly support the application of the Griffith J. Griffith**
105 **Charitable Trust to have Griffith Park designated as an historical -**
106 **cultural monument. We think this is an important contribution to future**
107 **inhabitants of L.A. ”**Mary Ellen Crosby pointed out that by giving it this
108 designation, it will preserve this area’s open space and protect it from further
109 development. **The motion carried 13-0-2.**

110
111 **13. Committee Reports:**
112 **Parks and Beautification:** Mary Ellen Crosby reported on fire abatement
113 measures in Bee Canyon Park. She also discussed problems with getting
114 graffiti removed in the tunnel by the park.
115 **Public Safety:** Mike Greenwald spoke about the purchase of gym equipment
116 by LAPD for their Devonshire Division. He suggested that the board require
117 the police provide a source of drinking water for their gym in conjunction with
118 the funding. CD12’s John Bwarie said that five other area neighborhood
119 councils are contributing funding for this purchase for a total expenditure of
120 \$30,000. **(Greenwald) moved, “That GHNNC fund \$5,000 for the upgrade**
121 **of the fitness area at the LAPD Devonshire Division fitness area. This is**
122 **contingent on the installation of a water fountain in the perimeter of the**
123 **gym.” The motion carried: 11-1-3.**

124
125 Mike also noted that a disaster preparedness event is being organized on
126 November 13th - The Great Southern CA Shake Out is being organized by the
127 Earthquake Country Alliance, a public/private partnership of leading
128 earthquake professionals, emergency managers, government agencies,
129 businesses and community leaders. **(Greenwald) moved that GHNNC take**
130 **an active part in The Great So CA Shake Out, establish an Ad Hoc**
131 **Committee to conduct the GHNNC program and coordinate with the**
132 **Outreach Committee, that each board member register to be part of the**
133 **drill, and that GHNNC organize, perhaps with other neighborhood**
134 **councils, to present preparedness events to our community.” The**
135 **motion carried: 10-0-2.**

136
137 **Outreach:** Sue DeVandry talked about the recent outreach event at Howes
138 Market. (DeVandry) moved, **“That the GHNNC authorize the Outreach**
139 **Committee to spend out of their budget \$2,500 to the Granada Hills**
140 **Chamber for sponsorship and \$500 for misc. promotional items for the**
141 **Oct. 4, 2008 Granada Hills Street Faire organized by the Chamber of**
142 **Commerce.” The motion carried: 11-1-2 (and one recusal – Joe Vitti).**

143 (DeVandry) moved, “That the GHNNC approve and allow the Outreach
144 Committee to spend \$4,968 out of their budget for advertising in four
145 local newspapers.” The motion carried: 11-1-2.
146

147 **PLUM:** A motion concerning BFI/Allied Waste’s Sunshine Canyon Landfill
148 was withdrawn. Anne Ziliak told the board that in Sept. there the city and
149 county will meeting with BFI on the memorandum of understanding. PLUM
150 recently held a special meeting to discuss the Community Plan update which
151 involves eliminating Footnote 12. She explained how this will impact
152 development.

153 She announced that the newly approved aerial maps of the area were
154 available.

155 In a related announcement, Wayde Hunter announced a County TAC
156 Meeting on August 28, Board of Public Works, Alhambra, Conference Room
157 C
158

159 **14. Board Member Comments:**

160 Leon and Mike thanked Aaron DeVandry for his work updating the GHNNC
161 website. Mike asked that a counter be installed to track hits.
162

163 Nominating Committee – Mike asked for the names of the new members to
164 his committee.
165

166 Joe Vitti encouraged the board and stakeholders to vote ‘YES’ on Prop 11.
167 Joe also asked what arrangements are being made to secure office space for
168 committee meetings. Leon said he would redouble his efforts.
169

170 Kim Thompson noted that the late DONE GM, Carol Baker-Tharp, had told
171 her that due to office space constraints in the area, there is a 3-mile relaxation
172 rule, where GHNNC can look for space within three miles of its boundaries.
173 Joe noted that BONC had also said this was possible.
174

175 Josh Jordahl announced upcoming meetings for PLUM.
176

177 **15. Meeting adjourned:** 9:06 p.m.

178
179 - Minutes prepared by Pat Kramer, Apple One –
180 Amended by Skip Leifer
181

182 Next GHNNC meeting: Monday, Sept. 22, 2008.