

1 **Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council**
2 **Board Meeting Agenda**
3 **Monday, July 27, 2009**
4 **Kennedy High School**
5 **11254 Gothic Ave, Granada Hills, CA**
6

7 **1. Call to Order** at 6:44 p.m. by Leon Marzillier, GHNNC Chairperson.

8 **2. Roll Call:** (Quorum established with 14 board members): **Present:** Mary Ellen Crosby, Sue
9 DeVandry, Sid Gold, Wayde Hunter, Joshua Jordahl, Skip Leifer, Agnes Lewis, Scott Manatt,
10 Leon Marzillier, Ray Pollok, Eric Rosenberg, Steven Smith, Joe Vitti, and Anne Ziliak. Neysa
11 Frechette arrived later. **Absent:** Pat Casparian, Rafael Garcia, Michael Greenwald, Gary
12 Holmen, William Lillenberg, and Jan Subar

13 **3. Pledge of Allegiance, Chair comments:** The upcoming GHNNC monthly board meetings will
14 take place at Kennedy HS until October 2009. Leon attended a meeting at Councilman Greig
15 Smith's office and reported: The new unhitched trailer ordinance and problems associated with
16 collecting fees from the owners was discussed. The non-smoking ordinance for patios of
17 establishments serving food goes to the City Council. There are grants available for
18 Community Beautification projects. DPW Engineer Winifred Yancy was there and talked about
19 the rate increases and drought measures, which include new exemptions for seniors and for
20 equestrian zones. DWP is now looking into uses for gray water. Leon apologized for failing to
21 post Parks and Beautification Committee motions on the agenda.

22 **4. Approval of June 29, 2009 Board Meeting Minutes.** (Marzillier/Leifer) moved to approve the
23 June 2009 board meeting minutes. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

24 **5. Comments by Public Officials:**

- 25 a. Jessica Yas, the new Field Rep. for Congressman Brad Sherman, introduced herself
26 and stated her goals for meeting with the communities in the Congressman's district.
- 27 b. LAPD Officer Jeannine Angeles invited the public to visit: www.lapd.org for crime
28 trends and other news. National Night Out takes place on Aug. 4th at Northridge Park.
29 Motorists' tempers continue to escalate with the temperature increases. She urged
30 stakeholders to avoid altercations on the road. She also asked the public to report
31 crimes, specifically graffiti, as it's very difficult to catch taggers in action. A police
32 presentation will take place on July 28th at the Fire Station on Balboa south of
33 Devonshire.

34 **6. Public Comment on non-agenda items:**

- 35 a. Becky Bendikson suggested the City should be helping its seniors more during high
36 temperatures citing the near deaths of two senior stakeholders recently and asked for
37 help for those who can't afford air conditioning. She also commented on the approved

38 minutes of the Special Meeting in May for her request for a roll call vote on the
39 changes to the bylaws. Eric Rosenberg responded that the Bylaws' Meeting followed
40 all correct procedures for voting; that the requested roll call vote of just board members
41 does not conform to either the Brown Act or Robert's Rules of Order. Skip Leifer
42 agreed to put out an amended set of minutes reflecting Becky's request.

- 43 b. Bill Hopkins initiated the Can of the Month Club campaign to collect donations of
44 canned goods for the local food pantries. He spoke about DWP's plans to increase
45 electricity rates an average of 3-4 cents per kilowatt-hour with the enforcement of a
46 Tier 1 & Tier 2 structure, as they have done with water rates.
- 47 c. Jeannie Plumb thanked Eric Rosenberg and Sue DeVandry for their involvement in
48 protecting Aliso Canyon equestrian areas in a boundary issue with Porter Ranch NC.

49 **7. Committee Reports and possible action items:**

50 **8. *Ad Hoc Nominating Committee*** – Leon presented the Ad Hoc Nominating Committee's motions:

- 51 a. **“That GHNNC accept the resignation of Natasha Vetlugin from the Board of**
52 **Directors of GHNNC.”** The motion carried unanimously.
- 53 b. **“That GHNNC appoint Bill Hopkins to the District 3 vacancy on the Board**
54 **created by Natasha Vetlugin's resignation.”** The motion carried unanimously. Bill
55 Hopkins took his place on the board.
- 56 c. **“That GHNNC appoint Ralph Kroy to be the Faith-Based Representative on the**
57 **Board.”** The motion carried unanimously. Ralph Kroy took his place on the board.
- 58 d. Leon also reported that Pat Casparian has submitted a letter of resignation leaving
59 three vacancies on the board on which the Ad Hoc Nominating Committee should take
60 action.

61 **9. *City-wide Issues*** – Sid Gold presented the following motions:

- 62 a. **“That GHNNC support the continuation of the Interim Control Ordinance**
63 **and further that no hardship exemptions be granted by City Council until**
64 **an appropriate process is developed to evaluate all dispensary applications**
65 **that would include input from all concerned parties and further that we**
66 **send these recommendation to Councilman Greig Smith and to the City**
67 **Attorney.”** Sid said since the City has acted on this motion, it was declared
68 'moot' and was withdrawn.
- 69 b. **“That GHNNC support the Stakeholders of Valley Village's appeal [DIR-**
70 **2008-1178-SPP] regarding the SB1818 Development located at 11933**
71 **Magnolia Boulevard, Valley Village and further that the GHNNC submit a**
72 **letter of support for the appeal to the Los Angeles Planning Commission.”**

73 Sid stated that this motion came out of the Valley Alliance of NCs meeting. The
74 motion carried: 9-1-7.

75 c. **“That GHNNC oppose any ordinance that shifts costs for sidewalk repair**
76 **from the city to an individual property owner at the point of sale, and**
77 **further that GHNNC submit a letter to Councilman Greig Smith stating our**
78 **opposition to any cost shifting.”** The motion carried: 15-2-0.

79 d. Sid added that GHNNC is the only NC that has taken a stand against taxicab
80 parking, an item that is now going before the City Council.

81 **10. Outreach** – Sue DeVandry presented the following motions:

82 a. **(DeVandry) moved, “That GHNNC support the Granada Hills Street Faire on**
83 **October 3, 2009 in the amount of \$2500.00.”** Mike Kabo, of the Granada Hills
84 Chamber of Commerce gave a short presentation and answered questions on
85 this item. A crowd of approximately 14,000 is expected on that date. The motion
86 carried: 15-0-1. Joe Vitti recused himself from the discussion and the vote.

87 b. **“That GHNNC purchase one carton (480 wipes), gloves/zip lock bags to**
88 **give away at the Street Faire, the price not to exceed \$500.00.”**

89 **(Leifer/Rosenberg) moved to amend the motion to say, “subject to**
90 **GHNNC’s prior year’s funds being released.”** The amendment carried
91 unanimously. The amended motion carried unanimously.

92 c. Sue added that Outreach will have an Outreach table at Albertson’s and How’s
93 Market on August 29th and on September 24th from 5 – 8 p.m. Outreach will hold
94 an Open House at the GHNNC office.

95 **11. Parks and Beautification** – Mary Ellen Crosby noted that all the trails are open at O’Melveny
96 Park including the Rim of the Valley Trail Mission Peak.

97 a. **(Crosby) moved, “That the GHNNC write a letter of support to the Grants**
98 **Administrator for the City of LA for a grant application for Prop K funds to be**
99 **used in Aliso Canyon Park for additional tree planting, preservation of the**
100 **natural habitat, including the trail and adjacent streambed, facilities encouraging**
101 **community equestrian activities such as hitching rails, decomposed granite**
102 **arena and horse trailer parking area, facilities for pedestrians and hikers**
103 **including info kiosks and picnic benches.”** The motion carried: 13-1-2.

104 b. Jeannie Plumb asked that someone be appointed to follow the monies and plans for
105 this proposal.

106 c. Joe Vitti suggested a follow up letter be sent to Councilman Smith recommending that
107 GHNNC be involved in the park planning process to the Dept. of Recreation and
108 Parks.

109 d. **(Crosby) moved, “That GHNNC send a letter to the director of City Recreation
110 and Parks opposing the removal/transfer of “Non-Peace Officer Park Rangers”
111 out of the Ranger Division.”** Mary Ellen said the rangers’ involvement in the major
112 fire last November was instrumental in keeping the fires from spreading. The motion
113 carried: 12-0-4.

114 **12. PLUM** – Anne Ziliak introduced her committee’s motions:

115 a. **“That the GHNNC write a letter of support for the operation of an adult day-care
116 operation for up to 40 mentally disabled adults at 11451 Woodley Ave within an
117 existing church and ask that a full public hearing be conducted, that security be
118 provided to prevent the unsupervised exit from the property and that the number
119 of clients not exceed the 40.”** Two unidentified stakeholders stated they were
120 opposed to the operation in their neighborhood.

121 b. **(Gold/Vitti) moved** that the motion be amended to say **“That GHNNC supports a full
122 public hearing for the operation of an adult day-care operation for up to 40
123 mentally disabled adults at 11451 Woodley Ave within an existing church.”** -
124 deleting the rest of the language in the motion. After discussion, Joe withdrew his
125 second. Eric Rosenberg then seconded Gold’s amendment to the motion. The
126 amendment failed: 5-10-0.

127 c. **(Vitti/Hunter) then moved to change the first sentence to read, “That the GHNNC
128 write a letter of ‘conditional support’...” (The rest of the motion kept intact).** The
129 motion carried: 15-2-0. The amended motion carried: 14-2-1.

130 d. **“That the GHNNC Board opposes the project as submitted to parcel 12130
131 Nugent Drive into 4 (SF) lots on a 71,857.2 sq. ft. lot.”** The motion carried: 15-0-1.

132 e. **“That the GHNNC write a letter of support for the Mountain Recreation and
133 Conservation Authority’s application for Proposition K grant to acquire 100
134 acres of land that includes Elsmere Canyon for open space; and to send letters
135 of support for the land acquisition for public recreation and park purposes to LA
136 county Supervisors, Santa Monica Mountain Conservancy and City of Santa
137 Clarita.”** Anne stated that the full selling price is \$9.5 million dollars. The motion
138 carried: 14-0-2.

139 f. **“That the GHNNC Board opposes the placement of an Above Ground Facility (by
140 Verizon cell phones operation) cited for 282 ft north of Westbury (city**

141 reference#2009002520) on Balboa, which is within a pending Historic
142 Preservation Overlay Zone (HPOZ).” After much discussion on this item, included
143 that it would be an eyesore, (Pollok/Leifer) called the question. Both that and the main
144 motion carried unanimously.

- 145 g. **“That GHNNC send a letter to the City and all landfill regulatory agencies**
146 **opposing the placement of any landfill related facilities or equipment within the**
147 **buffer zone, which includes the oil/gas exploration area to the south of the**
148 **landfill berm.”** This item generated quite a bit of controversy and discussion. Susan
149 Jennings, Environmental Manager for BFI of CA. spoke on the need for using the
150 buffer stating that it was promised to BFI in their EIR. Wayne Hunter objected, stating
151 that the original land purchase included a strict codicil from landowner John O’Melveny
152 that limited the usage of that buffer land. The board asked Jennings to return with
153 other options and approved the motion: 16-0-1.

- 154 **13. Motion: (Frechette/Leifer) presented a motion, that GHNNC sponsor an ad in Kennedy**
155 **High School’s Football program for \$125 subject to GHNNC’s prior year’s funds being**
156 **released.** Matson Frechette, of Kennedy High Cougars Football Team, said this would
157 provide GHNNC with a half page ad. **(Gold/Vitti) amended the motion to provide for**
158 **\$250.00 with the same conditions.** The vote to amend the motion carried: 13-2-2. The
159 amended motion to approve \$250.00 for Kennedy HS Football Team carried: 14-0-3. (Ray
160 Pollok donated funds out of his pocket and challenged the rest of the board to do likewise,
161 which some did.)

- 162 **14. Policy and Rules – (Rosenberg) moved, “That the GHNNC adopt the Policy & Rules**
163 **Committee's proposal for updating our Policies & Guidelines (Standing Rules).”** With
164 objections by a stakeholder and new board members asking for more time to review the
165 bylaws, **(Vitti/Kroy) moved to postpone this motion until the August 31 board meeting.**
166 The motion carried: 11-4-2.

167 The final Policy & Rules Committee meeting before our Special Meeting will be held August
168 10, 2009 at 3:00pm at the GHNNC Office and on August 24, there will be another Special
169 GHNNC Board Meeting to discuss and vote on the proposed bylaws at 6:30 at the GHNNC
170 Office.

171 Eric requested that board members and stakeholders read the materials submitted by the
172 Policy & Rules Committee prior to all meetings so that everyone is prepared and time isn't
173 wasted by summarizing and/or explaining the obvious.

- 174 **15. Public Safety – Michael Greenwald (absent):** No report.

- 175 **16. Board Member Comments:**

- 176 a. Sid Gold spoke about news items from the Valley Alliance of NCs meeting: The Bob
177 Hope Airport study will be heard by the FAA regarding no nighttime flying. Metrolink is
178 working on a regional transportation hub to be built to connect the airport with metro
179 lines.
- 180 b. Joe Vitti attended a meeting at USC concerned with convening a California
181 Constitutional Convention to revise state issues of governance, elections, and the
182 budget. A current timeline includes a ballot measure for approval to go before the
183 people in November of 2010.
184 Also, efforts to establish a 14-member independent citizens commission for
185 redistricting state legislative boundaries as approved by the voters by Prop. 11 are on
186 schedule. The new Citizens Commission will be in place by December 31, 2010..
- 187 c. Bill Hopkins reminded the board of his Can of the Month Club.
- 188 d. Scott Manatt said he is concerned about monies held back by DONE for GHNNC. He
189 asked the Executive Committee to contact DONE to find out more about the process.
190 Ray Pollok promised to stay on top of it.
- 191 e. Eric Rosenberg stated that the Treasurer's Report he handed out was preliminary, and
192 that a final version would be presented to the Board for approval at our next regular
193 meeting.
- 194 f. Wayde Hunter gave a report on public safety, on behalf of Michael Greenwald, on a
195 proposal of concern by DWP.
- 196 g. Eric Rosenberg stated that the proposed Policy and Rules is a draft proposal, not the
197 final version.
- 198 h. Sue DeVandry told the new board members she would get them business cards and
199 GHNNC shirts.
- 200 i. Neysa Frechette asked the Treasurer, Eric Rosenberg why Citrus Sunday monies
201 have not been delivered to the Kennedy High School. Eric confirmed that DONE has
202 not paid many of its invoices and asked Neysa to check and see if they could be
203 reimbursed by credit card.

204 **17. Meeting Adjourned: 9:53 p.m.**

205 -Minutes by Pat Kramer, Apple One-
206 - Amended by Skip Leifer, Recording Officer
207