

**Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council
Board Meeting
Monday, November 30, 2009 6:30 pm
Van Gogh Elementary School**

1. **Call to Order** at 6:45 pm by Leon Marzillier, GHNNC President.
2. **Roll Call:** (Quorum established with 18 board members): **Present:** Sue DeVandry, Neysa Frechette, Rafael Garcia, Sid Gold, Michael Greenwald, Gary Holmen, Bill Hopkins, Wayde Hunter, Joshua Jordahl, Ralph Kroy, Agnes Lewis, William E. Lillenberg, Scott Manatt, Leon Marzillier, Ray Pollock, Eric Rosenberg, Joe Vitti and Anne Ziliak. **Absent:** Mary Ellen Crosby, Claudio Saavedra, Steven Smith, Jan Subar.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge of Alliance was recited.
4. **Chair Comments:** Leon Marzillier noted the procedures for public comment and general participation in the Board Meeting.
5. **Approval of October 26, 2009 Board Meeting Minutes:** Minor corrections were made. **Motion to approve** (Greenwald). The motion carried by unanimous vote (18-0-0).
6. **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:**
 - a.) **Staffing:** Pat Kramer, previous recording staff from Apple One, objected to the elimination of that position at last Board meeting. Discussion ensued. **Out of Order:** (Gold) suggested the matter be taken up by the Executive Committee. Chair so ruled.
 - b.) **Community Event:** Steve Feinberg discussed the dedication ceremony for the Kennedy San Fernando Adult School (Rinaldi Street and Andasol), to take place December 10 at 10:30 a.m.
 - c.) **Special Guests (Fire Department):** Anthony Varela, LAFD Assistant Chief for the San Fernando Valley (A Platoon) spoke about coordination and relationships between the Fire Department and the neighborhood councils. He can be reached at cell phone 213.923.6443 (no emergency calls; those should go to 911). email tony.varela@lacity.org. Mentioned Greg West, Assistant Chief, B Platoon, and Craig Fry, C Platoon.

Wayne Kartin, (cell phone 818.602.1000, lafdcert@msn.com) LAFD CERT coordinator for Division 3, entire San Fernando Valley, spoke about CERT (Community Emergency Response Team), started in 1985 to train citizens for appropriate action in case of emergency or disaster such as an earthquake, pandemic flu, or terrorist attack. Citizens should be prepared to care for themselves and their neighbors for the first few days, as the fire battalions have about 75 people who are responsible for 350,000-500,000 people and have to prioritize their response. The **CERT course** takes 18 hours, 3 hours per week for 6 weeks. More information on LAFD.org, drop-down box LA_cert). More at www.cert-la.com.
 - d.) **Council District 12 and LA City summary:** John Bwarie, from Councilman Smith's office, spoke about the appointment of the new LAPD Chief, Charlie Beck and other personnel shifts at LAPD. He spoke also about emergency plans for debris flow in areas recently burned. More information on emergency preparedness at CD12.org. The search is moving forward to staff the Inspector-General position at LADWP. Members of the Board asked about LA City's budget woes and the projected \$400M deficit projected for 2010. Some discussion ensued. In response to questions, clarified that no construction takes place on major street arteries between Thanksgiving and the New Year.
7. **Speaker: Rick Nahamias (for Erica Kenner, Food Forward)** <http://foodforward.org>: This organization sends volunteers to **harvest excess fruits** and vegetables from people's gardens to distribute to food banks, all within one day. They have 200-750 people, and will harvest from 1 to 100 trees. They handle everything from pomegranates, figs, citrus, etc. More information on how to volunteer, or to request harvesting, at the web site (above). Flyers

available at GHNNC meetings. There was a suggestion that they look into coordinating with the department of Parks and Recreation for possible harvesting of the many trees in Bee Canyon.

8. **Financial Officer's Report (Pollock):** Have received word that the rollover funds from last year *will* be available, though no final amount has been approved. The first step is to submit a revised budget.
9. **Treasurer's Report (Rosenberg):** Eric submitted a proposed revised budget. **Motion:** That the GHNNC adopt the budget as revised. Carried unanimously 18-0-0.
10. **LADWP Letter:** (Marzillier) LADWP asked for volunteers to participate in one of two programs: RWAG (Recycled Water Advisory Group) which meets for 5-8 workshops of 3-4 hours each; and Community Water Roundtable, which will meet occasionally (no schedule yet). For the first, Hopkins, Kroy, and Lewis volunteered; for the second, Frechette, Jordahl, Vitti. **Motion:** That the GHNNC support all volunteers. Carried 18-0-0.
11. **Committee Reports:**
 - a.) **Ad Hoc Election Committee (Marzillier for Saavedra): Motion:** That the GHNNC adopt the revised election procedures, as communicated by the office of the City Clerk. Marzillier noted that the GHNNC'sd corrections were made, except for the correction to the boundaries as approved by BONC. Discussion that Marzillier should take harder line, as the current boundaries in the documents are incorrect. (Rosenberg)
Amendment to the Motion: That the GHNNC approve the revised election procedures, on the condition that the City Clerk correct the boundaries. and clarify that the minimum age for voting is 18 *except for* the position of student representative. (Greenwald) seconded. Discussion led to no vote. (Zilliak) offered **new amendment**, that the GHNNC approve the revised election procedures, on condition that they conform to the GHNNC's bylaws. Seconded by Greenwald. Gold spoke against the new amendment. Rosenberg **withdrew the amendment** and offered a **new amendment** : That the GHNNC approve the revised election procedures, on condition that the City Clerk correct the GHNNC boundaries to include the western edge of Aliso Canyon; that the correction of voting age (above) be made; and that the wording on #5 be changed from "races" to "race." Greenwald seconded. **Amendment carried** 18-0-0. Original **Motion**, with amendment, carried 18-0-0.
 - b.) **Ad Hoc Committee regarding Youth Athletic Fields (Gary Holmen):** Working on finding alternatives for the athletic fields that will be lost because of the LADWP new expansion projects upcoming. Met with Steve Cole and others at DWP. They are providing alternatives at Sylmar, which is out of the Granada Hills area. Sylmar NC not very happy either. Discussion of "exclusive" vs "priority" usage. GH teams would lose "exclusive" use, which does not mean others can't use, only that GH has control. "Priority" can only be enforced by park ranger or other authority. Sylmar NC objected to GH having priority; they see it as gaining a park for their neighborhood. The committee will next look more closely at whether DWP must really close the existing space.
 - c.) **Public Safety Committee: (Mike Greenwald):** The new LAPD Chief to stress neighborhood involvement, even more. LAPD **crime statistics** for each area are available at the LAPD web site, www.lapdonline.org. To count, a crime report must be filed. This can be done in person or by calling 877-ASKLAPD. The reverse-911 system is not quite that; you must opt in by registering your phone.
 - d.) **Outreach Committee: (DeVandry):** Acknowledged Joe Vitti, who was honored at an event for his community service. (DeVandry) asked for a volunteer to act as liaison for the **Census 2010**. President Marzillier volunteered. Election (for neighborhood councils) outreach: stakeholders will receive a postcard from the Region A Committee representing 11 neighborhood councils in the Northwest Valley. Elections for Region A will take place March 2, 2010. The GHNNC and the GHSNC are working together to put out a combined newsletter regarding the elections. To be on the ballot, candidates

must fill out a candidate form with the City Clerk between December 2, 2009 and January 4, 2010. The City Clerk will be holding candidate filing meetings at the Winnetka Recreation Center Monday, 12/7/09 or Saturday, 12/12/09. Forms may be downloaded from cityclerk.lacity.org, click on "elections". After January 4, 2010, candidate names will not be on the printed ballots, and can only be write-ins.

Reminder: All NC Board members must take **ethics training** once every 2 years, at lacity.org, click "ethics". It was noted that several members completed the training but the city records don't yet show that. DONE will be holding an Ethics training class December 5, 2009 8:30 am to 12:30 pm. On February 14th, 2010 DONE will hold training for candidates on the Brown Act, Bylaws, etc, location to be announced.

Granada Hills Holiday Parade: meeting to decorate float Friday December 4, 5-7 pm at the DeVandry's business in Chatsworth. Board members and families are encouraged to **ride on the GHNNC float, #M053**. Anyone riding on the float must be there by 12:30 pm on Sunday, December 6th, at Petit Avenue north of Chatsworth St. DeVandry asked for a show of hands on who would help decorate and who would ride on the float.

- e.) **Policy and Rules Committee: (Rosenberg): Motion:** That the GHNNC adopt the changes to the **Standing Rules**, as reflected in the document attached. Discussion ensued, particularly about II(6) and II(10), about committee minutes to be in written form and submitted to the Secretary annually; and provided for the Board meetings monthly. Carried 18-0-0.
- f.) **PLUM (Planning and Land Use Management) (Zilliak):** The major item this month has been the continuing interaction with the applicant for a conditional use permit to operate a **religious trade school** of 150 young male adults and 30 staff at 16601 Rinaldi Street. The Committee remains convinced that the project is out of scale with the neighborhood, both because of the large number of residents and because of the 4-story buildings proposed. Some preliminary agreement was reached on other ancillary issues. The Committee also met with representatives of LADWP about their master plan, which includes significant work to be done at their facilities off Balboa Blvd. This impacts also the athletic fields issue. More work on this subject in the next few meetings.

Two representatives from the Pacific Palisades Neighborhood Council advocated that the GHNNC adopt a motion to equalize the regulation of wireless telecommunications facilities throughout the city. It appears that there is very little consistency. After discussion, the committee approved a motion to be presented to the GHNNC Board:

Motion: That the GHNNC approve the motion from the Committee, as reflected on the Committee minutes: request a moratorium on new telecommunications facilities, establish a task force of city and neighborhood councils, and eventually adopt consistent standards and procedures regulating these facilities. Complete text on the PLUM Committee report. (Gold) offered a friendly amendment, that the proposed text be submitted to all relevant City departments. Both the motion and amendment carried 16-1-1.

- g.) **Citywide Issues (Gold):** the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) will hold a community meeting December 9 on a proposed Environmental Impact Report for the Sunshine Gas Producers Renewable Energy Project planned for Sunshine Canyon landfill. 6:30 pm at Sylmar Public Library, 14561 Polk Street. The public can submit comments until 12/18/2009.

- 12. **Board Member Comments: (Hopkins)** There is a project to convert street lights to LED, and there was a budget meeting on 11/21 which LADWP interim general manager S. David Freeman attended and offered to open up to general discussion. **(Kroy):** has contacted most faith-based organizations within our boundaries, and passed out a roster. Coordinating joint

meetings with GHSNC. **(Marzillier)** will not be here for the next meeting. After discussion, next meeting set for December 21 at Van Gogh Elementary, with Anne Zilliak to chair.

13. Meeting was adjourned ay 9:25 pm.