

**Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council  
Board Meeting  
Monday, June 25, 2012, 6:30 p.m.  
St Euphrasia School Hall  
11766 Shoshone Avenue**

**1. Call to Order** at 6:35 p.m. by GHNNC President Leon Marzillier. **Roll Call:**

**Present:** Carl Buettner, Patti Costa, Sue DeVandry, Sid Gold, Bill Hopkins, Wayde Hunter, Rahim Kazi, Ralph Kroy, Agnes Lewis, William Lillenberg, Scott Manatt, Cherie Mann, Leon Marzillier, Lydia Plescia, Ray Pollok, and Jan Subar. **Quorum established with 16.**

**Late:** Edward Headington, Kim Thompson, and Anne Ziliak. **Absent:** Neysa Frechette, Kevin Kilroy, and Steve Steinberg.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** led by Anthony Bertrand, Republic Services.

**Chair Comments:** Leon Marzillier welcomed the audience and explained how the meeting will be conducted.

**2. Approval of May 29, 2012 Board Meeting Minutes.**

*Motion to approve the May 29, 2012 Board Meeting Minutes: Approved 16-0-0*

Marzillier -- Had a request to move the Budget discussion up; The Budget discussion will come after Agenda Item 8.

Board members Kim Thompson and Anne Ziliak arrived at this time (18 Board members present).

**3. Comments from CD12, Senior Lead Officers, Mayor's Valley Representative, or government agencies.** Item skipped at this time.

**4. Public Comment on non-agenda items.**

Richard Fisk -- Invited all to tomorrow night's 7 p.m. tour of the Valley (911) Dispatch Center, 23001 Roscoe Blvd, by Senior Lead Officer Janine Angeles.

**5. Sunshine Canyon Landfill update.**

At the request of Patti Costa, Anthony Bertrand, Area Environmental Manager for Republic Services, explained a PowerPoint handout on the 2011 and 2012 Sunshine Canyon Landfill gas system improvements and upgrades being completed to mitigate the odors emanating from the landfill that neighbors have been complaining about, and to satisfy the SCAQMD Stipulated Abatement Order. Residents near the landfill should experience a decrease in odor by August 14, when school opens.

**CD12** – Megan Cottier, District Director for City Councilmember Mitch Englander's office:

Funds were made available in current City budget for the Bureau of Street Services to pave Rinaldi Street between Zelzah and Louise Avenues.

The City Council recently approved CD12's motion to install a traffic signal on Balboa Blvd at the Knollwood Shopping Center. The Bureau of Engineering would not support the installation until the property owners agreed to fix the steep grade into the parking lot, once agreed upon, the necessary funds to complete the project were secured from the owners of the shopping center, and the project is set to go out for bid.

Cottier explained Englander's position on banning soda in park vending machines after he was unable to find anything other than sugar-packed beverages in the vending machines at the City Park where his daughter had sports practice: he also found no bottled water. He's not banning soda in parks, just wants a healthier option in the vending machines in parks and libraries.

The Orange line, running north and south, from the Warner Center to Chatsworth, will be open this Saturday, June 30, with free rides, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.: there will be a Western theme at the Chatsworth Station.

Tuesday, August 7, National Night Out and CD12 will be again partnering with LAPD Devonshire Division to show a movie at Northridge Park, the animated kids' movie Kung Fu Panda 2, with free hotdogs.

Opening of Aliso Canyon Park is delayed until the restrooms are installed.

Kroy – Questioned why the red curbs at the park. Ziliak – Clarified as no parking on Zelzah about 100 feet before and after the park entrance. Megan will check where/why the no parking.

Gold – Discussed funds cut for the Braude [Constituent Service Center] two-way communications to City Council meetings, and asked if Valley Councilmembers could use about \$5,000 each of their discretionary funds to keep the communications open. Megan inquired of audience, and as about five to six people have used it to testify several times, she will bring the suggestion to Englander.

Lillenberg – Status of multi-family dwellings. Megan – The Councilman supports the Community Care Facilities ordinance which has been an issue for the last three to five years. There is some opposition to the ordinance. The ordinance is for single family residences, and doesn't affect 8 or more occupants as they are State regulated. There was an article by Steve Lopez in the L.A. Times last week about this project. There is already a City ordinance to cover someone who has converted a garage into a living space because they must provide covered parking for two cars.

Lillenberg – Spoke about the Orange line camera traffic enforcement. Megan – Yes, the County of Los Angeles is responsible for Metro, and they use cameras for traffic enforcement.

Thompson – Question about Sunshine Canyon Abatement funds taken for weed abatement. Megan – City of Los Angeles cut all funding for weed abatement so, yes, CD12 is using Abatement funds and she is open to suggestions, with addresses as close as possible to the problem. West Valley Alliance can also be contacted for both weed abatement and graffiti removal.

Marzillier noticed that Board Member Edward Headington arrived and congratulated him on his primary victory [for Assembly District 38]. [19 Board members present]

**6. Emergency Preparedness Item of the Month** – Bill Hopkins – An emergency water ration, and reflective snap wrist band. Also, there is an emergency preparedness manual on the back table.

**7. Motion (Marzillier)** *That GHNNC Board have a retreat with a mediator to resolve differences and move forward.*

Marzillier – As you know, three months ago we had a very close election for president and afterward we seem to have a divided Board with a lot of acrimony over the newsletter, emergency preparedness, the social, and the budget. I think it would be useful to have a retreat with a mediator to try and resolve our differences. So I'll open to discussion. Motion second by Hopkins and Kroy. Gold – Cost? Marzillier – I have a suggestion for a pro bono mediator [Dave Beauvais], and we could meet him at the office with little cost except for food. Thompson – suggested using DONE as we would use someone that we don't all know. Hunter -- asked what the plan was, and felt it was a waste of time as the problem doesn't involve all of us: the people sending emails back and forth should get together as it doesn't involve all of us. Lewis – this discussion shows the need

for mediation, acrimony listening to some and not to others, group energy spent on internal bickering, does nothing for our stakeholders. Must be someone neutral to help us move forward. Hunter -- Heard a man who told me that he was going to be different and the very first time there is a disagreement he wants to go down the road to mediation, Leon should make it work, and now the rest of us are being dragged into this. Here we go again with the exact same thing as last time. When he said he was going to do a better job, within three months we are headed to mediation. Jan – I think we are a divided board whether we like it or not, or for whatever reason. We do need some help; this is a group process not individual. 9-7-2 failed (9 out of 19, not a majority)

Ziliak – Questioned what would we want to gain from mediation. We should have a clear picture of what we hope to accomplish. Going to mediation and going around and around is not going to resolve the issue. Before we decide to go to mediation, what are the goals of the mediation?

**8. Motion** (Marzillier) *That GHNNC approve DONE's changes to our previously Board-approved bylaws.* Marzillier explained the changes made by DONE and the selection process, with new board and officers being selected in October.

Jose Sandoval, Independent Election Administrator (IEA), DONE, was available to answer questions regarding the forthcoming selection process, and the request by DONE to have Bylaws submitted by July 1.

Discussion followed on the changes made by DONE to the previously approved and submitted Bylaws which resulted in:

Hunter/ -- *Motion to table everything except Article X, Elections – Approved 18-1-0.*

Hopkins/ – *Motion to approve Article X, Elections – Approved 18-0-1.*

**10c. Financial Officer Report – Motion to Approve the GHNNC budget for FY 2012-13**

Marzillier – The budget that we are considering is on this yellow paper, that is the one we put together in the duly agendized Executive Committee meeting and passed to be presented to the Board by a majority of the quorum. Both [the Finance Officer and Treasurer] had left the meeting and so they emailed me saying they disagreed with the meeting, so I gave them the choice to present an alternative budget that I can send out with the agenda or make amendments to ours. Also emailed them more than once to submit an alternative budget, including one morning email two hours before the deadline with no reply from them, instead of sending an alternative they met without the whole executive committee and the Vice-President sent it out late Friday night with a highly inappropriate and inflammatory email as coming from the Finance Committee and there is no provision for a Finance committee in our Bylaws. Plus their meeting to discuss the budget was not agendized and properly noted as in the Brown Act. Their version was not sent out at least 72 hours prior to our meeting, another violation of the Brown Act. I am therefore ruling that budget is out of order and the only budget under consideration is the yellow sheet. Anyone is free to make amendments to the one we [the Executive Committee] put together, but for the sake of time, I suggest we just pass this and send it to DONE so we can get our budget. It can be amended, even substantially, as early as the July meeting.

Discussion followed of what transpired during the last Executive Committee meeting and the disallowed submission of a minority budget report tonight by the Finance Officer and Treasurer.

Lillenberg/Hopkins – Call for the question.

Gold/Lillenberg -- *Motion to close debate, approved 11-6-1.*

Lillenberg/Hopkins -- *Motion to approve yellow sheet budget, failed 7-10-1*

Lewis/Kroy -- *Motion to go through yellow proposed budget line by line, approved 10-7-1*

Hunter asked if he could go through the budget line by line or just what he would like to see changed, and was given permission to suggest the changes (amendments) to the yellow proposed budget; board discussion preceded each motion:

*Motion to decrease Operations/Congress from \$500 to \$0, already paid out of previous budget: passed 18-0-0.*

*Motion to add Operations/Wireless microphone system for Board meetings, \$598: approved 16-1-1.*

*Motion to increase Outreach/Selections for Board seats, from \$100 to \$613 (\$513 from Community Improvements, VEPT Disaster Prep. Fair): approved 10-8-0.*

*Motion to reduce Meeting Space Rental, from \$600 to \$500: approved 14-3-1.*

*Motion to increase Outreach/Meeting Refreshments from \$1700 to \$2000: approved 11-7-0.*

*Motion to increase Newsletters from \$4100 to \$4200: approved 14-3-1.*

*Agnes/Kroy -- Motion amendment to increase Holiday Parade from \$300 to \$500: failed 7-8-1.*

*Motion to increase Holiday Parade from \$300 to \$700: failed 7-10-1; stays at \$300.*

*Motion to decrease Community Improvements/Safety Projects & Events from \$300 to \$0: failed 8-8-2; stays at \$300.*

*Motion GHNNC Safety Fair \$0: failed 7-7-2.*

*Motion to keep GHNNC Safety Fair at \$200: approved 8-7-3.*

[10 p.m.]

*Motion EP Items \$0: Gold – call to close debate: passed 8-5-[abstentions not counted].*

*Motion EP items \$0: 8-7-1 (19 members present) recount, failed 8-8-1.*

*Motion EP items \$475, (Gold/Lewis, amendment to motion -- pending approval by the City Attorney: this amendment to the original motion was skipped and not voted on): Motion EP items \$475: approved 9-8-0.*

*Motion Cert Kits \$0, (Gold/Kim, call to close debate: passed 15-2-0): Motion Cert Kits \$0: passed 10-7-1.*

*Motion West Valley Alliance Graffiti Removal \$0: fail 5-9-2.*

*Motion to increase West Valley Alliance Graffiti Removal to \$500: passed 14-2-0*

*Motion General Community Projects, \$970: withdrawn.*

*Motion Neighborhood Purpose Grants, \$0: passed 11-5-2.*

[Board Member Gold left, 10:41 p.m., 18 members present]

VST speaker microphones; requestor must submit City paperwork for non-profit, they pulled request, therefore eliminate the item.

*Motion Operations/Miscellaneous General Operations \$2,500; amendment by Lewis to make it \$1,500, accepted by Hunter, and Outreach/General Neighborhood Outreach \$1,400; amendment by Lewis to make it \$2,500, accepted by Hunter: passed 14-2-1.*

Budget as amended, approved by majority of hands.

Hunter applauded the audience for sticking it out.

#### **10c. Financial Officer Report – Thompson**

*Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for May, approved 13-4-0.*

#### **10d. Outreach Committee – Plescia**

Wednesday morning will be a Luau preparation meeting at the office to determine what needs to be done; a sign-up sheet is available tonight for Board members to mark down what task they would like to do for Saturday's event. This is going to be a big event, 500 people are expected.

Discussed the Luau announcement banner and its wording, the extra tables being provided outside the meeting hall, and the timing of the events taking place during the luau.

#### **12. Adjournment, 11:05 p.m.**