

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT
Michael Greenwald

VICE PRESIDENT
Ray Pollok

MEMBERS

Brian Allen	Oscar Jimenez
Alfredo Castillo	Rahim Kazi
Chris Coyle	Ralph Kroy
Berj Demirjian	Dave Parikh
Kyle Ellis	Skylar Rose
Sid Gold	Andres Topete
Bill Hopkins	Joe Vitti
Wayde Hunter	Keren Waters

**CITY OF LOS ANGELES,
CALIFORNIA**



**GRANADA HILLS NORTH
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

**BOARD MEETING
AGENDA WITH MINUTES**

GHNNC Contact Information

Address: 11139 Woodley Avenue
Granada Hills, CA
Telephone: (818) 923-5592
Website: www.GHNNC.org

**GHNNC BOARD MEETING
Location**

Saint Euphrasia School Auditorium,
11766 Shoshone Ave.
Granada Hills, CA 91344
Tuesday, September 04, 2018 at 6:30

A. Call to Order, Roll Call, Pledge of Allegiance, Welcome/Introductions/Calendar.

Roll Call [Quorum Achieved (17 present/ 11 required)]

- (1) Present: Brian Allen, Alfredo Castillo, Chris Coyle, Berj Demirjian, Kyle Ellis, Sid Gold, Michael Greenwald, Bill Hopkins, Wayde Hunter, Oscar Jimenez, Rahim Kazi,¹ Ralph Kroy, Dave Parikh,² Skylar Rose, Andres Topete, Joe Vitti, Keren Waters
- (2) Absent: Ray Pollok

B. Comments from CD 12, LAPD Senior Lead Officers, Elected Official Reps, Government Agencies.

DONE Comments (Jose Galdamez)

- (1) A meeting of the Resilience working group will be announced soon, and will be shared with GHNNC as info becomes available.
- (2) Mr. Galdamez thanks GHNNC for completing and submitting its inventory to DONE.
- (3) NC Congress will be occurring on September 22, there will be workshops and networking opportunities with City Departments, Agencies, and other NCs. Parking is available at City Hall and the pass is available online at the NC Congress website.
- (4) IgniteLA is beginning in September, and will run through November. It is an opportunity for young women to participate in the City. The deadline to register is September 12.
- (5) The NC Election representative for GHNNC has been assigned, please contact Renee McDade or Jose Galdamez with election-related matters.

SD18 Comments (Hannah Kelley)

- (1) Sen. Hertzberg was the lead author for bail reform, which was passed by the legislature and signed into law. He was also the author of SB913, an act related to graffiti removal in the City of Los Angeles that would suspend the requirement for the City to pay per diem daily wages to workers, and allow for the City to use volunteers, court-ordered community service workers, and pre-apprenticeship trainees without paying the prevailing wage.
- (2) Bill Hopkins asks about unintended consequences regarding bail reform, specifically about any additional people that will be release into the community; Kyle Ellis responds that the effects on bail reform will be unclear on non-felonies, but that Judges as elected officials will have to carefully consider release of even misdemeanor suspects, additionally, organizations like the ACLU are concerned that the new system could possibly lead to over-incarcerations of individuals for felony crimes. Ms. Kelley comments that it will ultimately rely on judicial discretion.
- (3) Ralph Kroy comments that he previously spoke with Sen. Hertzberg regarding the shutdown of manual arts programs in LAUSD and he would like an update on what the Senator has achieved. Ms. Kelley will look into the matter.

¹ Mr. Kazi's ethics certification has expired, and his vote is, accordingly, deemed ineligible.

² Mr. Parikh's ethics certification has expired and his vote is deemed ineligible.

- (4) Oscar Jimenez asks about Sen. Hertzberg's efforts to redefine rainwater as sewage water in order to modify tax assessments. Ms. Kelley will look into the matter.

AD39 Comments (Jude Hernandez)

- (1) Assemblywoman Rivas supported net neutrality, which passed the senate and assembly.
- (2) Assemb. Rivas authored and passed a bill authorizing the construction of a Caltrans memorial along the shared area of the I-5 & I-210 freeways.
- (3) Additional bills supported by Assemb. Rivas include wildfire legislation; universal start times for schools; and bail reform.
- (4) Kyle Ellis asks for an update regarding Assemb. Rivas' position on sober living homes. Mr. Hernandez states that the Assemblywoman believes that they are important for transitioning to a more sober lifestyle, but that she will consider introducing legislation to combat the issues raised in GHNNC last month.

C. Public Comment on non-agenda items (limited to two minutes).

Public Comments

- (1) Barbara Malin requests volunteers for the Granada Hills Street Faire, which is on Saturday, October 06, 2018 from 10:00A.M. to 5:00P.M.
- (2) Christine Patrick is concerned about the recent DWP bills, and contacted CD12. Also comments that someone in her community is stealing power from a construction site. Bill Hopkins comments that the DWP bill includes more than just power, but also service, sewage, and sanitation.
- (3) Rudy Melendez is a candidate for SD18. Running on accountability, economic improvement, and economic stewardship.

D. Emergency Preparedness Item of the Month.

EP Chair Comments (Bill Hopkins)

- (1) This month's item is a super absorbent large pad for wounds.

E. **[PASSED]** Motion to approve the August 07, 2018, Board meeting minutes.

Motion: Bill Hopkins

Second: Andres Topete

Vote: [Yes – 14; No – 0; Abstain – 1 (Chris Coyle); Ineligible – 2 (Rahim Kazi, Dave Parikh)]

F. Executive Committee

1. **[PASSED AS AMENDED]** Discussion and possible motion on Councilmember Ryu's N.C. motion. Council File No. 18-0467. Available at http://clkrep.lacity.org/online/docs/2018/18-0467_mot_05-25-2018.pdf.

Board Comment

(1) Discussion:

- a. Bill Hopkins asks about why the *ad hoc* committee recommended using the residency of the voter versus the current Community Interest Stakeholders for voting.
- b. Brian Allen comments that the position of the committee is that if you reside in a location, you should be limited to voting in that single location.
- c. Sid Gold comments that some people have 4-5 votes in neighborhood council elections, which is undemocratic, and voting should be limited to the NC you reside in.
- d. Brian Allen comments that limiting voting to residence would better comply with State and Federal practices, and that the current practice of allowing multiple votes in multiple NC elections is improper.
- e. Skylar Rose comments that turnout would be assisted with this type of voting method by allowing the County to incorporate NC elections into the regular election cycle, which is another recommendation of the *ad hoc* committee.

- f. Brian Allen further comments that the current rules are very broad as the rules allow people to vote in a variety of councils for all sorts of reasons, and there instead should be a clear rule for when a person may vote in an election.
- g. Keren Waters comments that current rules would allow a business owner to vote in our election, and asks if the proposed change would prevent such a person from voting in a non-resident NC.
- h. Brian Allen responds that the proposal would limit business owners from voting in an NC election if they do not reside in the NC's jurisdictional area.
- i. Ralph Kroy comments that he sees both sides of the discussion, and there are reasons for allowing multiple votes.
- j. Bill Hopkins interprets the recommendation as only allowing voting in the location of residence.
- k. Berj Demirjian comments that business owners have an interest in the community where their business operates.
- l. Kyle Ellis clarifies that the recommendation solely related to Stakeholders voting for Board Members, and no comment as to Board member service. Further states that there was discussion at the *ad hoc* committee meeting that if a person wanted to participate in a NC where they did not reside, they would be able to do so as a member of that NC's Committees, which place no bar on non-Board Members from serving on Committees.
- m. Bill Hopkins recommends that we more specifically state that this is limited in NC Board Member elections, and the recommendation is accepted.
- n. Bill Hopkins next asks what 'regularization of voting system' means regarding the motion's consideration of Elections versus Selections.
- o. Brian Allen comments that the sole intended meaning is to recommend that Board Members should only obtain their office through an election, and not through a selection process.
- p. Sid Gold comments that selection may not be legal, and this is set to be changed regardless of NC's comments on this Council File.
- q. Kyle Ellis comments that the basic idea behind the *ad hoc* committee's recommendation is that all NC elections should 'look the same' to a voting stakeholder throughout the City so that if a person moves from one part of the City to another part of the City, their experience in electing a NC Board Member should be identical and not subject to special rules based on NC-specific Bylaws.
- r. Next, regarding board member ages, Bill Hopkins comments that the language in the recommendation could be read regarding more than one youth board member, albeit one that would have to be elected by adults.
- s. Brian Allen comments that the instant recommendations are not legally binding, and need not be read as a lawyer might read it; here, the intent is that a youth member should be elected by youth, and serve on a youth committee, while all the remaining members should be adults, and elected by adults.
- t. The next item raised relates to training of PLUM chairs and vice-chairs – Bill Hopkins comments that we don't specify what we mean by training, experience, or education for the exception to training.
- u. Brian Allen comments that this motion only applies to PLUM committee chairs and vice-chairs, as there is some technical knowledge needed.
- v. Kyle Ellis comments that the *ad hoc* committee did not discuss what specific training, experience, or education might be sufficient to obtain an exception, but was confident that the City or DONE would be able to come to an adequate rule for such exceptions.
- w. The Board determined to modify the language to specify that the training should apply only to PLUM chairs and vice-chairs.

- x. Skylar Rose comments that he does not understand why non-cumulative rollovers should be allowed.
- y. Brian Allen comments that there are different plans being proposed that might allow for cumulative rollovers.
- z. Bill Hopkins comments that there was a prior point in time where rollovers were cumulative, and GHNNC had somewhere near \$200k in rolled over funds.
- aa. Kyle Ellis comments that one benefit of allowing even a non-cumulative rollover, is that such funds could be designated as emergency relief funds without any concern about impacting the budget each year.
- bb. Regarding the part of the motion for in kind donations and monetary donations, Bill Hopkins recommends that we add language in the motion that donated funds should be in a special account that does not disappear at the end of a fiscal year.
- cc. Brian Allen comments that there are some councils looking into this, and that currently there are Council Districts that have provided money to NCs for beautification projects, and are facing the possibility that such funds will disappear at the end of the fiscal year if unspent, thus the City Council is aware of the issue.
- dd. Bill Hopkins argues that regardless of the City's awareness of the issue, we should include the recommendation that any donated funds should be retained until spent.
- ee. Kyle Ellis responds by saying that the recommendation is well-taken and the motion will be modified to include that language.
- ff. As to the issue of designating contact persons between NCs and City Departments/Agencies, Bill Hopkins comments that there should be a single person, and recommends against designating a committee as the 'point of contact.'
- gg. Sid Gold comments that there is a difference between a contact person versus point of contact, and that the process will be much more efficient for the City and the NCs if the Executive Committees of each NC is so designated, with that committee then determining which committee member should be responsible for contacting which City Department/Agency.
- hh. Kyle Ellis further comments that the distinction between a contact person and the ability to designate a group as a 'point of contact' has been recognized in California law, specifically in the Homeowner Bill of Rights.
- ii. Brian Allen asks whether anyone has reviewed the 'additional recommendations' added to the council-file specific recommendations.
- jj. General consensus of the additional recommendation is approval.

Motion to Amend: Motion to amend to modify the recommendations of the *ad hoc* committee to (1) more specifically state that the Board's position on elections is limited to stakeholders voting for Board members and not any other potential permutation of the definition of Community Interest Stakeholder, (2) Modify the language related to the training proposal to more specifically state is related solely to PLUM, and (3) Regarding the donations of monies from other entities, require that any donated funds should be retained by the City Clerk until they are used by the recipient NC.

Motion: Kyle Ellis

Second: Wayde Hunter

Vote: [Yes – 12; No – 3 (Keren Waters, Alfredo Castillo, Skylar Rose); Abstain – 0; Ineligible – 2 (Rahim Kazi, Dave Parikh)]

Amended Motion: Motion to approve the January MER Report.

Vote: [Yes – 11; No – 4 (Keren Waters, Alfredo Castillo, Skylar Rose, Ralph Kroy); Abstain – 0; Ineligible – 2 (Rahim Kazi, Dave Parikh)]

2. **[TABLED]** Discussion and possible motion to approve our yearly Self-Assessment for DONE.

Board Comment

- (1) Michael Greenwald comments that we can either allow Michael Greenwald and Brian Allen to fill out with Board review, or else allow all Board members to fill out and sent in.
- (2) The consensus is that Michael Greenwald and Brian Allen should draft the initial self-assessment and the Board will review.

G. Treasurer Report.

1. Budget Advocate Report.

Board Comment

- (1) Nothing to report.

2. Update on the new Equity funding program for N.C.'s.

Board Comment

- (1) Brian Allen comments that there were about 12 proposals, but no uniform agreement was presented to the City Council.
- (2) Skylar Rose asks about participation by the equity funding working group; Brian Allen comments that although there was substantial participation early on, the working group failed to obtain a quorum in the last two meetings, which made the adoption of a final proposal impossible.

H. Outreach and Publicity Committee Report.

Outreach Chair Comment (Keren Waters and Brian Allen)

1. **[PASSED]** Motion to approve flag design competition presentation, and authorize Board Members to present the approves powerpoint presentation.

Board Comment

- (1) Kyle Ellis presents the powerpoint presentation for the Flag Competition Proposal.
- (2) Michael Greenwald comments about presenting the presentation to as many NCs as possible.
- (3) Sid Gold comments that this proposal should be presented at the NC Congress and LANCC. Kyle Ellis requests that Sid Gold present the presentation at LANCC, as he is the GHNNC representative to LANCC.
- (4) Brian Allen comments that VANC and San Fernando Valley based NCs should be included in the presentation process.

Vote: [Yes – 15; No – 0; Abstain – 0; Ineligible – 2 (Rahim Kazi, Dave Parikh)]

2. **[TABLED]** Motion to approve \$1,000 to the Granada Hills Parade on 12/2/18, if GHNNC is invited to appear. Ralph Kroy to contact the Chamber and verify if GHNNC is invited. All Board members are encouraged to participate if we are invited due to publicity for our NC.

Board Comment

- (1) Michael Greenwald proposes a friendly amendment that would make the award of monies contingent on upon presentation of a NPG.
- (2) Bill Hopkins asks whether an NPG is necessary; Brian Allen comments that it has to be a NPG for the parade, although if it were purchase of a booth or ad space, an NPG would not be necessary.

Motion to Table

Vote: [Yes – 14; No – 0; Abstain – 1 (Ralph Kroy); Ineligible – 2 (Rahim Kazi, Dave Parikh)]

3. **[TABLED]** Motion to approve Oscar Jimenez to represent Outreach and Publicity Committee at the Valley Disaster Preparedness Fair on 9/29/18, 9:00am-1:30pm.

Board Comment

- (1) Oscar Jimenez asks for additional support from the Board in representing the Board at the Fair.
- (2) Michael Greenwald comments that the motion is not really necessary, and that Oscar should send around an email seeking Board Member participation.

4. **[TABLED]** Motion to approve up to \$2,500.00 for the Granada Hills Street Faire.

Board Comment

- (1) Bill Hopkins comments that the NPG is not necessary here, as we buy ad space and etc.
- (2) Alfredo Castillo asks about having a budget for drinks and snacks at committee meetings. Michael Greenwald cautions that this comment is off-topic, and advises that the office has bottled water.
- (3) Skylar Rose comments that it's his fault as he is holding the NPG, but failed to transmit it to the Board.

Public Comment

- (1) Larry Fleck, a director with the Granada Hills Chamber of Commerce, comments that the money is necessary for certain expenses that are not covered. Michael Greenwald and Brian Allen respond by stating that GHNNC needs a NPG from the foundation, as NCs are prohibited from giving money to non-501(c)(3) entities like the Chamber of Commerce.

I. Planning and Land Use. Report.

PLUM Chair Comment (Kyle Ellis)

- (1) No meeting was held in August.

J. Public Safety, Report. Ray Pollok.

Public Safety Chair Comment (Ray Pollok)

- (1) Michael Greenwald comments on free wi-fi for GHNNC area, which would allow for security surveillance cameras; the issue of security cameras received no consensus at committee.
- (2) Traffic on Balboa was considered in committee, presently, information is being collected by stakeholders; and there is a survey being done on NextDoor.
- (3) There was general discussion about the Street Faire, sober living, and the possibility of placing plastic bags in park for dog owners. The last issue is recommended for consideration by the Outreach Committee.

1. **[PASSED]** Motion to authorize expenditure of funds, not to exceed \$1,000.00 for emergency services and/or supplies without prior board approval for a Declared Emergency, using Outreach funds, in accordance with City Clerk NC Funding Program Policy 5.0 Expenditures of NC Funds in a Declared Emergency. Also, any expenditure of funds to be limited to the Greater Los Angeles County area. (Attachment No. 1)

Board Comment

- (1) Kyle Ellis ask whether GHNNC has any plan in place for what our NC would do in the event of a declared emergency that directly affects the NC area. Bill Hopkins comments that no such plan exists, but that there are piecemeal efforts by individuals, the City, and emergency services to develop plans. Kyle Ellis comments that whether there are plans for individuals or by the government, it would make sense to have some plan in place for what our Board Members would do, as Board Members, in the event of an emergency. Bill Hopkins comments that the motion is a way to immediately help regardless of a disaster. Brian Allen comments that this is solely to spend money quickly in a declared emergency, and any necessary funds would likely be approved by the City Clerk – although would need to be ratified by the NC as soon as is possible.
- (2) Michael Greenwald comments that the spending of emergency funds should be limited to the GHNNC area; Bill Hopkins comments that the reason for use of 'county' is that we border the Los Angeles City/County line, and we may be the best or only available help in the event of an emergency. Brian Allen comments that there is nothing that requires us to make a payment, it just gives GHNNC discretion. Bill Hopkins comments that this does not rely on requests, but allows GHNNC to be proactive in spending in the case of a declared emergency.

- (3) Sid Gold asks who will approve of the funds; it is the President.
- (4) Alfredo Castillo asks for clarification as to who could declare an emergency; Bill Hopkins responds by stating that an emergency declaration would have to come from a governmental entity such as the City of Los Angeles, State of California, or the Federal Government.

Vote: [Yes – 15; No – 0; Abstain – 0; Ineligible – 2 (Rahim Kazi, Dave Parikh)]

K. Citywide Committee Report. Sid Gold.

Citywide Chair Comment (Sid Gold and Brian Allen)

- (1) There are a couple things that should go to committees: One issue regarding the controller recommendations, and the other regarding notifyLA for NC notification on public safety measures.
- (2) Urban forestry service for the City is giving 3-day notices for tree removal when notice should be for 90 days; LANCC wants NCs to be part of the approval process for removing trees.
- (3) LADWP is looking for volunteers with homes built from 1982-1986 in order to test their water for increased levels of lead.
- (4) CM Ryu is working on additional NC reform proposals including: Council File No. 12-1681s1 regarding subdivisions for affected areas and bylaws for new NCs; and Council File No. 12-1681s3 that would plan for the City allowing subdivisions every 4 years with no more than 3 divisions per cycle, along with other modifications.
- (5) Recently Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council was given part of North Hills West Neighborhood Council because the City determined that the relevant portion should have been included in the Granada Hills Neighborhood – includes the area East of Balboa and West of the I-405 between Devonshire and Lassen.
- (6) Organizers for the NC Congress are looking for more volunteers to staff the event.
- (7) GHNNC has not given money yet to NC Congress. Bill Hopkins asks whether we voted money for NC Congress – Brian Allen comments that GHNNC has not given money to the Congress for the 2018 event.
- (8) The City Council has introduced Council File No. 18-0821, which regards Verizon throttling bandwidth during fires in Northern California. Bill Hopkins comments that Verizon has already promised not to do it, and that the governments are partially to blame for the throttling due to purchasing the cheapest service package available to them.

L. Emergency Preparedness Report. Bill Hopkins.

EP Chair Comments (Bill Hopkins)

- (1) About preparedness on an individual basis. The speaker discussed variations in how CPR is taught by different training organization.

M. Board Member Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Board Comment

- (1) Bill Hopkins comments that the Valley Disaster Fair is coming soon and that everyone is invited to attend.
- (2) Skylar Rose comments that he will circulate a sign up for the upcoming events including the Valley Disaster Fair, and the Granada Hills Street Faire.
- (3) Alfredo Castillo asks about setting aside funds for the purchase of drinks and snacks for events and meetings outside of the office, such as the shred event. Brian Allen comments that when a budget for such an event is approved, it should include the costs of amenities. Skylar Rose additionally comments that there were no food and drink at the shred event. Alfredo Castillo also comments that the holiday parade does not require registration.
- (4) Keren Waters comments that she is investigating free wi-fi for the GHNNC area; she asks Board members to provide verbiage for any motions if they are proponents of such a motion in the Outreach Committee;

she suggests that the GHNNC Board pose for professional headshots to post on the website; finally, comments that she will be out of the country in November.

- (5) Kyle Ellis comments that there was a garbage picker rooting through his recycling bin at 3:00AM last week, requests that the elected representatives for the area³ explore the possibility of making the activity economically unviable so that the practice stops.
- (6) Michael Greenwald comments that people need to lock their cars, as there was a recent rash of car break-ins along his street.
- (7) Ralph Kroy comments that there were two agendas, and that he has been using a different agenda from the rest of the Board. Michael Greenwald comments that there was only one final agenda, and that the email containing the agenda used by Ralph was clearly listed as a draft for Board comment prior to finalization.
- (8) Wayde Hunter comments SCLCAC next meeting is upcoming; the roots growing in the street in front of his house have not been remediated, but LADWP responded quickly about a leak in the road. Also reported a sinkhole near his house that was not repaired by the City, but was filled thanks to Bill Hopkins – Bill Hopkins recommends calling 311 or using the 311 application.
- (9) Brian Allen comments that there is currently a rash of stealing trashcans. Bill Hopkins comments that homeowners should write down the trash can numbers.

N. Adjournment

Adjourned [8:47 P.M.]

³ Only Mr. Hernandez from AD39 was in attendance for the entire meeting, as Ms. Kelley from SD18 had to leave prior to adjournment, and Ms. Strobel from CD12 was unable to attend.

Abbreviation Guide			
BA	Budget Advocates	BONC	Board of Neighborhood Commissioners
CD	Los Angeles City Council District	CERT	Community Emergency Response Team
CIS	Community Impact Statement	CM	Los Angeles City Council Member
DONE	Department of Neighborhood Empowerment	EVOG	Emergency Vehicle Operations Center
GHNNC	Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council	HOPE	Homeless Outreach Partnership Endeavour
LADOT	Los Angeles Department of Transportation	LADWP	Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
LANCC	Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition	LAPD	Los Angeles Police Department
NC	Neighborhood Council	NPG	Neighborhood Purposes Grant
PLUM	Planning and Land Use Management Committee	SCL	Sunshine Canyon Landfill
SCLAF	Sunshine Canyon Landfill Amenities Fund	SCLCAC	Sunshine Canyon Landfill Community Advisory Committee
SFM	San Fernando Mission Boulevard		