

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Michael Greenwald

VICE PRESIDENT
Ray Pollok

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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
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**GHNNC BOARD MEETING
Location**

Saint Euphrasia School Auditorium,
11766 Shoshone Ave.
Granada Hills, CA 91344
Tuesday, October 02, 2018 at 6:30 PM

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

Roll Call [Quorum (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, Ralph Kroy, Dave Parikh,¹ Ray Pollok, Skylar Rose, Joe Vitti, Keren Waters
- (2) Absent: Andres Topete

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

DONE Comments (Jose Galdamez)

- (1) Regional outreach workshops this month on the 18th and 23rd regarding elections.
- (2) The training portal for NCs will be released to the Board by the end of the calendar year, which will streamline training and keeping track.
- (3) There is an ethics training for the 22nd.
- (4) Thanks to members for attending the NC Congress, with over 1000 RSVPs for the event.

CD12 Comments (Jesse Strobel)

- (1) There is a NC online voting pilot program for ten (10) NCs in the upcoming elections, calls for detailed written report prior to implementing them during the election – Councilmember Englander is opposed to online voting, and supports the goal that NC elections should be based purely on community participation and to protect them against outside takeovers.
- (2) More crews for urban forestry, including seven (7) new positions within the department, with preference for local hiring, veterans and homeless.
- (3) Introduced a motion for the permanent exemption for car dealers from gross receipts tax due to increased tax revenue and job growth. Dave Parikh asks about car dealership gross receipt success, and whether there is some interest in removing it for other businesses. Suggests that all gross receipt taxes should be removed entirely.
- (4) Regarding the creation of Rancho Cascades, Councilmember Englander already modified the boundaries to exempt Granada Hills areas.
- (5) Member of the public asks about the Sunshine Canyon Amenities Fund, and why Councilmember Englander is not responding to letters from this board. Jesse Strobel will look into the matter and follow up.

AD38 Comments (Assemblyman Dante Acosta)

- (1) States that Granada Hills is his hometown, and has many happy childhood memories in the community.

¹ Mr. Parikh’s ethics certificate expired on June 7, 2018, and he is ineligible to vote.

- (2) Updates for this year include: AB2155, requiring more disclosure on ads on social media to see where money for ads came from; AB2103, which strengthens requirements for concealed carry permits including live fire exercises; Budget request to get mental health professionals in every middle and high school; SB967, a foster youth tuition waiver bill to allow them to attend UCs, CSUs, tuition free; Assemblymember Acosta supported SB837 for universal pre-kindergarten program; and also supported SB1249, which bans animal testing for cosmetic purposes starting in 4 years.
- (3) Public asks about daycare/pre-kindergarten. The goal is to allow parents to work during the day and leave their kids with a qualified pre-kindergarten program.
- (4) Ray Pollok asks about training for concealed carry, and how difficult it is to obtain a concealed carry permit. Assemblymember Acosta notes that LA County has stringent requirements, but that concealed carry permits are easier to obtain in other counties, and places mandatory requirements for eight (8) hours of training and live fire handling.
- (5) Keren Waters asks about mental health services in schools and how to engage parents of bullies. Assemblymember Acosta states that the bill did not succeed this year, and states that this comes down to the challenges facing parents having to work and raise kids.
- (6) Michael Greenwald comments that concealed carry and live fire does not matter that much, but force option simulator would be a much better training method for training – Assemblymember Acosta will look into this suggestion for future legislation.

AD38 Candidate (Christy Smith)

- (1) Democratic candidate for state assembly in the 38th district. She has nine (9) years in municipal government in Santa Clarita school district, and plans on focusing on crime, homelessness, and environmental protection if elected.

SD18 Comments (Senator Robert Hertzberg)

- (1) Comments that he was here last year, and is proud to represent an area of Los Angeles that includes twenty-seven (27) NCs, and notes the importance of NCs in government since 70% of California tax monies go back to local governments.
- (2) Notes that while there have been budgetary issues in the past, he and other congresspersons have worked to create and fund the rainy day fund – which is fully funded at \$13.5 billion – and an additional \$3.5 billion in a separate social services fund.
- (3) There are \$12 billion on the table for homelessness and housing programs – this includes 76 programs that are difficult for the public to use.
- (4) Senator Hertzberg has worked with CalTrans to clean up the State Route 118 onramp at Balboa.
- (5) Michael Greenwald asks about the number of departments and commissions in the State of California – Senator Hertzberg does not have an exact number, but comments that it is a very large number since the governor makes 2400 appointments, and even more are appointed through the Congress.
- (6) Kyle Ellis asks about the bail system reform that was passed this year. Senator Hertzberg says that the current bail system fails at every level on an economic and equitable basis, and this bill was 2 years of work with the judicial council. Considers reform was necessary because bail does not work the way it is supposed to work: 1% of people are collected by private services, 99% are by our officers; and currently there is no determination of public safety. The new system will place people in front of a judge to determine threat and flight risk, and includes more monitoring of people, which works and will result in more people showing up for court hearings and a lower recidivism rate while released.
- (7) Bill Cotter comments that in LA County it is the Sherriff, and not LAPD, that is in charge of jails. Also, would like to know about how the new bail system would work with transients, and how people without incentives to come back will come back. Senator Hertzberg responds by saying that transiency will be a factor, and judges will have discretion.

SD18 Candidate (Rudy Melindez)

- (1) Mr. Melindez starts by stating that vote by mail ballots are being sent out this next week and elections are Nov. 6. Mr. Melindez has served on the Board of 2 NCs, and if elected would focus on CalTrans, the improvement and beautification of freeways, and responsible environmental stewardship.

US Assembly 29 Comments (Lucia Senda) Tony Cardenas Office

- (1) Friday October 5th, there is a grant workshop in Lake View Terrace.
- (2) Health Fair in Sun Valley on the 22nd.
- (3) On October 25th, at the Midvalley YMCA in Van Nuys, there will be a job fair.

LA City Clerk Comments (Rene McDade)

- (1) Rene McDade will be the administrator for the 2018-19 NC election season.
- (2) Election division is preparing by holding workshops and meetings for NC Board members and the public.
- (3) The City Clerk is reviewing NCs bylaws to determine which seats are up for election, in order to ensure the elections are held in compliance with each NC's bylaws.
- (4) They are in the process of contacting and securing polling places.
- (5) Filing period for NC Board positions will begin Jan 19, 2019. Deadline will be Feb 19, 2019. March 5, 2019, will be the release date for candidates. Election day is May 4, 2019 2pm to 8pm. For GHNNC, the polling location will be at St. Euphrasia (or Knollwood Plaza).

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

Public Comments

- (1) Jane Foulter is a GH resident. Comments that she recently went to an event with Dr. Nordella, who worked at the Porter Ranch urgent care facility and is doing a health study on Porter Ranch residents who have been affected by the Aliso Canyon Gas Leak. The 3rd anniversary of the gas leak is coming up, and there will be a documentary screening about it on October 23rd.
- (2) Andrea Provenzale discusses the Sunshine Canyon Amenities Fund again, and thanks Ray Pollok for talking with her. Mentions that she helped to walk the streets to review the traffic issue.
- (3) Bill Cotter states that the traffic situation remains a problem, as it blocks access to neighborhoods, makes the streets unsafe, and angry motorists are ignoring traffic laws to go faster. Mentions that GHNNC did not attend the Disaster Preparedness Fair.
- (4) Meg Volk comments that she is extremely disappointed that the traffic problem is not on the agenda. Has been contacting Councilmember Englander about the traffic problem. States that while GHNNC requested that Councilmember Englander should do a traffic study, she was unaware of it happening. Presents a packet of signed petitions for a 'no left turn' sign. Michael Greenwald responds that all of the agenda items were made public.
- (5) Mike Benedette states that GHNNC was noticeably absent from the Disaster Preparedness Fair. Discusses a project from the Granada Hills Foundation regarding the 118/Balboa onramp, and states that after he called Senator Hertzberg's office there was a new fence within 2 weeks. Comments that he would like to put in ten (10) 8ft panels, and wants GHNNC to help put in financially for the project.

D. Emergency Preparedness Item of the Month.

EP Chair Comments (Bill Hopkins)

- (1) The item of the month is a 21-piece sewing kit.

E. **[PASSED]** Motion to approve the September 04, 2018, Board meeting minutes.

Motion: Brian Allen

Second: Chris C

Vote: [Yes – 15; No – 0; Abstain – 0; Ineligible – 1 (Dave Parikh)]

F. Executive Committee

1. **[PASSED]** Discussion and possible motion to approve our yearly Self-Assessment for DONE.
Vote: [Yes – 14; No – 0; Abstain – 1 (Bill Hopkins); Ineligible –1 (Dave Parikh)]
2. **[PASSED]** [*Council File No. 11-1663-S1*] Motion to support Jesse Strobel's appointment to the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Local Enforcement Agency.

Board Comment

- (1) Bill Hopkins asks whether it is a replacement for the current position held by Millie Jones.

Vote: [Yes – 15; No – 0; Abstain – 1 (Chris Coyle); Ineligible –1 (Dave Parikh)]

3. **[PASSED]** [*Council File No. 18-0152*] Motion to oppose the application to rename a portion of the existing community of Sylmar to “Rancho Cascades” unless amended to limit the boundaries of the community on its Western side to terminate at the Interstate-5. Additionally, Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council objects to the process used in making this application on the following grounds:

1. The applicant failed to speak with Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council when a portion of the proposed boundaries include the Granada Hills Neighborhood;
2. The applicant failed to obtain any signatures in favor of their petition from residents of Granada Hills even though a portion of the proposed boundaries include the Granada Hills Neighborhood;
3. The failure of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment to notify Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council even though a portion of the proposed boundaries include the Granada Hills Neighborhood and the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment was itself notified of the petitioner’s application by the City Clerk on February 27, 2018.

Board Comment

- (1) Kyle Ellis comments that the issue is moot at this point, but that DONE and the Council File did not provide sufficient notice to GHNNC, and maybe this should be looked into for the future.

Public Comment

- (1) Karen Ellis says that they received a Council File Number back in February, various City departments were notified. As to the contested area, they were required to follow City streets, and were not permitted to use freeways as boundaries in the application process.
- (2) Stephen Beck says that GHNNC was not blindsided because there is a Cascades group on Nextdoor where this was discussed at length. There was a large discussion in the Sylmar group on Nextdoor as well. Says that the no-mans-land area was drawn that way due to the fact that they could not use state freeways for the boundaries. Says that there is nothing as to the authority of NCs.

Vote: [Yes – 16; No – 0; Abstain – 0; Ineligible – 1 (Dave Parikh)]

G. Treasurer Report.

1. **[PASSED]** Motion to approve the August 2018 MER.

Board Comment

- (1) There is only one charge on the MER, meeting refreshments.

Motion: Wayde Hunter

Second: Oscar Jimenez

Vote: [Yes – 16; No –; Abstain – 0; Ineligible – 1 (Dave Parikh)]

2. Budget Advocates Report.

Board Comment

- (1) Brian Allen comments that they are holding meetings and will be meeting with department heads, and willing to take any concerns to the departments.

H. Outreach and Publicity Committee Report.

Outreach Chair Comment (Keren Waters and Brian Allen)

- (1) Brian Allen comments that the reason why there was no GHNNC booth at the Disaster Fair because we could not get volunteers to tear the booth down. Dave Meza – Southern California Edison, comments that Bill Hopkins is the reason why the fair exists in the first place.
- (2) On September 22, several members attended the NC Congress.
- (3) What Outreach is looking from the community and the Board is participation. Kyle Ellis mentions that any community member who wants to be on a committee is welcome.

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

Board Comment

- (1) Brian Allen comments that the Street Faire is this Saturday.
- (2) Bill Hopkins states that the NPG is on the incorrect form, and that there are discrepancies in the NPG.
- (3) Bill Hopkins states that \$2,500 is a substantial amount to pay, and suggests \$1,500.

Vote: [Yes – 11; No – 2 (Bill Hopkins, Sid Gold); Abstain – 3 Kyle Ellis, Wayde Hunter, Alfredo Castillo; Ineligible – 1 (Dave Parikh)]

2. **[TABLED]** Discussion on the Granada Hills Holiday Parade.

I. Planning and Land Use. Report.

PLUM Chair Comment (Kyle Ellis)

- (1) Kyle Ellis reports that PLUM discussed Re:Code LA, regarding the 900+ page document for the new procedures for development projects. PLUM will be trying to read through the document in a timely manner in order to substantively comment on it and submit a CIS.

1. **[PASSED]** [*Council File No. 18-0002-598*] Motion to oppose the City Council's proposal in support of Proposition 10.

Board Comment

- (1) Kyle Ellis comments that he is against GHNNC taking this position, and argues that all a repeal will require us to do additional work in order to make sure that the City develops rent control that takes our concerns into consideration.
- (2) Sid Gold supports that opposition to Prop 10, stating that it will be a disaster to hand power for rent control over to the City government.
- (3) Brian Allen comments that this will decrease property value. States that we should support people who own the housing.
- (4) Ralph Kroy comments that when the City can check rental properties, they can do inspections, which they already do. Talks about upgrading housing, and how a person can't recoup upgrades.
- (5) Dave Parikh comments that the City should not be able to control the prices, and that the issue of shortages is due to government regulation, taxes, and costs.

Public Comment

- (1) Maria Fisk comments that this would expand rent control in the state. States that rent control will decrease the number of units. It may help a few people to live affordability, but does nothing else.
- (2) Mike Benedette comments that the current affordable housing does not work.

Vote: [Yes – 15; No – 1 (Kyle Ellis); Abstain – 0; Ineligible – 1 (Dave Parikh)]

J. Public Safety, Report. Ray Pollok.

Public Safety Chair Comment (Ray Pollok)

- (1) Meg (member of the public) was present at the last meeting, and Ray Pollok suggests that she scan the ‘no left turn’ documents and email them to him. Talks about what information was collected. Next meeting this will be on the agenda.
- (2) Ralph Kroy compliments the City on providing a motorcycle police officer at the intersection at Balboa and Rinaldi ticketing people.

K. Citywide Committee Report. Sid Gold.

Citywide Chair Comment (Sid Gold and Brian Allen)

1. **[PASSED]** [Council File No. 18-0002-S122] Discussion and possible motion on the City’s position on SB1.

Board Comment

- (1) Sid Gold comments that the gas tax is very complicated, and will raise \$50 billion over 10 years, and has provisions to raise state taxes if federal taxes go down, and other issues like that. Section 50 includes that the statute is urgent for road maintenance and rehabilitation, and so the tax was put in place immediately.
- (2) Kyle Ellis supports the tax, as there are road improvements and new public transit option being funded with the monies.
- (3) Oscar Jimenez comments that Governor Brown should have dropped the train rather than passed SB1 in order to fund the repairs.
- (4) Ralph Kroy comments that we have had taxes on gasoline going to the general fund, and that the only thing that should be used from the gas tax is for the roads.

Motion to oppose the City’s support of SB1.

Motion: Sid Godl

Second: Michael Greenwald

Vote: [Yes – 14; No – 1 (Kyle Ellis); Abstain – (Joe Vitti); Ineligible – 1 (Dave Parikh)]

L. Emergency Preparedness Report. Bill Hopkins.

EP Chair Comments (Bill Hopkins)

- (1) Michael Greenwald congratulates Bill Hopkins on the Disaster Preparedness Fair. Bill Hopkins states that it was a team effort, with a lot of great people and organizations.
- (2) Map and compass training at the last month’s meeting – this month was focused entirely on how to use a compass. The ‘map meeting’ will be for a future meeting.

M. Board Member Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Board Comment

- (1) Michael Greenwald comments that there is a letter for the Grand Jury to serve as a volunteer.
- (2) Ralph Kroy was unhappy that GHNNC did not have a booth at the disaster preparedness fair. And says that the Board needs to do more.
- (3) Bill Hopkins thanks Ralph Kroy and Skylar Rose for attending the Disaster Preparedness Fair, and that there were new exhibitors this year, and this is one of the biggest fairs in the City. Will be providing kits at the Granada Hills Street Faire through several organizations.
- (4) Skylar Rose states that the Disaster Preparedness Fair is worth going to just for the information. The Federal Emergency Management Agency does not have a plan to save people, and members of the public need to prepare themselves for disasters. GHNNC should attend the Granada Hills Street Faire.

- (5) Brian Allen states that there will be no GHNNC participation without volunteers at the Granada Hills Street Faire. Asks about a town hall regarding the traffic problem, and talk to the other nearby NCs. Michael Greenwald comments that there should be a proposal to fix the problem prior to the meeting, otherwise it's a bunch of grumbling.
- (6) Berj Demirjian states that the town hall is a good idea regarding traffic.

N. Adjournment

Adjourned [8:45 P.M.]

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		