

Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council

Joint Committee Meeting

Parks and Beautification

Planning and Land Use Management

**Meeting Report Thursday, June 14 , 2007 @ 7:30PM**

**Van Gogh Elementary School Library**

**Special Joint committee Meeting: Parks and Beautification Planning and Land Use Management**

**Anne Ziliak** Called the meeting to Order at 7:45PM

Committee members present: Parks and Beautification Committee: Mary Ellen Crosby (Chair), Barbara Iversen, Mary Edwards, Mary Anne Kienholz, Ralph Kroy, Carlo Escalante. Planning and Land Use Management Committee: Anne Ziliak (Chair), Jeannie Plumb, Barbara Iversen, Kim Thompson, Ralph Kroy.

The members discussed the request from Councilman Smith: to allow mitigation Oak trees (designated for areas in close proximity to Sunshine Canyon Dump), to be donated to Griffith Park, for restoration of area damaged by fire.

Mary Ellen spoke with Laura B from Recreation and Parks Department. Laura told Mary Ellen that the Recreation and Parks Department will not know the condition of the Oaks in Griffith Park for at least six months. It would be over a year before any planting will be done.

Information in the annual reports from the Independent Monitor of BFI, C2REM. The documents indicate that BFI planted surplus Oaks to ensure that they would meet their required mitigation in the event that some Oaks would not survive. The number of surplus Oaks is listed as 647 from Los Angeles County and 388 from the City of Los Angeles. It is not clear that the Oaks that Councilman Smith referred to in his request are the same Oaks documented in the Independent Monitor reports.

There are some questions that the Committee Members want to pose to Councilman Smith and BFI.

Are there mitigation Oaks available to plant?

Are these the surplus Oaks referred to in the Independent Monitor annual reports?

How are the surplus Oaks being held?

Does surplus mean that the Oaks are available to plant in the local community?

Discussion about allowing Oaks meant for mitigation here to be planted elsewhere.

The community has so many undesirable impacts like the Sunshine Canyon Dump, the Water Filtration Plants for DWP and MWD. Many acres of wetland were destroyed here and we received only a small amount of mitigation locally, the bulk went to Arroyo Seco and Chatsworth. The required mitigations have been allowed far away from the impacted area, should we allow any more mitigation to be lost?

Ralph Kroy suggested that we write a letter to the Councilman indicating that we are taking the request under advisement and that we need more information from him, Recreation and Parks Department and BFI before we can make any decision and advise the Board of the GHNNC.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30PM