

Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council
Board Meeting
Wednesday, May 31, 2006 7:00 PM
Van Gogh School Auditorium
17160 Van Gogh Street Granada Hills, CA

Call to Order: 7:07 p.m. Roll Call: Wayne Aller, Mary Ellen Crosby, Sue DeVandry, Michael Greenwald, Wayde Hunter, Scott Manatt, Leon Marzillier, Alex Palazzo, Ben Pedrick, Robert Ricketts, Joe Vitti, and Donna Zero. Dev Parikh and Bill Cotter arrived late. *Total: 16 Board Members.* A quorum is established. Absent: Becky Bendikson, Matt Hughes, Linda Tcimpidis, Tom Tcimpidis, and David Tipton.

1. a. Chairperson Announcements:

- Chairperson Kim Thompson spoke to the Board about creating a new Outreach mailer to stakeholders.
- Fire Station 18 now has a full-time ambulance.
- Board Member Tom Tcimpidis has resigned as Correspondence Officer.
- Reminder to the Board to use motion forms when presenting new motions.
- Kim reported about a recent theft of her personal property from her vehicle while hanging up GHNNC agendas in the late evening.
- A stakeholder, Becky Bendikson requested a meeting with Porter Ranch NC for the purpose of discussing a possible bridge across Sesnon. Porter Ranch is not interested in meeting on a subject that has no proposal before it. If there is a proposal by a developer to build a bridge, we will have a meeting then.
- DONE is in the process of setting up a Funding Meeting with the Board. She suggested all Board Members attend to find out about funding requests and procedures.
- June 17th is the Congress for Neighborhood Councils meeting.
- The Conditional Use Permit for Sunshine Canyon dump is going before the County Board of Supervisors on June 7, 2006. There will be a bus to take stakeholders to that meeting, leaving from Van Gogh Elementary school. Wayde Hunter will report later.
- Reminder to the Board to stick to deadlines for getting items on the Board Meeting agenda.
- GHNNC co-sponsored a Senate District 20 debate with other neighborhood councils at Sylmar High School. GHNNC provided the water and had an outreach booth with several board members and stakeholders.
- GHNNC had a booth at the Greek Festival over Memorial Day weekend.

2. **Motion** (Manatt/Aller) to approve April 24, 2006 minutes. Passed 14-0-1
Motion (Aller/DeVandry) to approve February 27, 2006 minutes. Passed 14-1-0

3. Public Comments:

- Former Board Member Mary Edwards requested that the GHNNC support Imagine Academy with funding. Mary reported that Imagine Academy, previously supported by the Board, was vandalized and had graffiti damage, computers stolen, and science lab animals killed. She said they need financial help as they are not funded through the LAUSD. The request was referred to the Finance Committee.
- Dave Beauvais of the Old Granada Hills Residents' Group announced their meeting of June 4th with Councilmember Greig Smith.
- A stakeholder asked the Board whether a traffic study had been done at Balboa. Kim invited him to attend the upcoming meeting.

- A stakeholder asked whether recycling efforts are planned for apartment complexes and whether a ticket traffic light could be installed at Sesnon and Roscoe.
- A stakeholder urged the Board to request a mosquito abatement commitment from the City to ward off potential problems from the recent rains.

4. **Referrals to Committees**

Parks and Beautification: A request from stakeholder to clean up the bus stop at the NW corner of Woodley and Rinaldi was referred to Mary Ellen Crosby for the next Parks and Beautification meeting.

Public Safety: A request for GHNNC to take action on LAUSD and hydrochloric acid in their trash with questions to BFI regarding the statement about hazardous landfills was referred to Mike Greenwald for the next Public Safety meeting.

Executive Committee: A request to review of Board Members' attendance and to formulate a policy to follow up on items directed by the Board or stakeholder was referred to the Executive Committee.

5. **"Hospital High" Presentation**

Anne Ziliak introduced speakers on the proposed Valley Region High School # 4 (at the site of the old Granada Hills Hospital site). Anne urged the Board and stakeholders to make public comments on this issue by the June 9th deadline.

Joseph Pina, LAUSD Community Outreach Organizer, urged those present to comment on the draft EIR by June 9th at 5 p.m. and to address any comments to Jessica Rappaport, CEQA Project Manager/Consultant. The web site for information is: www.laschools.org (look under "find a school" then type "Valley Region High #4.")

Richard Fisk of Old Granada Hills Residents Group and Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council presented a letter from Councilmember Greig Smith to Superintendent of Schools Roy Romer, challenging the DEIR as being incomplete and contradictory. Richard also reported on outstanding problems, not addressed by the DEIR, including inadequate parking, demographics of students who will attend the proposed school, traffic patterns affected, and how this school will decrease overcrowding of area schools.

Motion (Cotter/Vitti), That the GHNNC is opposed to the Valley Region High School #4 project as described in the DEIR due to the adverse traffic and environmental issues outlined in the DEIR. The GHNNC respectfully requests the LAUSD to:

- provide meaningful mitigation of these issues,
 - identify the needs for this school at this site,
 - answer questions raised on where the student population will come from – specifically, will Granada Hills High students be allowed to attend?
- Passed 14-0-2

Motion: (Gold/Aller), That Kim Thompson ask for an extension of comments on the Draft EIR. Passed unanimously.

Ad Hoc Nominating Committee: Mike Greenwald presented the Board with two nominees for Board positions: Yvonne Chu as Student Representative and Anne Ziliak as Environmental Chair.

Motion (Greenwald/Marzillier): To approve seating Yvonne Chu and Anne Ziliak on the GHNNC. Passed unanimously.

6. **Councilmember Greig Smith Update:** Tabled due to John Bwarie being unable to be present on a Wednesday.

7. **Sunshine Canyon/BFI Conditional Use Permit, Public Hearing with County Supervisors, June 7**

Wayde Hunter stated that this is a very important event to attend and asked everyone to turn out for it. The permit would involve increasing tonnage and bringing it closer to the residences. The bus will leave Van Gogh school at 11 AM on Wednesday, June 7th, to take stakeholders downtown. Wayde noted that this could be an all day event.

Motion: (Hunter/Marzillier), That the GHNNC approve funding not to exceed \$900.00 to provide a bus for stakeholders to attend the Public Hearing before the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors for an appeal by BFI to the Regional Planning Commission (RPC) denial of Conditional Use Permit (CUP 00-194) application to replace the existing CUP 86-312 for Sunshine Canyon Landfill, now scheduled for Wednesday, June 7th, 2006 and/or an alternate date if other transportation has been made available or if the hearing date is changed or continued. Passed unanimously.

Motion: (Gold/Parikh) That the GHNNC provide lunch for those people on the bus. The motion was withdrawn since to vote on a non-agendized motion would be a violation of the Brown Act.

8. **DWP MOU report and motion to vote on rate increase:**

Motion (Vitti/Marzillier), That the GHNNC submit the following three recommendations regarding the proposed DWP rate increases for the Water and Power systems with the condition that an independent financial analysis, similar to the Barrington – Wellesley Group (BWG) study, be conducted for FY 07-08 revenue requirements and beyond. This “follow on” study should be initiated as soon as possible and should be completed in sufficient time to assess the justification for the requested DWP water rate increase on July 1, 2007 of 3.9%.

- A. The GHNNC accepts the 3.9% water revenue increase effective 7/1/06 for FY 06-07 requested by the DWP.
 - B. The GHNNC accepts the “unfreezing” of the existing Energy Cost Adjustment Factor (ECAAF) by the DWP to recover its generation costs due to the volatile changes in the cost of natural gas.
 - C. The GHNNC accepts the implementation of a Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) surcharge by the DWP in order to meet the financial resources that may be required to satisfy the goal of 20% of energy from renewable resources by 2010 for the city.
- Passed 14-2-2.

9. **Van Gogh PTA donation request:** Laura Gerken, Van Gogh Elementary School PTA President asked the GHNNC to purchase a booth at the cost of \$250.00 at their upcoming carnival on Friday, June 2, 2006 from 2:30 – 6:30 p.m. for the purpose of outreach efforts.

Motion (Gold/Aller), That the GHNNC purchase a booth for \$250.00 at Van Gogh Elementary School's carnival on June 2, 2006. Passed 14-0-4.
The Van Gogh PTA agreed to provide signage for a booth stating that GHNNC sponsored a booth.

10. **912 Commission** – Chairperson Kim Thompson recommended Scott Burritt as the GHNNC's candidate to the Mayor's 912 Commission, even though Scott is not a member of the GHNNC's Area Planning District.

Motion (Greenwald/Aller), That the GHNNC send a letter of recommendation to the Mayor's Office and L.A. City Councilmember Alex Padilla nominating Scott Burritt for the 912 Commission.
Passed 17-0-1

Motion (Crosby/Aller), That the GHNNC send the following five representatives to vote at the June 17th Congress of Neighborhood Councils: Mary Ellen Crosby, Joe Vitti, Sid Gold, Mary Anna Kienholz, and Kim Thompson.
Passed 17-0-1.

Joe Vitti told the Board that he has already agreed to serve on the 912 Commission as an appointee of City Councilman Greig Smith.

11. **Park Ranger Issue:** Barbara Ferris of Parks, Rivers and Open Space Committee for the Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council asked the GHNNC's support for funding 37 Park Rangers for L.A.'s city parks to protect the parkland. Park Ranger Doug Kilpatrick contributed to the presentation. The Board had several concerns about this request including whether it was safe to have unarmed Peace Officers making arrests. They also wanted to know who, in particular, was behind the effort to cut the funding that is already in the City's budget for the Park Rangers.

Motion (Hunter/Aller), To approve the Community Impact Statement, as submitted. "That the *Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council* at the *May 31, 2006* General Board Meeting resolved by majority vote to support the 2006-07 City Budget items that fund 37 Park Rangers for regional parks. Given the importance of the Park Rangers' continued ability to protect our parks and park patrons by fully enforcing the law within park boundaries, including sworn Peace Officer authority to detain/arrest for criminal activity and write citations for code infractions, the *Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council* further supports the retention of full P.O.S.T. agency status and function in the Park Ranger Division. Passed 12-3-3.

12. **Committee Reports:**

Parks Committee – Mary Ellen Crosby announced her upcoming meeting at the library. She then introduced a contractor who has been working with her committee on landscaping efforts.

Motion (Crosby/Aller), That the GHNNC approve funding not to exceed \$2,500 for landscaping Fire Station 18. Passed 14-3-1.

Ethics Committee – Ben Pedrick presented his committee's report on the grievance procedure process including a new grievance and complaint form and a structured, five point procedure for resolving grievances.

Motion (Pedrick/Marzellier), That the GHNNC approve the [attached Grievance and Complaint Procedure and Complaint Form](#) for filing grievances and complaints. Passed 16-0-1.

PLUM – Anne Ziliak announced that the State Historical Resources Commission has appointed a GHNNC stakeholder: Ms. Adrian Biondo. Anne also reported that the Aliso Canyon Trail is now open.

Outreach Committee – Sue DeVandry reported that the Old Granada Hills Residents' Group was meeting the following day, June 4th, with Councilmember Greig Smith. Sue also requested help with outreach for the upcoming Northridge festival.

Public Safety Committee – Mike Greenwald: Deferred.

Ad Hoc Technology – Mike Greenwald presented the Board with six bids ranging in cost from a low of a fee of \$2000.00 with yearly maintenance of \$1200.00 to a high of a fee of \$12460.00 with yearly maintenance of \$4900.00 received by the Ad Hoc Technology Committee for the GHNNC web site development and maintenance. After discussion on each proposal, the Board voted in the following manner:

11 votes for Aaron DeVandry
1 vote for Wendy Moore Option #1
1 vote for Wendy Moore Option #2
1 member was recused (Sue De Vandry)
3 abstentions,

Aaron DeVandry's bid for the web site was approved by the Board. His bid was the low bid of a fee of \$2000.00 with yearly maintenance of \$1200.00.

14. Board Member Comment: No comments.
15. Public Comment: No comments.
16. Meeting adjourned at 10:02 p.m.

- Minutes prepared by Pat Kramer, Apple One -