

1
2 **GRANADA HILLS NORTH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**
3 **Board Meeting**
4 **Monday, July 31, 2006**
5 **Van Gogh School Auditorium**
6 **17160 Van Gogh Street, Granada Hills, CA**
7
8

9 **Call to Order 7:12 p.m. Roll Call:** Wayne Aller, Becky Bendikson, Mary Ellen Crosby, Sue
10 DeVandry, Sid Gold, Michael Greenwald, Matt Hughes, Wayde Hunter, Scott Manatt, Leon
11 Marzillier, Alex Palazzo, Dev Parikh, Ben Pedrick, Robert Ricketts, Linda Tcimpidis, Kim
12 Thompson, Joe Vitti, and Anne Ziliak. *Total: 18 Board Members.* A quorum is established. Excused
13 absence: Yvonne Chu. Note: Linda Tcimpidis resigned during the meeting.
14

15 **Chair Comments:**

- 16 • Kim Thompson reviewed meeting, agenda items, minutes revisions, and absence procedures.
- 17 • She reported on the invitation from Old Granada Hills Residents' Group to the Board for the 5th
18 annual yard party and potluck on August 5th at 5 p.m.
- 19 • Upcoming guests to GHNC meetings will be Captain Sean Kane on August 28th and
20 Councilmember Greig Smith on Sept. 25th.
- 21 • She acknowledged the many Board Members who attended the Knollwood Country Club event
22 regarding the BFI hearing and conditional use permit, and Councilmember Greig Smith's
23 Emerging Technologies Forum at UCLA.
- 24 • David Tipton, Donna Zero, Tom Tcimpidis and Bill Cotter have resigned. Scott Manatt will fill the
25 Treasurer's position. Seats are now available in District 1, 2, 3, the Educational Seat and the
26 Neighborhood Organization seat. The Board also needs a Corresponding Secretary and
27 Website Administrator.
- 28 • The City Attorney ruled that proper outreach was not done with posting vacancies in the regular
29 posting places. However, the Board has rectified this by posting the nominations that were
30 already voted on and hanging up a notice for the vacancies from recent resignations. The Ad
31 Hoc Nominating Committee was asked to redo the notice with the proper information.
- 32 • Ralph Kroy has asked to set up a telescope-viewing site in O'Melveny Park and will provide
33 plans and price quotes to the Parks & Beautification committee.
- 34 • Budgets need to be done by each Committee and turned in at the August Board Meeting.
35 DONE has allowed extra time for this process.
- 36 • She stated that there is a need for a Public Works Committee. She asked whether Policy and
37 Rules would review this need. After discussion, it was clarified that there was no need for Policy
38 and Rules to review it.
- 39 • Board Members must submit any items for the upcoming agenda at least one week before the
40 next meeting with "Agenda Request" in the subject line.
- 41 • The Ethics Committee has set up a procedure to handle grievances. Anyone who needs to file a
42 grievance must see the Ben Pedrick and fill out the paperwork. Board Member Linda
43 Tcimpidis's letter to the City Attorney was referred back to the Board to be handled internally
44 through the grievance process, should she decide to proceed with that. The City Attorney has
45 ruled there was no wrongdoing or conflict of interest regarding the choice of Aaron De Vandry
46 as website designer as Board Member Sue De Vandry recused herself from that proceeding.
47 (DONE Project Coordinator Amelia Herrera – Robles clarified that there is a \$10,000 limit on
48 funding contracts with outside vendors for Neighborhood Councils).
- 49 • Assemblyman Keith Richman, MD and Senator George Running will hold a public information
50 hearing on education issues and to hear Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa's proposal for governance
51 of the LAUSD. The hearing will be held Tuesday, August 1 from 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. at Granada
52 Hills Charter High School, 10535 Zelzah Ave.
53

54 **Public Comment on Non - Agenda Items:**

55 Mary Edwards alerted the Board to ongoing efforts by BFI that could increase the amount of
56 emissions. A hearing will be held on August 9th at 9:00 a.m. in Diamond Bar for the Notice of
57 Abatement. She encouraged people to write letters if they can't attend. Wayne Aller asked Mary
58 Edwards to help with the language of the letter. Wayne then asked if he could make a motion on
59 this, since it was not on the agenda. DONE's Amelia Herrera – Robles said that the Brown Act
60 allows for motions to be presented if the Board has already taken a position on an issue and it is
61 crucial (or of emergency nature) that action be taken prior to the next regularly scheduled Board
62 Meeting.

63 **Motion** (Thompson/Marzillier) that the Board vote on the non-agendized motion. Passed 13-5-0.
64 Roll call: Ayes: Aller, Gold, Greenwald, Hughes, Hunter, Manatt, Marzillier, Palazzo, Parikh,
65 Pedrick, Ricketts, Thompson, Ziliak; Nays: Bendikson, Crosby, De Vandry, Tcimpidis, Vitti.

66
67 **Motion** (Aller/Hunter) that the Board write a letter to the South Coast Emergency Management
68 District that the GHNNC strongly oppose any changes in the currently permitted SCAPMD
69 emissions standards for the Flare System (Flares 1, 3, and 8) at the Sunshine Canyon Landfill.
70 Passed: 15-1-1.

- 71
72
- 73 • A stakeholder announced a Japanese festival coming up in Los Angeles.
 - 74 • Blake Johnson, caretaker of O'Melveny and Bee Canyon Park, reported a burglary of his
75 residence last Saturday between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.
 - 76 • Park Ranger William Ramirez asked anyone who needs to call with questions about the
77 park to call him at: 323 913-4688 (1547) or to email him at: William.Ramirez@lacity.org.
 - 78 • Batya Rawlinson, representing Sherman Oaks Center for Enriched Studies, requested
79 the Board make funding available to them for their programs. The request was referred
80 to the Education Committee.

81 **Motion** (Aller/Hunter) to approve the June 26, 2006 Board Meeting minutes as amended (Leon
82 Marzillier noted amendments). Motion passed: 14–0–3.

83
84 **Announcements and Reports:**

85 **CD 12's John Bwarie** reported on recent actions by Councilmember Greig Smith:

- 86 • Issued a motion (with three other City Council members) requesting DWP report back on
87 recent power outages. The motion was approved by the City Council.
- 88 • Community Beautification Grants (matching funds) are now available through the
89 Mayor's Office. Workshops on this are being held in August, Sept. and October with the
90 closest on Sept. 19th in North Hills at the Mid-Valley Regional Library at 6:00 p.m. For
91 more info, go to: www.laocb.org.
- 92 • Chatsworth is the first area community to approve a permanent speed sign. The
93 Councilmember has offered to share costs on these mechanisms to reduce speeding
94 and promote safety in District 2.
- 95 • Free movie nights will start August 11, sponsored by Councilman Smith (in Granada
96 Hills at Pettit Park in October).
- 97 • Fire Station 18's landscaping has been completed with the support of the GHNNC.

98
99 **DONE Project Coordinator Amelia Herrera-Robles:** Reiterated the info on Community
100 Beautification Grants. She also asked the Board to help DONE gauge how their Empowerment
101 Academy training program is doing by filling out a survey. The Mayor's Budget Day coming up
102 in the Fall. No date has been set yet.

103
104 **Appointment to Vacant GHNNC Board Positions:**

105 **Motion:** Ad Hoc Nominating Committee Chair Michael Greenwald informed us that the
106 committee recommended Patrick Casparian to fill the vacant position in Dist. 3, and he so
107 moved. Passed 16-0-1.

108
109
110
111
112
113
114
115
116
117
118
119
120
121
122
123
124
125
126
127
128
129
130
131
132
133
134
135
136
137
138
139
140
141
142
143
144
145
146
147
148
149
150
151
152
153
154
155
156
157
158
159
160
161

Motion: (Thompson/Marzillier) that Patrick Casparian be appointed Finance Officer. Passed: 16-0-1.

Motion: (Thompson/Gold) that Scott Manatt be appointed Treasurer after he completes his training with DONE. Passed unanimously.

At this point, Board member Linda Tcimpidis announced that she was resigning, effective immediately, and that her seat could be added to the vacancies.

GHNNC Board Retreat:

The Board discussed holding a Board retreat, as suggested by DONE, to discuss their goals and strategies and establish some priorities. The retreat would take place on a Saturday within the boundaries of the GHNNC.

Motion (Crosby/Marzillier) that the Board hold a retreat, not at this location, and the Executive Committee meet to discuss arrangements Passed: 13-1-3.

Committee Reports:

- Treasurer Funding Status – Amelia Herrera-Robles reported that DONE would only pay for immediate bills; everything else will have to wait until the new Treasurer gets trained. Kim asked again for each Committee to prepare their budgets for the August Board meeting.
- Communications – Alex Palazzo reported that he facilitated a meeting and was elected chair. They discussed the website but didn't make any decisions. The discussion included using board member's photos on the website.
- Policy and Rules – Mary Anna Kienholz said her committee did not have a quorum, for the second time in 3 months, so the meeting was cancelled. The next meeting will be on the 2nd Tuesday of the month (August 8th) at 7 p.m.
- Ethics – Ben Pedrick did not hold a meeting last month. Regarding grievances, he asked the Board to solve any problems internally rather than publishing it to the world.
- PLUM – Anne explained that the land on Rinaldi Street, west of Zelzah, on the east side of Aliso Creek was purchased for an equestrian park but needs some improvement to make it usable. Equipment would probably be minimal and donations of materials may be possible.

Motion (Ziliak/Crosby) that the GHNNC PLUM Committee meet and work with Recreation and Parks, Ron Berkowitz, Superintendent of the Valley Region to design equestrian facilities for the existing Aliso Canyon Esquestrian Park, purchased November 2004. Passed unanimously.

- ✓ Anne reported a review of Aliso Canyon – ongoing issues
- ✓ Equestrian trail closures and maintenance in GHNNC boundaries: a list was completed and faxed as requested to the City Rec and Parks Dept.
- ✓ Two proposed Cingular cell phone tree towers for 11918 Balboa Blvd. and 17981 Mayerling Street. Anne and Wayde met with the cell tree designer at a completed site: 12121 Balboa Blvd. to show him that the GHNNC - adopted minimum requirements could be met.
- ✓ Thirteen lots at 17900 Ridgeway Road: this project was appealed and the hearing was postponed till Sept.
- ✓ A request for a categorical exemption and variance by a resident at 17250 Bronte Place. PLUM says the house is already built and not in compliance.
- ✓ Update on MOU Planning Dept. – The draft is completed and PLUM will review and present their opinion to the Board. The next PLUM meeting is August 21.
- Outreach and Publicity – **Motion** (De Vandry/Aller) that the Outreach Committee requests permission from the GHNNC Board to participate in the Granada Hills Street

162 Faire, Saturday, October 7 and to spend up to \$100.00 for faire rental space, balloons,
163 helium tanks, tables, and chairs. Joe Vitti suggested an amendment requesting the
164 Board become a sponsor of the Granada Hills Street Fair and to allocate \$500 for this
165 purpose. The amendment failed for lack of a second. Original motion passed: 16-0-1.
166 Sue distributed a Self Assessment Survey, as mandated in the City Charter. She asked
167 the Board to fill it out and return it to her at the next meeting. The next meeting of the
168 Outreach Committee is August 2.

- 169
- 170 • Public Safety – Mike Greenwald reported on his July 24th meeting at which they
171 discussed an update on traffic signals to be installed on Sesnon/Balboa and Knollwood
172 Center/Balboa. The traffic signal on Sesnon was scheduled for last March by a private
173 contractor. The one on Knollwood is being finalized by the landlord's engineer. LAPD is
174 enforcing youth parties on Sesnon street. Mike requested to the Board that a Senior
175 Lead Police Officer be invited to speak at upcoming Board Meetings at least once every
176 three months. The Committee is doing research on speed indicators to control speeding.
177 They are also doing outreach to stakeholders that front Sesnon, west of Balboa, to
178 ascertain their feelings about overnight parking restrictions. The next Safety Committee
179 meeting is August 14th.
- 180
- 181 • Parks and Beautification - Mary Ellen Crosby discussed an existing complaint that she is
182 researching and said she will investigate Community Beautification Grants. The next P &
183 B meeting is August 22.
- 184 • Elections – Ben Pedrick report that he will not be running for re-election. He asked the
185 Board to let him know if they plan to run for election so he knows how many seats will
186 need to be filled. He also asked for help from stakeholders who would like to volunteer to
187 help with putting the election together.
- 188

189 **Appointment Reports** on neighborhood council organizations of interest and discussion and
190 possible board action on selecting alternate/second liaisons to such groups: **Tabled.**

191

192 **Unfinished Business:**

193 Discussion/Board action on selecting categorical funds for website enhancement. (Sue De
194 Vandry recused herself from this discussion and left the room).

195 The Chair explained that, when the Board voted to select Aaron De Vandry as website designer,
196 they agreed to pay the fee of 2,000 for website updating. This fee has not been paid due to
197 questions about what committee the funding should come from. Sue De Vandry's Outreach
198 Committee has the funds. The other option is to pay from the General Funds.

199 **Motion** (Marzillier/Gold) that funds be used from the Outreach Budget to cover this expense.
200 Passed: 12-3-1. (Sue De Vandry returned after the vote).

201

202 Board Member request for resolution on practice of contractors hiring illegal immigrants.

203 **Tabled.**

204 Referral for school enrichment funding as requested by board member. **Tabled.**

205

206 **Board Member Comment** on Non Agenda Items: None.

207 **Next Board Meeting:** August 28, 2006 7 p.m.

208 **Adjournment:** Vitti/Gold moved for adjournment at: 9:30 p.m.

209

210 Minutes prepared by Pat Kramer, Apple One