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Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council
Board Meeting Minutes
March 26, 2007
Van Gogh School Auditorium
17160 Van Gogh Street, Granada Hills, CA

Call to Order: 7:16 p.m., **Roll Call:** Present: Becky Bendikson, Pat Casparian, Peter Chung, Mary Ellen Crosby, Sue De Vandry, Sid Gold, Michael Greenwald, Matt Hughes, Wayde Hunter, Scott Manatt, Leon Marzillier, Alex Palazzo, Dev Parikh, Ben Pedrick, Robert Ricketts, Kim Thompson, Joe Vitti, Anne Ziliak. Absent: Wayne Aller, Yvonne Chu and Anne Wells. Quorum was established.

Motion(Gold/Palazzo), To approve the Dec. 18, 2006 minutes. Passed 17-0-1.

Motion (Gold/Palazzo), To approve the January 29, 2007 minutes. Pased 17-0-1.

Motion (Gold/Parikh), To approve the Special Minutes of January 29, 2007. Passed 16-0-2.

Motion (Gold/Palazzo), To approve the minutes of February 26, 2007 as amended. Passed 16-0-2.

Motion (by the Election Committee),To establish a candidates forum on 4/25/07 at Van Gogh Library. Passed 15-0-3.

Motion (by the Executive Committee), To approve an allocation of \$500 for printing costs to promote Citrus Sunday on May 6, 2007. Passed 15-2-1.

Motion (Vitti/Manatt), That the GHNNC approve Memorandum of Understanding 2 (MOU 2) between Certified NCs and the LADWP to further enhance effective communications, provide additional time for NC review of multiple year rate actions, and extend the term of the MOU by five years. Passed 17-0-1.

Motion (by the Executive Committee), That the GHNNC allocate up to \$200 for costs related to rental and outreach of the Granada Pavilion to co-sponsor LAUSD District 3 Candidate Forum on May 8, 2007 from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Passed 14-2-2.

Motion (Ricketts/Palazzo), That there be a reconsideration of the February 26 Board vote to deny the proposal of the astronomy club for the use of O'Melveny Park. Tabled until the next meeting.

Motion (PLUM Committee), That the GHNNC adopt the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Council motion to revise the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) to grant Neighborhood Councils the right to appeal, and to write a letter to Councilmember Smith asking that he initiate appropriate amendments to the LAMC Sections 17.06 A.3 and 17.06 A.4, 17.54 A, 12.24 I, 12.24 M.2, 12.27 H and 12.27 O, granting Neighborhood Councils the right to appeal. Passed 15-2-1. **Note: See below for the exact language.**

Motion (Manatt/Marzillier), That the GHNNC approve up to \$300 to replace GHNNC property including computer- related hardware: cords, power supplies and printed material. Passed 17-1-0.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:36 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Pat Kramer, Apple One

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NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL APPEAL RIGHTS:

Whereas, Currently, Neighborhood Councils lack the legal rights to appeal discretionary development approvals such as tentative tract map decisions, variances, and conditional use permits. As currently written, the appeals rights provisions of the Municipal Code undermine the important role that Neighborhood Councils play in the development process.

Whereas, The City Attorney has taken the position that Neighborhood Councils cannot appeal because they are part of the City structure. However, the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) allows city officials, including the Mayor, City Council members, as well as the Advisory Agency (Planning Department) to

57 appeal tentative tract maps, an entitlement needed for larger condominium projects. Virtually all
58 development entitlements may be appealed through the administrative process by any *interested or*
59 *aggrieved parties* – which includes individuals, businesses, homeowner associations and in some
60 instances, City officials. Neighborhood Councils are unfairly excluded from this broad class of potential
61 appellants.

62 *Therefore*, The Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council hereby requests that Councilmember Greig
63 Smith initiate ***appropriate amendments to the LAMC* that would grant Neighborhood Councils the***
64 ***right to appeal development decisions***, such as requests for tentative tract maps, variances, and
65 conditional use permits.

66
67 ****The following LAMC sections need to be amended:***

- 68 • Tentative Tract Maps: Amend LAMC Sections 17.06 A.3 and 17.06 A.4.
- 69 • Parcel Maps: Amend Section 17.54 A.
- 70 • Conditional Use Permits: Amend Sections 12.24 I and 12.24 M.2.
- 71 • Variances: Amend Sections 12.27 H and 12.27 O.

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74 The Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council further requests that GHNNC Chair Kim Thompson draft
75 a letter to Councilmember Greig Smith explaining GHNNC's position on this matter.