

Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council
Board Meeting
Monday, June 27, 2011, 6:30 pm
St. Euphrasia School Hall

- 1) **Call to Order** at 8:24 pm by Kim Thompson, GHNNC President. **Roll Call: Present:** Carl Buettner, Sue DeVandry, Neysa Frechette, Sid Gold, Josh Jordhal, Edward Headington, Bill Hopkins, Wayde Hunter, Rahim Kazi, Ralph Kroy, Agnes Lewis, Bill Lillenberg, Scott Manatt, Leon Marzillier, Lydia Plescia, Ray Pollok, Steve Steinberg, Jan Subar, Kim Thompson, Anne Ziliak. **Absent:** Gary Holmen, Rafael Garcia. Quorum established with 20. **Pledge of Allegiance:** was recited.
Chair Comments: Kim Thompson welcomed stakeholders and explained that the late start for the meeting was due to the special Stakeholders' Meeting which immediately preceded this one, convened to approve the changes in the Bylaws.
- 2) **Approval of May 23, 2011 Board Meeting Minutes:** approved with five abstentions.
- 3) **Certificates of Recognition** – on the agenda for this meeting, but they were handed out during a break in the earlier Stakeholders' Meeting, to thank volunteers who participated in the beautification project (described below).
- 4) **Comments from CD 12, Senior Lead Officers, any government agencies:** there were none.
- 5) **Public Comments on non-agenda items:** none.
- 6) **Emergency Preparedness Item of the Month (Hopkins):** This month's item, free to all attendees: a pair of safety goggles. Bill reminded people that we will be holding a CERT class on October 19. To sign up, send email to cert@ghnnc.org.
- 7) **Committee Reports:**
 - a) **Beautification:** (Neysa Frechette): Volunteers did a beautification project, led by Neysa, at the corner of Balboa and Sesnon. She worked with an advisor, a landscaper. There were 10 volunteers, including some members of the Board, who worked for about 6 hours on a Saturday cleaning up the space, digging holes, and planting drought-tolerant bushes. The neighbor immediately adjacent agreed to water the plants twice a week. A plaque has been ordered, which will be placed among the bushes, identifying the neighborhood council as responsible for the project.
 - b) **Citywide Issues** (Gold): The Chair, Sid Gold, apologized for the lack of meetings the last two occasions due to his being out of town for two months. He reported that Councilman Krekorian's committee has made a motion to deny funding to any neighborhood council where the Board members have not completed the City's ethics training. The DWP is looking to raise rates again; there are a number of proposals at various price rates. The new General Manager is working to cost out the new rates to recover some of the costs due to State and City mandates. For example, converting from seawater for cooling will cost \$2 Billion. The proposal discussed several months ago to transfer responsibility for sidewalk repair to homeowners, with attendant rules and fees, is going forward but will still take some time to be ironed out. The project for a downtown sports stadium is also proceeding, but no final decisions have been made.
 - c) **Finance Officer's Report** (Pollok): There was a discussion of the new budget to be submitted to DONE. This must be submitted now if we're to have authorization to spend anything in July, and changes can be made later. The funding from the City for this year is at \$40,500. The Finance Officer gathered the budget requests from the various committees, which totaled more than \$57,000. The Executive Committee then worked to prioritize items and come up with a proposed budget for approval of the Board. That budget was presented. Discussion ensued. It was decided to separate the NC Congress expenses from the Training budget, which really is for the use of the PLUM committee. The Outreach budget was discussed, including the issue of the large order for banner hardware which was ordered and charged to the purchase card in June and should be in last year's budget – but there is some discrepancy with the bank and DONE where they do not show it as charged last year. There was a long discussion on a \$300 budget for a faith-based lunch. Ultimately, for budget reasons and because of cost sharing with the GHSNC, that was voted down to \$150 (16-2-1). There was discussion of the \$1500 labeled "moving costs" – to

cover the possibility that we might move to another location within the same parking lot. If no such move happens, that budget is not available because then the same amount will be spent on fees to schools for a meeting venue. The \$400 for “staffing and transcription” are to provide for a note-taker in case the Secretary is not available. On a vote to eliminate this item, the vote was 4-16-0 against. There is an item for \$300 for the Summer Social – this had an original \$4000 budget, most of which was paid last year; this \$300 is to pay for fresh food and other items that could not be bought last year. There was a quick run-down of the other line items, and Ray Pollok called for a vote to approve the whole budget. **Carried 18-1-1.**

- d) Outreach Committee (Headington):** He reminded the Board of the upcoming Summer Social scheduled for Saturday, July 16th at St. Euphrasia School Hall. He said he would send out a sign-up sheet for Board members to sign up to help set up and tear down for the event. On July 27th 9:00 am to 10:30 am there will be a program on the whole neighborhood council movement. On October 1st, it appears that the Street Faire may be back as an event; as a result of the vote just taken on the budget, the Outreach Committee’s request for \$2,000 for this project was cut down to \$200. A member of the audience, Mike Kabo, protested that he had asked the Outreach Committee for the \$2,000 in funding and the committee had passed a Motion to request that on the NC budget. However, at the Executive Committee this had been reduced. Mr. Kabo said he was not notified that the Executive Committee had rejected the item, and he said that this action was not proper and the item should have been taken to the full Board for approval. A lengthy discussion ensued. Anne Ziliak said that if there was a formal Motion at Outreach, then indeed that should have been brought to the Board. Bill Hopkins pointed out that there simply was not enough budget available to fund this project, and that in a spirit of “shared sacrifice,” all committee requests were cut to some extent. Sid Gold commented that the Executive Committee has the authority to act on budgetary matters and that therefore the action was proper. Kim Thompson apologized to Mike Kabo for the Motion not having been voted on separately from the budget, but pointed out that the money to fund this simply does not exist. Mike Kabo felt that he should have been notified of the change.
- e) PLUM (Planning and Land Use Management) (Ziliak):** There was discussion of an upcoming hearing of a zone change for a proposed subdivision at Longacre. **Motion:** *“That the GHNNC Board request denial of zone change from Zone A1-O-K to RE-40, which would allow a lot adjustment to permit reduction in width of Lot 4 from 80 feet to 70 feet at 11582 Longacre Ave (APCNV-2008-2705-ZC:ENV 2008-2532-MND) for the following reasons: The property is within a K-overlay zone (horse keeping zone) and we oppose the elimination of any of our K-overlay zones. Zoning regulation states that the RE40 requires a 100ft width. Additionally, this property is within the Hillside Ordinance Area, High Wind Area, High Fire Severity Zone (HFSZ), and Methane Zone. Each lot has rugged terrain and the proposed five lots share a private road which would make fire protection problematic. Carried* unanimously.
- f) Policy and Rules (Marzillier):** the immediately preceding Stakeholders’ Meeting approved the changes to the Bylaws with minor corrections. In the Fall, the committee will address the Standing Rules.
- g) Public Safety (Pollok):** Progress has been slow on some of the projects for this committee, with no resolution expected at least until the Fall. No new projects have come before the committee.
- h) Treasurer’s Report (Kazi):** He pointed out that almost 50% of the new budget is taken up by the office rent and infrastructure costs such as the telephone.
- 8) Committee Member comments on non-agenda items:** Kim Thompson briefly summarized the options to move the office. There is a vacancy two doors down on a 1200 sq ft space, but the cost would be about \$4,000 more than we currently pay. Another space in the back (not a store front) has 1320 sq ft, but is long and narrow. There may be a problem of handicapped access to the bathroom. She will pursue the matter with the landlord and also with a City space planner who can rule on whether the bathroom complies with City ADA regulations. Hopkins proposed an ad hoc committee to pursue the matter, but as this topic was not on the agenda, that idea was tabled.

9) Adjourned at 9:45 pm.