

**-Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council
Board Meeting
Monday, December 19, 2011, 6:30 pm
GHNNC Office**

- 1) **Call to Order** at 6:43 pm by Kim Thompson, GHNNC President. **Roll Call: Present:** Carl Buettner, Sue DeVandry, Neysa Frechette, Edward Headington, Bill Hopkins, Wayde Hunter, Rahim Kazi, Ralph Kroy, Agnes Lewis, Bill Lillenberg, Scott Manatt, Leon Marzillier, Ray Pollok, Jan Subar, Kim Thompson. **Late:** Josh Jordahl, Anne Ziliak. **Absent:** Patti Costa, Sid Gold, Gary Holmen, Lydia Plescia, Steve Steinberg. Quorum established with 15, later 17. **Pledge of Allegiance:** was recited. **Chair Comments:** Kim Thompson welcomed stakeholders.

On neighborhood council elections: Board terms are extended to 2014 because the City does not have the budget for elections in 2012. Individual NCs may choose to have a “selection” process not run by the City Clerk, and NCs have to pay for it. The soonest any kind of process can take place is in the Fall (for a “selection” process). Formal elections will not be held until 2014. This matter was not on the agenda and has not been discussed with Board members, so there can only be a “straw vote” on this issue. The City has a survey for NCs about the matter, due before January 6th. Discussion ensued. There is not going to be a problem with our bylaws (that require a vote every two years) because it’s a city mandate. Comments from Board members showed a willingness to accept 2014. Any Board members who do not want to serve that long can resign. If new people want to get on the Board, there are already several vacancies on the Board [although none of the vacancies are the generic District Three seats]. The straw vote for accepting 2014 was 15-1-0.

Ms. Thompson reiterated her instructions for getting items on the agenda – a “Reply” to her email, in All-Caps, on Agenda Items.

- 2) **Approval of November 28, 2011 Board Meeting Minutes:** (Thompson/Buettner) 14-0-2.
- 3) **Comments from CD 12, any government agencies:** None were in attendance.
- 4) **Emergency Preparedness Item of the month** (Hopkins): an emergency poncho, free to all.
- 5) **Public Comment on Non-agenda items:** None.
- 6) **Motion:** *That GHNNC accept the resignation of Edward Headington as the Outreach Officer and appoint Sue DeVandry for the Outreach Officer vacancy. (Thompson/Kroy).* This was also recommended by the Outreach Committee at its last meeting. **Carried** unanimously.
- 7) **Motion:** *That GHNNC create a new Standing Committee called “Emergency Preparedness.” (Hopkins/Subar).* A lively discussion ensued. Mr. Hopkins pointed out that an EP committee separate from Public Safety makes sense, because the goal of the two is very different and they should not be lumped together. Public Safety is concerned with responses to immediate safety concerns of stakeholders, such as local crime, traffic problems, dangerous situations. Emergency Preparedness is about educating people to prepare for long-term possible disasters, such as strong earthquakes, loss of power, mass casualty situations, etc. There was a lot of interest expressed by stakeholders, so this may be a way to bring more new people in. Ms. Ziliak questioned why a new committee was needed. Ms. Thompson said new committees can be a pain because of requirements to post agendas and minutes, and that therefore this should be a subcommittee of Public Safety. Ms. Lewis asked, why not a separate committee? There is no additional cost, and the requirements for postings are the same regardless of whether it’s a committee or a sub-committee. Ms. Subar said EP really needs to be at the forefront, and needs the visibility because it can attract more people. Ms. Ziliak asked what the description of the committee would be. Mr. Hopkins said it is to prepare the community for instances where city services will not be available. Lake Balboa’s EP committee has about 20 members, a possible indication of the interest in this topic. Bob Ricketts, a stakeholder, spoke in support of the motion. As one of the early members of Public Safety, he said the two functions were originally together because they “were not smart enough then to recognize they are different.” Ms. Cherie Mann, a stakeholder, spoke in support of the motion; she said it’s important because it will be how the community will be able to save itself. Ms. DeVandry asked whether enough people would be willing to be members. Mr. Hunter was concerned about the effect on the budget of the Public Safety committee

and possible loss of an important function carried out by the Public Safety Committee. Mr. Pollok, as Chair of the Public Safety committee, said the committee is for the proposal. Ms. Frechette suggested forming it first as a subcommittee, because “it’s safer that way.” After a lot more discussion in a similar vein, a vote was taken, and **the count was 8-7-1**, so the resolution carried. A roll-call re-vote was requested; this time it was **7-7-2**, so tied and did not pass. For the motion were Hopkins, Headington, Kroy, Lewis, Marzillier, Pollok; Against were Buettner, DeVandry, Frechette, Jordahl, Kazi, Hunter, and Ziliak. Thompson and Manatt abstained.) It was decided that a subcommittee would be formed instead.

8) **Committee Reports:**

- a. **PLUM (Planning and Land Use)** (Ziliak): There are no motions this month. An update of the Lerdo/Mayerling request for a subdivision, this has been assigned to a hearing. On Blucher, owners of an 80-unit apartment building want to add 28 units, a 35% density bonus. On the proposed cell tower on Jolette, opposed by CD12, the Board of Public Works decided to keep this on hold and asked the applicant to meet with the CD12 office and the neighborhood council. Ms. Ziliak reminded people of the upcoming meeting on January 5th of the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Citizens’ Advisory Committee at the Knollwood Country Club at 3 PM.
- b. **Outreach Committee** (Headington): The Granada Hills Holiday Parade took place December 4th, and he thanked Ms. DeVandry for lending their business premises for the decorating project. Board members thanked Ms. Ziliak and her husband Danny for managing the project, driving the truck, and doing most of the teardown. In addition, stakeholders Cheire Mann and Vaune Kirby were thanked for their significant contributions to the work. Some members of GHSNC also helped. The Outreach committee voted to have Sue DeVandry as Outreach Chair, and Jan Subar as Vice Chair.
- c. **Citywide Issues:** No report this month.
- d. **Finance Officer’s Report** (Pollok): The most recent budget was distributed. There were no questions.
- e. **Treasurer’s Report** (Kazi): Monthly purchase card transactions were at \$556. There was some discussion of demand warrants from last June that still had not been submitted. Ms. Thompson expressed concern that we have not seen any bills for civic permits for the use of schools; those could catch up to us and surprise us. There was a question about the proposed 18-month lease for our offices, but that was deferred. **Motion** to approve (Kazi/Hopkins): **Carried** 15-0-1.
- f. **Policy and Rules** (Marzillier): the Standing Rules have been updated by the Policy and Rules Committee. Many changes were cosmetic, such as changing references from “the GHNNC” to “GHNNC.” Other changes included clarifying the Rules of Order to be used; adding censure and removal rules, required by the City’s template for the bylaws. Our submitted bylaws referenced the Standing Rules, so those are now included, using wording suggested by DONE. Similarly, DONE’s Code of Civility was included by reference. Some suggestions from the Ad Hoc Committee on Goals and Priorities were adopted, such as having each committee name a Vice Chair in addition to a Chair. The P&R committee also recommended that the website be considered the repository of all the official documents of the NC, including all the committee minutes. Discussion on the Rules of Order showed concern that *some* form of agreed-to rules should be adopted. Ms. Thompson favored keeping the wording “may” instead of “shall,” so that the person running the meeting could decide whether to follow the Rules of Order. Two stakeholders expressed concern over the censure and removal part, but it was clarified that the city requires *some* mechanism. Mr. Hopkins was concerned about some right of appeal or prep time for responding. Ms. Lewis moved that the motion from the committee be **tabled** until the next meeting. Mr. Kroy seconded. **Carried** unanimously.
- g. **Public Safety Committee** (Pollok): The CERT class that started October 19th was a great success and the “graduation” ceremony was on Wednesday, November 30th. A number of stakeholders sent “thank you” emails. Six Board members were among the graduates. Mr. Hopkins, who organized the class, was thanked and applauded.

- 9) **Recycled Water Advisory Group (RWAG) Report** (Hopkins): He took part in this citywide project for the past two years. This is a recycling project for non-potable water, to be used through “purple pipes” by high-usage places such as golf courses, parks, power plants, and industry. This water is treated at tertiary treatment plants, so the quality is quite good. Purple pipe is being extended to more places. There is a \$0.35 hike in water rates per HCF, as a “water quality factor” for paying for certain improvements, such as the covering of reservoirs. Many other improvements are being held back because of funding issues.
- 10) **Board Member Comments:** Mr. Marzillier commented that coyotes seem to have taken up residence at an abandoned house in his neighborhood, and there seems to be nothing that can be done. Animal services cannot respond due to budget issues. Ms. Ziliak again thanked the DeVandrys and DE King for allowing the parade committee to use their premises. Mr. Hunter thanked Edward Headington for his service as Chair of the Outreach committee. Ms. Thompson commented that GHSNC has asked GHNNC to co-sponsor a congressional debate on February 20th or 21st. Mr. Pollok said that, despite strong opposition from all 17 neighborhood councils in the area, the Veterans’ Administration project to place housing at the site of the old Veterans’ Hospital on Woodley is starting construction; Congressman Sherman only wrote one letter in opposition.
- 11) **Adjournment at 8:55 PM.**