

Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council
Board Meeting
Monday, July 30, 2012, 6:30 p.m.
St Euphrasia School Hall
11766 Shoshone Avenue

1. Call to Order at 6:37 p.m. by GHNNC President Leon Marzillier. **Roll Call:**

Present: Carl Buettner, Sue DeVandry, Bill Hopkins, Wayde Hunter, Rahim Kazi, Ralph Kroy, William Lillenberg, Scott Manatt, Leon Marzillier, Lydia Plescia, Ray Pollok, Steven Steinberg, Jan Subar, and Anne Ziliak. **Quorum established with 14.**

Late: Sid Gold and Edward Headington. **Absent:** Patti Costa, Neysa Frechette, Kevin Kilroy, Agnes Lewis, Cherie Mann, and Kim Thompson.

Pledge of Allegiance: led by Steven Steinberg.

Chair Comments: Leon Marzillier welcomed the audience and explained how the meeting will be conducted.

2. Approval of June 25, 2012 Board Meeting Minutes.

Motion (Marzillier/Manatt) to approve the June 25, 2012, Board Meeting Minutes. Approved 11-0-2

3. Comments from CD12, Senior Lead Officers, Mayor's Valley Representative government agencies.

Congressman Brad Sherman's constituent case worker Matt Margolis presented information about the constituent services provided by the Congressman's office (such as, nominations to military academies, Visas and naturalization, IRS problems, passports, student financial aid, postal service issues, or planning a trip to Washington to visit any of the Federal agencies), and invited all to his next Town Hall meeting on Sunday August 5th, at the Sherman Oaks Center for Enriched Studies. There will also be a foreclosure prevention and first time home buyer workshop held on Saturday, August 4th, from 10am to 2 pm at the East Valley/Sherman Oaks Adult Center located near Congressman Sherman's office on Van Nuys Blvd. Some of the organizations participating will be Bank of America, Chase, and Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco, along with the National Housing Services of Los Angeles. For an example of what the Congressman has been doing in the area: in conjunction with the City of Los Angeles, the intersection at Balboa between Midwood Dr. and Lorillard St. at the Knollwood Shopping Center, funding has been recently approved to move the project forward for installing a traffic light to improve the traffic flow. The Congressman was able to procure \$96,000 of Federal Transportation funding for the traffic light and will work with Councilmember Englander to continue monitoring the progress of that installation. The Congressman's Web Site is www.bradsherman.house.gov.

4. Public Comment on non-agenda items.

Raymond Yu, Citrus College student, invited all to the 72nd Annual Nisei Week festival in Little Tokyo from August 11th to 19th, with the opening parade on Sunday August 12, from 5 to 8 p.m., and the closing ceremonies on Sunday August 19, from 3 to 5 p.m. More information can be found at www.niseiweek.org or by calling 213-687-7193.

Lisa Kassner, representing California Right to Know Committee, spoke about Prop 37, Genetically Engineered Food Initiative. She was referred to the Citywide Issues Committee.

5. Recognition of and appreciation for Aloha Hula Dance Studio.

A certificate of appreciation for outstanding community service was prepared for the Aloha Hula Dance Studio in recognition for making the July 14th GHNNC Summer Social Luau a success. Appreciation was also given to Wayde Hunter for the support provided by the Patriot Oil Trust Fund and the North Valley Coalition. Sue DeVandry and Steve Steinberg were also recognized for their contribution and support for the event.

6. *Motion (Kroy/Gold) that the GHNNC approve the City of Los Angeles to permit the placement of one cargo style storage container, of a size and color compatible with the immediately surrounding area and as approved by the L.A. Department of Building and Safety, upon the private property of places of worship; fellowship organizations; and similar faith based organizations, for the sole and exclusive purpose of storage of emergency preparedness and response supplies for use during a disaster or terrorist attack. The contents and the container to be properly maintained and managed by the congregation, and/or their designated representative(s). Further, that there be no fees, costs, or assessments by any City Department or jurisdiction.*

Discussion ensued with Faith Based Representative for Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council.

Approved 16-0-0

Marzillier -- Millie Moncada asked about installing speed bumps near Frost Middle School. Ziliak explained the Department of Transportation's process for installation, and the matter was referred to the Public Safety Committee.

7. Discussion and possible action on next steps after facilitated dialogue held on July 17, 2012 for greater board cohesiveness and board operating procedures.

Amelia Herrera-Robles, Neighborhood Empowerment Analyst, Department Of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE), spoke to the Board about the results of the first facilitated dialogue session, and scheduling of the next meeting.

Amelia also mentioned that neighborhood councils cannot purchase emergency preparedness supplies if they are meant to be stored in containers. Neighborhood councils are not first responders, that is why we have LAFD and LAPD. Emergency preparedness supplies can be bought for outreach purposes and when used as such, have the neighborhood council logo and contact information attached. Many Neighborhood councils buy emergency preparedness supplies for outreach distribution during CERT training.

Neighborhood councils are meant to be advisory bodies to the elected officials, they can tell their elected official how they feel on a particular subject but they cannot indorse either a candidate or ballot measure.

Amelia provides support to 34 neighborhood councils within the San Fernando Valley.

8. **Emergency Preparedness Item of the Month** – Bill Hopkins – A triangular bandage, can be used as a splint, for wiping dust off, a binder, a sling, a compress when all folded up, a dust filter, etc. There are manuals on the back table with general information on preparing for natural and man made disasters.

9. **Motion (Marzillier/Gold) - That GHNNC accept the resignation of Josh Jordahl as Environmental Representative from the Board.** Approved 16-0-0.

10. **Motion (Executive Committee) - That the Board refer the bylaw changes proposed by DONE to our Policy and Rules Committee.** Approved 16-0-0.

11. **Motion (Executive Committee) - That GHNNC approve the attached Stipulation Worksheet for our selection process.** Approved 13-0-1.

12. Update on Rinaldi Adult School – Steinberg

The Rinaldi Adult Center will be open on reduced hours. LAUSD has decreased thirty adult schools to ten service centers, the North Valley Occupational Center will become the main office for our area covering Kennedy, San Fernando, Rinaldi, Sylmar, North Hollywood, Polytechnic, etc. School starts August 14th. He thanked the Board for obtaining the bus that transported older adult education supporters to the LAUSD meeting and that is probably one of the reasons that the older adult and parent programs were reinstated.

13. Committee Reports and possible action items:

a. Policy and Rules (Buettner) – No motions for the Board, next meeting will be on the first Tuesday in September at 8:30 a.m. The Board Of Neighborhood Commissioners (BONC) is drafting a set of standards to guide Neighborhood Council operations and provide a uniform measure of competence for NC officers, board members and volunteers. A draft of the Neighborhood Council Rules and Standards are available at BONC's Web Site and provides the Rules (Charter Section, Administrative Code, Plan Article, and/or BONC Policy) along with the Standards and Best Practices for following the Rules. Unknown when these will be finalized.

b. Citywide Issues (Gold) – *Motion that GHNNC supports that the proposed enabling ordinance from LA City Council concerning the DWP Office of Public Accountability and the Independent Rate Payer Advocate contain at a minimum the following elements:*

- *A clear vision statement*
- *A clear mission statement*
- *The OPA and IRPA be allowed to act as an independent entity*
- *That the office have a defined method to manage public complaints*
- *That the office have access to independent legal counsel*
- *That a public board be appointed to evaluate the office*
- *That at least one member of this board be selected from the Neighborhood Councils*

Approved 16-0-0.

Motion that GHNNC support in principle the Initiative proposed by Common Cause that would allow easier access for citizens to run as candidates in LA City elections; and that financing of this initiative be revenue neutral. With reference to the statement in Item 7 by Amelia Herrera-Robles where a Neighborhood Council cannot indorse a candidate or ballot measure, Gold asked to withdraw this motion until he receives City Attorney clarification on initiative support.

Withdrawal approved 16-0-0.

Gold mentioned that while looking into his suggestion of having councilmembers use their discretionary funds to fund the Van Nuys City Hall video tele-conferencing (VTC) link to the Los Angeles City Hall for constituents to testify during a City Council meeting, there appears to be no contact point in the Controller's Office or the City to determine the amount of the discretionary funds available to each City councilmember or what the funds are expended or allocated to. There is no audit or control over the funds.

c. Financial Officer Report (DeVandry) – *Motion to approve the July 2012 Treasurer's Cash Flow Report, approved 16-0-0.*

d. Treasurer Report (DeVandry) – *Motion to approve the 4th Quarter Treasurer's Report , approved 13-0-1*

e. PLUM (Ziliak) – Copies of the June and July PLUM reports were distributed. A discussion followed on the DWP Bull Creek Extension Realignment Project and the use of 76 million black balls to permanently cover the 180 acre reservoir instead of the original plan to have the reservoir become two covered reservoirs in 2020. DWP has not been following the DWP MOU to inform the Neighborhood Council of their actions as they change how a project will proceed. The Mobility Plan questionnaire from the Department of City Planning and Department of Transportation was discussed. Also, LA County Department of Public Works is proposing to send sediment debris to Sunshine Canyon at two thousand tons a day: deadline to comment is August 28, 2012.

f. Parks & Beautification (Mann) – Unable to attend tonight – no report.

g. Outreach Committee (no chair) – No chair or volunteer – no report.

h. Public Safety (Pollok) – No quorum at the last meeting, looking into the donations bins that are not from legitimate charities and are graffiti magnets. Of the two located on MWD property, was able to have the one belonging to a book organization moved, the other one that belongs to a group that claims to support veterans but does not, is still there.

Emergency Preparedness (Hopkins) – Our July meeting had a representative from the Southern California Gas Company speak about natural gas safety and commercially available earthquake valves. The next meeting on August 7th at 7 p.m. at the GHNNC office will have a representative from the Department of Water and Power with a diorama to demonstrate electrical safety.

Hunter discussed proliferation of thefts of recyclables from the Sanitation Department's Blue Bins. Hopkins suggested call LAPD with a description of the vehicle and thief – 1-877-ASK-LAPD (1.877.275.5273) and press 1 for LAPD dispatch -- they will take a report and dispatch police as available.

i. Ethics (Steinberg) – A grievance was filed by two candidates who were not selected for a candidate debate jointly sponsored by us and Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council (GHSNC). Our grievance response is that we did not have a say in the selection of candidates, the selection was made by GHSNC and the Chamber of Commerce.

14. Board comment on non-agenda items.

None made.

15. Motion to Adjourn (Marzillier/Buettner), approved 16-0-0: Adjourned at 8:20 p.m.