

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT
Michael Greenwald

VICE PRESIDENT
Ray Pollok

MEMBERS

Brian Allen	Ralph Kroy
Alfredo Castillo	Dave Parikh
Kyle Ellis	Skylar Rose
Sid Gold	Rob Sherman
Bill Hopkins	Jan Subar
Wayde Hunter	Andres Topete
Oscar Jimenez	Joe Vitti
Rahim Kazi	Keren Waters

CITY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA



GRANADA HILLS NORTH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

BOARD MEETING AGENDA WITH MINUTES

GHNNC Contact Information

Address: 11139 Woodley Avenue
Granada Hills, CA
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GHNNC BOARD MEETING Location

Saint Euphrasia School Auditorium,
11766 Shoshone Ave.
Granada Hills, CA 91344
Tuesday December 05, 2017 at 6:30 PM

A. Call to Order, Roll Call, Pledge of Allegiance, Welcome/Introductions/Calendar.

Roll Call [Quorum Achieved (14 present¹/ 11 required)]

- (1) Present: Brian Allen, Alfredo Castillo, Kyle Ellis, Sid Gold, Michael Greenwald, Wayde Hunter, Oscar Jimenez, Rahim Kazi, Ralph Kroy, Dave Parikh, Ray Pollok, Rob Sherman, Joe Vitti, Keren Waters
- (2) Absent: Bill Hopkins, Skylar Rose, Jan Subar, Andres Topete,

B. Comments from CD 12, LAPD Senior Lead Officers, Elected Official Reps, Government Agencies.

CD12 (CM Englander) Comments

- (1) Rob Sherman will be leaving, and CD12 would like to thank him for his service on the Board. Michael Greenwald presented a certificate of appreciation from the City by on the behalf of CD12. CD12 regretfully could send a representative, as they have been working on providing services to members of Los Angeles affected by the fires.

DONE Comments (Jose Galdamez)

- (1) DONE has released a proposed budget for 2018-2019.
- (2) Jasmine Dougworth will be leaving DONE for the City of West Hollywood, but will be employed in a similar role at that City.
- (3) Leadership Academy workshop is in planning, please contact Semee Park with suggestions on what can be added to the program.
- (4) EmpowerLA is launching IgniteLA, a program for young women in leadership roles. Applications will be accepted until December 31, and the program will start in February.
- (5) DONE and the City Clerk want to work with NCs regarding the provision of re-election outreach in the next NC election (in 2019). Mentions that there will be a 3 month process, and that Stephen Vox is the contact for NC Board members.
- (6) The Deadline to sign up for CivicU is December 15.
- (7) The bylaws amendment form has been released for NCs who want to update their bylaws. Any changes need to be completed by no later than April 15. Additionally, a Subdivision Application is available with a deadline for submission on January 15.
- (8) Sid Gold asks regarding the homeless project. Jose says that there will be 2 events in the next few weeks – workshops and career assistance – and will send the information to the Board.

C. Public Comment on non-agenda items (limited to two minutes).

Public Comments

- (1) William Kuzmin mentions that it is the close of the year, and wants to thank the GHNNC Board on improvement in procedures as well as the ever-popular shredding events that benefitted the community. Says that GHNNC is doing good outreach, wishes us happy holidays. Sends condolences and best wishes to those challenged by the fires and the difficulties that some are facing.

¹ Dave Parikh arrived midway through the meeting, and so some votes are out of 13 members, and others are out of 14 members.

- (2) Maria Fisk asked whether GHNNC had information about LADOT increasing the speed limits around Zelzah & Balboa by approximately 5 mph – states that GHNNC should weigh in on the possible changes. Discusses CM Englander’s motion on stopping predatory lending of RV units as another issue that GHNNC may want to weigh in on. Michael Greenwald mentions that there is a vicious cycle around speed limits and city enforcement, recommends that the public safety committee look into the issue of the raised speed limits. Ms. Fisk mentions that the same proposal to raise the limits came up several years ago, but there was pushback. Michael Greenwald comments that any traffic survey should go to the community for their input, rather than be left in the hands of technicians – Ralph Kroy wonders at how many people will have to die before action to reduce speed is taken. Alfredo Castillo states that there is a related concern is about gridlock, not speeding, during rush hour traffic.

D. Emergency Preparedness Item of the Month.

EP Chair Comments (Bill Hopkins)

- (1) As Mr. Hopkins is rendering aid with his CERT team for members of the community challenged by the fires, there is no EP Item of the Month this month.

E. **[PASSED]** Motion to approve the November 07, 2017, Board meeting minutes.

Motion: Rob Sherman

Second: Brian Allen

Vote: [Yes – 13; No – 0; Abstain – 0]

F. Executive Committee

1. **[PASSED]** Motion to approve up to \$700.00 for printing of tri-fold information handouts.

Public Comment

- (1) A member of the public asks how many have been printed, Michael Greenwald estimates approximately 5,000 handouts were printed.

Board Comment

- (1) Alfredo Castillo asks whether we should be more specific about the item under approval, regarding the content and form of the handout. Michael Greenwald explains that this vote is being made because the flyers have already been printed, and they were previously approved, just the record of the money being allocated was not recorded.

Vote: [Yes – 13; No – 0; Abstain – 0]

2. **[PASSED]** Motion to approve reimburse Bill Hopkins \$25.00 for diagnosis of the sound equipment.

Public Comment

- (1) No public comment.

Board Comment

- (1) Michael Greenwald explains that the sound equipment broke after 15 years of use, and that Bill Hopkins already paid for the diagnostic to be done.

Vote: [Yes – 13; No – 0; Abstain – 0]

3. **[PASSED]** Motion to approve up to \$500.00 for repairs to the sound equipment.

Public Comment

- (1) No public comment.

Board Comment

- (1) Michael Greenwald represents that the expected cost to repair the sound system is \$195, but that the motion was set prior to the Executive Board having information about the ultimate cost.

Vote: [Yes – 13; No – 0; Abstain – 0]

G. Treasurer Report.

1. **[TABLED]** Motion to approve November Report.

Public Comment

- (1) Jose Galdamez (DONE) mentions that it takes some time for the reports to be generated.

Board Comment

- (1) Michael Greenwald notes that the MER was not ready today, and that they are rarely able to be approved by GHNNC because the Board meets early in the month.
- (2) Brian Allen mentions that the City will not apparently finalize it until five days after the end of the prior month as a general policy.

Moves to Table: Brian Allen

Second: Oscar Jimenez

Vote: [Yes – 13; No – 0; Abstain – 0]

H. Planning and Land Use. Report.

PLUM Chair Comment (Kyle Ellis)

- (1) Report: Discussed the proposed date and structure of the General Plan Community Input Meeting for Monday, January 08, 2018, at 7:00PM at St. Euphrasia,² though we need confirmation before we can do outreach. Provided a sample handout for outreach, noting that there are some typographical and stylistic errors that will be fixed prior to handing out.
1. **[PASSED]**³ Motion to amend GHNNC's position regarding the Street Vending Proposal to include opt-in/opt-out language presuming street vending is legalized; while maintaining that Street Vending remain prohibited.

Board Comment

- (1) Kyle Ellis explains that the purpose of this motion is to make it possible for each council district to either opt-in or opt-out of any regulation for street vending, and otherwise re-emphasizing GHNNC's prior position that street vending should be entirely banned in the City of Los Angeles.
- (2) Kyle Ellis states that his position that he is opposed to the motion. He notes that this type of provision removes the possibility for people to engage in a lawful business, and that opt-in/opt-out as it would give a CM too much arbitrary authority. Asserts that the position should be that street vending should be legal, but well regulated.
- (3) Wayde Hunter states that the motion is intended to cover all bases, so that if opt-in/opt-out is an option GHNNC will be on record for supporting it, and if it ultimately is off the table, we are on record for what we want instead. Additionally, the motion would show solidarity with other NCs in showing that GHNNC does not want street vending in the SFV, as the only way the City Council will listen to our suggestions is if a large number of NCs speak with a single voice.
- (4) {Following the Vote} Ralph Kroy comments that one of the things in City Hall is that there can be no abstentions, only yes or no votes, and comments that such a rule may be something to look into for GHNNC. Michael Greenwald and Keren Waters both mention that there are valid reasons for abstention votes, including the fact that NCs are comprised of volunteers with limited time to review the issues before the Board.

Vote: [Yes – 7; No – 2 Kyle Ellis, Michael Greenwald; Abstain – 5 Alfredo Castillo, Oscar Jimenez, Dave Parihk, Joe Vitti, Keren Waters]

I. Outreach and Publicity Committee. Report.

Outreach Chair Comment (Brian Allen)

² Following the Board Meeting, St. Euphrasia was able to schedule the community meeting to occur on Thursday, January 18, 2018, at 7:00 PM.

³ At the Board Meeting, the Board considered the vote to have failed, however, upon review of the GHNNC Bylaws, the tally of votes should not include abstentions, and so the motion carries 7 to 2. See GHNNC Bylaws, Section 5.3 (“For an item to be approved, it must receive a majority of the affirmative votes of those Directors present and voting at any meeting of the Board not including abstentions and recusals.”)

1. Finalize list of volunteers for the Shred event on December 09, 2017.

Public Comment

- (1) No public comment.

Board Comment

- (1) Brian Allen comments that setup for the Shred Event will be at 8am, and last for several hours. Volunteers include:
 - Keren Waters and Joe Vitti for the 9-10 AM time slot
 - Dave Parikh and Oscar Jimenez for the 10-11 AM time slot
- (2) Kyle Ellis will be unable to attend the Shred Event as he will be attending PlanCheck downtown in his capacity as PLUM Chair.
- (3) Dave Parikh asks about allowing attendees from outside of GHNNC to use the shredders. Michael Greenwald says that GHNNC is happy to allow them to participate, but we want to try to avoid abuse. Additionally, make sure that any boxes tossed into the shredder are not wet, as that will cause feeding issues.

J. Citywide Committee Report. Sid Gold.

Citywide Chair Comment (Sid Gold)

- (1) There was no committee meeting, but Sid Gold sent notes from LADWP and LANCC meetings.
- (2) From LADWP, there is not enough gas stored for the City's use this winter, which means that the City is looking at ways to increase supply. Lack of gas could also have effects on the electrical supply. The lack of stored gas is a more significant problem than usual because the City ended its coal contracts, but there may be the possibility of using liquid gas from Otay Mesa. When asked, LADWP does not know the worst scenario would be if the City ran out of gas entirely. Because Aliso Canyon is not operating at full capacity, this has caused a large hole in our energy system, and the City will likely need to conserve gas this winter. There is the possibility that the City has enough stored gas if the weather is favorable, otherwise LADWP does not yet know how it is going to increase supply.
- (3) At a presentation by Mike Feuer (the City Attorney), he is setting up homeless clinics for ticket resolution tied into job training and/or drug rehabilitation programs. Mr. Feuer wants to create safe housing/safe parking areas in each council district for homeless individuals to have a safe place to reside. He is looking at putative landlords converting apartments into short rentals illegally (i.e. mini-motels), but asking reputable hoteliers to turn hotel rooms into long-term housing.
- (4) There was a presentation from City Planning and LADOT about the vision of the City regarding transportation. They appear to be looking at traffic, quality of life, and loss of park and ride spaces at metro stations. When asked about the project in Santa Clarita, the City punted responsibility to the State. When asked about 'road diets' for bicycles they did not have any substantial response. During the meeting, there was a lot of concern expressed by the representatives of NCs.
- (5) EmpowerLA is looking at equity funding for NCs, where funds allocated for the use by NCs would be distributed in a proportional basis rather than each NC receiving approximately \$45,000. There is no consensus about what the basis of the apportionment should be.
- (6) Finally, there was a presentation by a company called 'lawmaker' where if you have an idea to improve government you can post it, up vote it, and get it submitted to the lawmaker.

K. Public Safety, Report. Ray Pollok.

Public Safety Chair Comment (Ray Pollok)

- (1) Ray Pollok is thrilled to report GHNNC's success with getting 'no stopping' signs on Woodley so that the community can safely turn in and out of the 118 freeway. Keren Waters & Michel Greenwald stated that they have been receiving comments from the community about how good it is that the signs have been installed. Kyle Ellis mentions that he has received comments that the removal of the vans and RVs have made the community feel safer when walking, driving, or jogging through the underpass; Michael Greenwald comments about the benefit to the kids walking to Kennedy from South of the 118 freeway.

L. Emergency Preparedness Report. Bill Hopkins.

EP Chair Comments (Bill Hopkins)

- (1) Bill Hopkins is not in attendance, and so there are no comments from the Emergency Preparedness subcommittee.

M. Board member Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Board Comment

- (1) Dave Parikh mentions that many people are driving on Shoshone to avoid traffic on Balboa; Michael Greenwald comments that it is the Waze driving application routing people around the traffic on Balboa. Ray Pollok mentions that this topic has been brought up many times without resolution. Kyle Ellis mentions that the only way to resolve the issue would be to put gates at the entrances of the community and only permit community members entrance.
- (2) Rahim Kazi wishes all happy holidays.
- (3) Joe Vitti explains that he voted to abstain on the PLUM motion because he did not understand it, and Kyle Ellis responds that he tried his best to frame the issues of the motion, and that if anything was unclear Joe Vitti was more than welcome to ask for clarification. Michael Greenwald mentions that he always provides time to the audience and Board to make comments or ask questions prior to proceeding with votes. Joe Vitti states that, in the future, a brief presentation prior to voting would be very helpful. Ralph Kroy mentions that Google will also tell you what streets to avoid.
- (4) Kyle Ellis requests feedback on how the San Fernando Valley Bar Association (“SFVBA”) may be able to work with the various Neighborhood Councils in the Valley. Kyle Ellis notes that he has already received some feedback from the Board via email, including:
 - a. Jan Subar’s comments that the SFVBA could (1) Help advise NCs, (2) Help NCs understand why the City works the way it does, (3) partner with NCs on projects, (4) Do workshops for speeches, presentations, and presenting ideas, (5) generally have a continuing dialogue with the NCs. But was worried about the possibility of hiring them as council for NCs.
 - b. Keren Waters, who expressed how it would be beneficial to be able to use attorneys for drafting precise legal language, as California is a litigious society.
 - c. Bill Hopkins in his email that there was a danger of this becoming a serial meeting but that maybe some type of ‘meet an attorney’ event could be useful for stakeholders.
 - d. Finally, Wayde Hunter weighed in that maybe the SFVBA could form its own NC-organization, or work on PLUM matters, or possible just serve in fostering communications between NCs and the City.
- (5) Sid Gold mentions that the State Assemblyman from AD39 is leaving, and that we need to better representation. Kyle Ellis explains that it is Raul Bocanegra who has resigned effective November 27, 2017, amidst allegations of sexual harassment and sexual assault.
- (6) Rob Sherman says that he has had a great time on the board, and introduces Chris Coil as his nominee for replacement.⁴
- (7) Oscar Jimenez says that he recently saw a troubling traffic pattern at the Haskell Elementary while driving on the 118 freeway. Specifically, parents are not parking close to the curb, but in the middle of the street and unloading their children into the path of traffic. Michael Greenwald says he ask for the Police to go by and give some tickets. Ralph Kroy says that the only thing you can really do is call Valley traffic police. Alfredo Castillo says that you should reach out to the Principal and the Parent Teacher Association. Keren Waters and Oscar Jimenez both volunteer to call the principal, and Michael Greenwald will call Valley Traffic.
- (8) Michael Greenwald would like Ralph Kroy to think about convening an ad hoc bylaws committee. Anyone with suggestions should send them to Ralph Kroy. Wishes the NC happy holidays.

⁴ Rob Sherman has served as the District 1 Representative with distinction.

N. Adjournment
Adjourned [7:45 P.M.]

Abbreviation Guide			
BA	Budget Advocates	BONC	Board of Neighborhood Commissioners
CD	Los Angeles City Council District	CERT	Community Emergency Response Team
CIS	Community Impact Statement	CM	Los Angeles City Council Member
DONE	Department of Neighborhood Empowerment	EVOC	Emergency Vehicle Operations Center
GHNNC	Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council	HOPE	Homeless Outreach Partnership Endeavour
LADOT	Los Angeles Department of Transportation	LADWP	Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
LANCC	Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition	LAPD	Los Angeles Police Department
NC	Neighborhood Council	NPG	Neighborhood Purpose(s) Grant
PLUM	Planning and Land Use Management Committee	SCL	Sunshine Canyon Landfill
SCLAF	Sunshine Canyon Landfill Amenities Fund	SCLCAC	Sunshine Canyon Landfill Community Advisory Committee
SFM	San Fernando Mission Boulevard		