



CITY OF LOS ANGELES

GREATER GRIFFITH PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

"Your Neighborhood. Your Voice. Your Council"



PRESIDENT
Philip Gasteier

VICE PRESIDENTS
Bruce Carroll – Administration
Rosemary DeMonte – Outreach

TREASURER
Tomas O'Grady

SECRETARY (interim)
Mark F. Mauceri

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Saturday, September 12, 2009 – 1:00 pm

Hollywood Lutheran Church
1733 North New Hampshire Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90027

CERTIFIED COUNCIL #36

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01. CALL TO ORDER:

1:00 PM –

Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council (GGPNC) President, Philip Gasteier, called the meeting to order.

Board Members present (19):

Gasteier, Philip District D President	Carroll, Bruce District E VP, Administration	DeMonte, Rosemary Business Interests VP, Outreach
O'Grady, Tomas District D Treasurer		Mauceri, Mark District E Secretary (interim)
Arslanian, Nyla Charitable Groups	De Ocampo, Alex District C	Hooper, Dan Religious Interests
Howe, Laura District A	Hyams, Tor At-Large	Kerr, Jacqueline At-Large
Louyse, Kathryn District C	Napier, Sarah Education	Ostrow, Ron District A
Owen, Kenneth At-Large	Soter, Bernadette District A	Uebersax, David District B
Vigderson, Tal Recreational Interests		Wilson, Thomas At-Large

Absent (0):
Excused (0):
Late (1): Mauceri

A quorum was declared.

Gasteier welcomed the assembled stakeholders, candidates and board members and explained the meeting's main purpose and briefly outlined how the selection process would be conducted, explaining the Board had to clarify some procedural items before the selection process would begin.

02. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

1:04 PM – None

03. SELECTION OF APPOINTED MEMBERS

1:05 PM –

Gasteier asked the candidates to form a line and draw numbers to determine the order of their candidate presentations:

Candidates on ballot:

Arevalo, Rosa M. Charitable Groups	Arslanian, Nyla Charitable Groups	Bae, Nelson Recreational Interests
Bazzi, Khalid At-Large	Benz, Rhett At-Large	Bowlby, Bryon At-Large
Cisneros, Joe Religious Community	DeMonte, Rosemary Business Interests	Ferris, Barbara Charitable Groups
Filin, Patrice Recreational Interests	Gardner, Jeff Recreational Interests	Hooper, Daniel Rev. Religious Community
Hyams, Victor (Tor) At-Large	John Jr., John F. At-Large	Jones, Jenner At-Large
Cengizhan, Karacuha Business Interests	Kornberg, Jessica At-Large	Kristula, Mark At-Large
Malhi, Harpreet Religious Community/At-Large	McClain, Angela Business Interests	Menz, Robert Business Interests
Mims, Charley At-Large	Napier, Sarah A.L. Educational Interests	Nubaravacharyan, Luisa At-Large
Prietro, Susan M. Educational Interests	Sandman, Dan At-Large	Sigafoos, Amanda Recreational Interests
Simons, Deborah Educational Interests/At-Large	Vigderson, Tal Recreational Interests / At-Large	Widmer, Stephanie Recreational Interests/At-Large
Wilson, Thomas At-Large		

Carroll moved to clarify and amend the previously resolved election procedures as follows:

B. Presentations Section 3.

Presentations from the candidates will be followed by public comment. Then the presiding officer shall conduct the question and answer period, and may extend time periods when deemed appropriate. The presiding officer shall first identify whether written statements from candidates have been received. Such statements shall not be read at the meeting but shall be posted on the GGPNC website, and copies shall be provided to the Board at the meeting and made available for review by Stakeholders at the meeting. Public comment will first be taken from the stakeholders in attendance; then the board members and the candidates shall participate in the question

and answer period. Candidates shall have the opportunity to respond in the order determined for candidate presentation unless a question is directed to a specific candidate, in which event that candidate shall be given the opportunity to respond first. Candidate responses shall be limited to one minute. Candidates will not be permitted to ask each other questions; however, during the question and answer period any board member shall be free to raise any issue raised by the public or by the candidates. Candidates who made a spoken presentation for one of the five designated positions and then opted to be considered for an at-large position shall not make a second statement, but shall be eligible to participate in the question and answer period."

C. Voting Sec 2.

Voting will proceed by written ballots, with candidates' names to be listed in the order in which candidates' names appear on the GGPNC website which reflects the order in which applications were received. Ballots shall be folded in a vertical manner from bottom to top. Failure to properly fold a ballot shall not be grounds for invalidating said ballot. The Chair shall appoint tellers to count the ballots and announce which board members voted for which candidates. The Secretary shall record the votes. If no candidate receives a majority, then the name(s) of the candidate(s) with the fewest votes will be removed from the list of candidates and voting will proceed. In the event the elimination of more than one candidate tied for lowest number of votes would leave only one candidate who has not received a majority, the Board shall vote to decide which of the low vote candidates shall remain; if such vote also results in a tie, the tie-breaking procedure of these rules shall apply. The process will continue until one candidate (or the number to be selected if more than one) receives the majority of the votes of the board members present and voting. In the event of a tie between the last remaining candidates, there will be one more round of voting to determine if the tie remains, then the candidates shall draw numbers from a hat with the lowest number drawn eliminated. If more than one candidate remains, voting will resume as provided in these procedures. Napier seconded.

Ostrow moved to amend by deleting the fourth sentence of Sec 2 to read: After voting has concluded, the Secretary shall compile a written report tallying each vote clearly identifying the round of voting, who voted and for whom the person voted. The final report will be submitted at the continuation of the meeting scheduled September 15, 2009. In compliance with the City Attorney's advice, the voting report along with any voting record, ballots, etc. will be made available for inspection by written request of any person. Mauceri seconded.

Ostrow circulated an email from Darren Martinez of the Los Angeles City Attorney’s office.

DISCUSSION:

Gasteier clarified the completed ballots would be available to anyone who wanted to view them to find out how the votes were cast and by whom.

Carroll pointed out the City Attorney’s opinion stated, “You may simply announce the count,” but were not necessarily required to.

Mauceri said the original intent of Rules & Elections committee’s recommendation approved by the board resolving to use written ballots was to prevent undue influence, to eliminate the possibility of peer pressure and to ensure candidates would be judged on their merit and not other factors. He opined the announcing of the individual votes before the entire process was completed defeated that purpose, stating if he was a candidate who later would vote on others knowing how the others had previously voted in his own election, he could “not not factor that in.”

Vigderson countered, saying the announcing of the individual ballots would assist in the record keeping process and no one would be unduly influenced, as the board would vote for the most qualified candidates.

DeMonte cited past elections were conducted by hand vote, openly, and that time was an issue at the meeting.

O’Grady stated announcing vote results before the process was complete would induce the swaying of votes down the line.

DeOcampo assured stakeholders the proposed amended process did not allow for secret ballots and all results would be communicated to the public.

VOTE: Motion to amend, 6 For, 10 Against, 3 Abstentions; motion fails.

VOTE: Original motion, 10 for, 2 Against, 7 Abstentions; motion carries.

03 A. SELECTION OF APPOINTED BOARD MEMBER: BUSINESS INTERESTS

1:35 PM –

DEMONTE, ROSEMARY Votes: 14	CENGIZHAN, KARACUHA Votes: 03	MENZ, ROBERT Votes: 01
MCLAIN, ANGELA		

Votes: 00

*DeMonte recused herself from voting.

03 B. SELECTION OF APPOINTED BOARD MEMBER: RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY BOARD MEMBER

2:20 PM -

HOOPER, DANIEL REV. VOTES: 11	MALHI, HARPREET Votes: 04	CISNEROS, JOE Votes: 03
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*Hooper recused himself from voting.

03 C. SELECTION OF APPOINTED BOARD MEMBER: EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS

2:52 PM -

NAPIER, SARAH A.L. Votes: 14	SIMONS, DEBORAH Votes: 03	PRIETRO, SUSAN M. Votes: 00
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*Napier recused herself from voting; Ostrow abstained.

03 D. SELECTION OF APPOINTED BOARD MEMBER: RECREATIONAL INTERESTS

3:30 PM -

GARDNER, JEFF Votes: 12	FILIN, PATRICE Votes: 06	SIGAFOOS, AMANDA Votes: 00
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*Vigderson himself recused from voting.

03 E. SELECTION OF APPOINTED BOARD MEMBER: CHARITABLE GROUPS

4:10 PM -

Arslanian, Nyla Votes: 13	Ferris, Barbara Votes: 05	Bazzi, K Votes: 00
Mclain, Angela Votes: 00		

*Arslanian recused herself from voting. Candidates Arevalo & Ferris withdrew their candidacies during their statements.

03 F. SELECTION OF APPOINTED BOARD MEMBERS: AT-LARGE

4:40 PM -

Candidates for designated positions who chose to seek an At-Large position were determined. The group relocated to the Church's "Sanctuary" to continue the session.

A recess of approximately 40 minutes to relocate followed.

"DISCUSSION:

Ostrow raised a question as to why the At-Large candidates were not being voted on individually as previously discussed and resolved by the board. Mauceri concurred with Ostrow's assertion.

Debate ensued as to what the board had previously resolved. As Chair, Gasteier eventually ruled all four At-Large candidates were to be voted on in a block.

Mims, Charley Votes: 11	Wilson, Thomas Votes: 10	Hyams, Victor (Tor) VOTES: 09
Nubaravacharyan, Luisa Votes:08	Vigderson, Tal Votes: 05	John Jr., John F. Votes: 04
Malhi, Harpreet Votes: 03	Kornberg, Jessica Votes: 03	Simons, Deborah Votes: 02
Sandman, Dan Votes: 02	Widmer, Stephanie Votes: 01	Bowlby, Bryon Votes: 01
Jones, Jenner Votes: 01		

*Hyams & Wilson recused themselves from voting. Vigderson absent. Candidate Kristula withdrew his candidacy during his statement.

A run-off round of voting occurred that was later determined unnecessary, as candidate Nubaravacharyan had cleared a majority in the first round of At-Large voting.

04. SEATING OF NEWLY APPOINTED BOARD MEMBERS:

7:50 PM –

The newly selected candidates were formally installed as Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council board members.

05. ADJOURN:

7:55 PM –

MEETING SUMMARY:

Duration:	06 hours, 55 minutes
Motions/Votes:	02 / 08
Resolutions/Statements Passed:	0
Official Correspondence:	0
Funds Allocated:	\$0

Submitted and approved by Board consensus on 09/19/2010.

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Mark F. Mauceri
Secretary (interim), Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council