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Tor Hyams - Administration
Luisa Nubaravacharyan - Outreach

TREASURER
Christina Khanjian

SECRETARY
Jessica Kornberg

GREATER GRIFFITH PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
"Your Neighborhood. Your Voice. Your Council"
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

November 16, 2010 – 7:00 p.m.
Los Feliz Community Police Center
1965 n. Hillhurst Ave. (2nd floor of Citibank)
Los Angeles, CA 90027



CERTIFIED COUNCIL #36

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1. Call to Order.

7:12 pm

Present: Ostrow, Gardner, Hyams, Masi, Kornberg, Nubaravacharyan, DeMonte, Arslanian, Bae, Napier, Mims, DeOcampo, Wilson, Mauceri

Excused: Khanjian, O'Grady, Campbell

Unexcused: Vukovic, Malhi

2. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items.

None.

3. Reports from Public Official and Community Organizers.

Mary Rodriguez, CD4:

- Distributing new newsletters
- Sharing work at new Sunnynook Park on LA River on Riverside Dr. across from the Friendship Auditorium site. Working to save mature trees (9/11 saved).
- Groundbreaking on North Atwater Park expansion
- Announcing Marshall student volunteer efforts at Commonwealth nursery
- Updating progress on Big Blue M project- probably the final project from the office of community beautification
- King environmental magnet approved and moving forward
- King athletic field issues continue to impact neighbors on Bates Ave – working with the principal, afterschool programmers, and Mark Mauceri on this
- Noting ongoing sewer projects in the area
- Updating progress on DWP project moving to Rowena this week – will cause significant traffic issues for the next year
- Used car sales on Los Feliz Blvd continue to be an issue – last weekend, DMV did a raid, 2 arrested, 6 misdemeanors, 7 cars towed – this after an enforcement sting by NE Division the week before. Looking to the City attorney to issue a new ordinance. Looking for community support at Transportation Committee meeting on Dec. 8th.

- Thanking Andrea for coming to NE LAPD open house
- Tracy Street Neighborhood Watch signs are up and stolen fountain recovered
- Robbery at Blair's restaurant on Rowena – 3 men held up 8 businesses in the area, license plate called in and suspects arrested.
- Captain Murphy met with Vice Officer and Los Feliz Village bar owners (4/12 in attendance) – noise complaints a growing problem.
- Homelessness a growing concern, including rv encampments in the area
- City Council voted a charter change on the next initiative ballot to allocate additional information for libraries, voted a new ordinance prohibiting cyclist harassment, voted an ordinance restricting second hand smoke in public areas of apartments
- Friday, Dec. 3rd, Christmas Open House at Valley Field Office

Ostrow: Asking about continued noise issues coming out of the Greek Theater in Griffith Park.

Rodriguez: In contact with Angela Stewart. Asking if Board has a representative that goes to the Greek Theater meetings.

Masi: Explaining that those meetings have not been productive.

Mims: Noting that no official representative has been appointed.

DeMonte: Businesses at meeting?

Rodriguez: Barbrix, Hyperion Tavern, Rockwell

Hyams: Thanking Mary for help on Halloween. Asking for update on Masonic Temple homeless encampment.

Bae: Similar issue at the Gudwara Temple.

Rodriguez: Recommending calls on this issue go to SLO Gina Chevon.

Assemblyman Mike Feuer:

- Introducing himself and sharing information about previous and upcoming legislative sessions.
- Haeyoung Kim going to work on Korean desk at the State Department. Will be replaced by Nicole Parcel.
- Explaining his numerous committee chairmanships and legislative priorities
 - Last year authored legislation guaranteeing child healthcare – goes beyond federal reform, including prohibiting insurers from signing new policies for 5 yrs if they refuse to insure children
 - Unemployment continues to hit California harder than other states, this year promoting small businesses
 - Budget passage was late, as usual, in part because California was one of three states that required a 2/3rds majority for passage. In the most recent election Prop 25 allowed the legislature to adopt a budget by a simple majority. However impact of Prop. 26 maintains 2/3rds for tax increases and fees (like oil extraction tax). Makes it more difficult to balance the budget.
 - Government cuts – probably not felt in this room as much as others. In just 5 years the budget has been reduced to less than 50%. Explaining how education has suffered. Education, Healthcare, Prisons constitute the major budget items. Something will have to be cut.

- Goal as policy leader: identify top priorities in each committee, reduce bills by 1/3, increasing bipartisanship by not counting bipartisan bills in that tally, systematize meaningful oversight.

Kornberg: Inquiring about impact of franchise tax board underperformance.

Ostrow: Explaining how cuts have impacted him and his family – particularly in the cuts to special education. Education code is outdated, inefficient and contributing to this problem.

Feuer: Responding to these comments. Explaining that 90% of the budget is dedicated to public education, medical, the prisons, and the courts. If a person is not part of one of those systems, the budget won't have as much import for them. Explaining why this should matter to all Californians.

Wilson: Asking where the most waste is in government spending.

Feuer: Explaining that where he identifies waste he cuts it. Already cut where he saw possible efficiency – people doing more work with fewer resources. No high value waste targets available. As a consequence of the courts being closed 1 day a month 9-11,000 people lined up outside the courthouse downtown because phone lines were also down. Now every court open every day, but that will likely be cut again in this next budget cycle.

Wilson: Expressing his belief that there are people taking advantage of taxpayer funds. Noting the difference between capitalism and democracy and suggesting elected officials too often characterize themselves as creating jobs rather than creating fair competition.

Feuer: Looking to hear from small business owners about which regulations get in their way.

Gardner: Thanking Assemblyman, suggesting limit on CRA development projects under Prop. 22, asking about Prop. 19 as an untapped resource.

Feuer: Explaining position on Prop. 19.

Mims: Thanking Assemblyman, sharing view on special education funding needs, and need to focus on corporate tax issue and supermajority issue. Suggesting Massachusetts initiative process as an alternative.

Mauceri: Noting EDD and nanny taxes as issues for further review.

Bae: Expressing concern about the proposition process. Wondering about the possibility of a constitutional convention.

Feuer: Sharing that he authored a proposal with these kinds of structural changes, California Forward promoted these ideas, but the proposal did not garner bipartisan support and so it could not go on the ballot.

Masi: Agreeing with Mims' view and opining that there are places to increase revenue.

Feuer: Agreeing that tax code requires reform. Agreeing that there is a disconnect between what people expect government to do and what they expect to pay for it. Sharing legislative achievements. Asking those present to get involved in the ongoing discussion of these issues.

4. MOTION (R&E Committee): Effective January 1, 2011, all committee chairs shall observe and comply with all current GGPNC Bylaws, standing rules, policies and procedures;

- **And shall convene and hold a committee meeting,**
- **And report on committee activities to the Governing Board,**
- **And report to the Budget and Finance Committee**

At least once within each fiscal quarter.

- **In addition, committee chairs shall be responsible for ensuring accurate meeting minutes are recorded and posted in draft form on the GGPNC web site before convening a subsequent meeting of that committee.**

MOTION:

Hyams moves. Kornberg seconds.

Public Comment:

None.

Questions:

Napier: Clarifying that recorded does not require audio recording.

Gardner: Asking if there are explicit consequences.

Hyams: Clarifying that the consequences are implicitly those

Napier: Asking for the reason for this motion?

Kornberg: Explaining her reasons for bringing these issues to the committee.

Discussion:

Mims: Clarifying that the requirement to report to Budget Committee would be to go over that committee's budget issues each quarter.

No Objection. Motion Passed by Consensus.

Hyams, Nubaravacharyan leave.

5. Executive Committee

a. President

Ostrow: Reporting on Executive Committee appointment of Robert Menz to the Business Committee Chair, and thank you letter to LFIA.

i. Griffith Park Relay For Life Chair Person

Ostrow: Asking if anyone from the Board wishes to represent the Council in this program. No response.

- ii. Animal Welfare Committee Update. Discussion and Action as appropriate.

Ostrow: Reviewing history of committee dissolution by the Executive Committee. Explaining ambiguity in bylaws as to committee dissolution. Explaining plan to verify the correct procedure.

Mims: Reviewing history of creation of the Animal Welfare Committee as a voluntary action of the board. Suggesting that the group who has the authority to create the entity also has the authority to dissolve it.

Gardner: Reviewing history of efforts to create these types of committees around the city.

- iii. Discussion and Action as Appropriate regarding proposal to establish committees for all appointed representative seats (e.g., Recreation)

Ostrow: Tabled until first addressed by the Executive Committee.

- b. Treasurer's Report, including MOTION to reallocate fire sign recovery project funds.

Kornberg: Reporting in Khanjian's absence. Explaining the hold-up at DONE continues to impede payment. Documentation requirements from committee chairs also continue to impede progress.

Arslanian: Explaining challenges in resolving these issues with vendors.

Napier: Clarifying Business License issue – Business Tax Registration Certificate

Gardner: Explaining that a business has to be licensed in the city to receive money from the city.

DeMonte: Explaining that this is a license that all businesses are required to display. Asking what items can be paid on the credit card.

Mims: Clarifying the BTRC requirement.

Ostrow: Explaining that the same documentation requirements apply.

Mauceri: Opining that DONE was slapped on the hand for bad book-keeping, now the pendulum has swung in the opposite direction.

Gardner: Suggesting these requirements be in the committee handbook

Arslanian: Agreeing with Ostrow that the same documentation requirements apply to the credit card.

Kornberg: Motion to reallocate withdrawn until Dec. meeting

- c. V.P. Outreach Update

Kornberg: Sharing progress on e-newsletter in Nubaravacharyan's absence. Urging Board Members and Committee chairs to attend next Outreach meeting to add items to newsletter.

6. MOTION: Whereas the proposed NBC Universal Evolution project draft environmental impact report (DEIR) is thirty nine thousand pages long and involves over four hundred and twenty acres, three thousand new housing units, and extensive commercial rental space, I move that the Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council send a formal request to the Director of Planning and to Council member La Bonge requesting additional time to review the materials.

MOTION:

Gardner moves. Napier seconds.

Public Comment:

None.

Questions:

Arslanian: Clarifying impacted area is adjacent to ours and impacts us accordingly.

Napier: Asking if the intent is to increase the road to and from development through Griffith Park.

Ostrow: Clarifying that this plan does not impact any of the roads into the park. There is an impact on Barham, but not sure if Forest Lawn will be impacted.

Napier: Sharing concern about wildlife trails from Cahuenga Peak through Griffith Park along the creek and through other areas.

Discussion:

DeMonte: Suggesting PZHPC also look at this.

DeOcampo: Correcting typos in text of letter.

Point of Order: Mims stating we should be voting on the motion and leaving the drafting to the President.

Ostrow: Explaining the appreciation for the submitted text.

Mauceri: Agreeing with Charlie, noting the intent must remain true to the Board's discussion.

Mims: Supporting the motion, noting this is one of the biggest developments since Playa Vista and deserves reasonable time for review.

Ostrow: Asking PZHPC if they will be involved in the review process? And if so, wouldn't the council look foolish sending a second letter from PZHPC a month from now.

Masi: Expressing concern that PZHPC committee members lack the time and resources to deal with this. Supporting the motion and supporting anyone with the time and will to tackle this.

Arslanian: Suggesting consultation with other effected councils and supporting their efforts for extension as well.

Mims: Noting other organizations and councils, including the City Council have requested additional time.

Ostrow: Wondering if this asks for enough time.

Gardner: Explaining process of drafting this request. It's in line with other's requests. Noting PROS committee's previous work on this project in the past.

DeMonte: Noting traffic impact.

Ostrow: Clarifying that people will live and work in the area.

Kornberg: Asking whether the intent of the motion is to give PROS time to weigh in on the DEIR or to give other community activists time.

Mauceri moves to end debate. No Objection. Motion Passed by Consensus.

7. MOTION: to fund up to \$500.00 in expenditures for the Holiday Festival that the Los Feliz BID will be having the First week of December.

DeMonte: Withdrawn. Distributing postcards for the event.

8. Approval of Past Meeting Minutes

Ostrow: Starting with September 2009 version 2 minutes. Reviewing issue about the approval of the code of civility. Ostrow felt the minutes were accurate. Gardner disagreed.

MOTION:

Gardner moves to amend minutes to show introduction and passage of code of civility under item 14 in the September 2009 Governing Board Meeting Minutes. Napier seconds.

Discussion:

Gardner: Explaining this was his first meeting and remembers this precisely. Noting that Kathryn Louyse took the minutes and did not recall the issue.

Ostrow: Noting this would be item number 14 if added.

Mauceri: Noting that the code of civility has subsequently been adopted. Questioning this process.

Point of Information – Mauceri asking for roll call of the meeting in question.

Ostrow: Attendees not listed.

Mauceri: Sharing his recollection of the meeting and that he has a tape recording of the meeting, which ended at item number 8.

Wilson: No recollection

Mims: No recollection. Agreeing with Ostrow that this is about accuracy.

DeMonte: No recollection.

Ostrow: Remembering that Bernadette Soter brought this motion and that it was not adopted.

Mims: Noting the adoption of another code of civility supercedes this.

Mauceri objects.

VOTE on MOTION to APPROVE as AMENDED:

Abstaining: Kornberg, Masi, Bae, Arslanian, DeMonte

In Favor: Gardner, Wilson, Mims, Napier

Opposed: Ostrow, Mauceri, DeOcampo

Amended September 2009 Meeting Minutes Approved by Majority Vote.

Kornberg: Withdrawing September 2010 minutes approval due to confusion on draft distributed.

MOTION:

Wilson moves to adopt October 2010. Napier seconds.

No Objection. October 2010 Minutes Approved by Consensus.

Ostrow: Asking for clarification of missing August 2009 minutes.

Mauceri: Draft version is available, but there are holes in the transcription.

Mims: Suggesting that if Mauceri has a draft he submit it to the Secretary. The core is the motions made and the actions taken.

Masi: Suggesting that draft be distributed as is and objections be raised through the normal process.

9. Other Comments and Announcements

Kornberg: Big Blue M ceremony announcement. Business cards available.

10. Adjourn

Bae moves to adjourn. DeOcampo seconds. Meeting adjourned 9:40 pm.