



PRESIDENT
Ron Ostrow

VICE PRESIDENTS
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
Approved

May 17, 2011 – 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. Roll Call.

Present: Ostrow, O'Grady, Khanjian, Gardner, Campbell, Masi, Mauceri, Mims, Arslanian, Nubaravacharyan, Kornberg

Excused: Vukovic, Hyams, De Ocampo, DeMonte

Late: Bae, Malhi

2. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items.

Katarina Ryan: Speaking as a representative of the long-term residents near 2131 Hillhurst, which is being developed by the Church of Scientology. Presenting collected signatures opposing the development. Planning to attend and hear more on this issue at the June meeting. Common concerns of community members include inconsistency with Hollywood Community Plan, change in neighborhood character, exit and entrance on narrow Avocado Street.

Marian Dodge: Noting that this meeting marks the departure of many founding members of the GGPNC and appreciating their service to the community.

Shirley Mims: Sharing history of the council and recognizing the important role played by those departing the council who served important roles in the formation of the GGPNC and the representation of the neighborhood. Noting that this council was an early council and a leader for other councils around the city.

Bae arrives.

3. Reports from Public Officials.

Mary Rodriguez, CD4: Distributing LaBonge newsletter. Announcing installation of no-used-car-sales signs on Los Feliz Blvd. and Franklin Ave. Sharing district support of basketball hoop installation in conjunction with GGPNC.

Masi: Asking about Councilman's position on Station 35 engine company closing and on police commission permit to operate a dance hall at Vermont & Rockwell.

Stacey Brenner, Assemblyman Mike Gatto: Introducing herself and encouraging contact with the Assemblyman's office.

Nicole Carcel, Assemblyman Mike Feuer: Noting job fair at Women's Club of Hollywood on Friday, May 20th, 2011. Sharing information about ongoing budget work in Sacramento. (contact: Nicole.carcel@asm.ca.gov)

4. Treasurer's Report; Budget Approval. Discussion & Action as appropriate.

MOTION:

Kornberg moves to adopt. Khanjian seconds.

No Objection. Approved by consensus.

Members of the public in attendance at the meeting did not fill out a speaker card or make an oral request to provide public comment on this agenda item.

5. Motion: To adopt policy opposing division of Griffith Park among multiple legislative districts.

Ostrow: Introducing topic.

Kornberg recuses herself.

MOTION:

Bae moves to adopt letter. Mauceri seconds.

Public Comment:

John F. John: Noting that PROS was not consulted on this matter and that he is aware of PROS members who do not support this position.

Mauceri objects.

Board Discussion:

Mauceri: Asking for clarification about timeliness and PROS position

Gardner: Noting he is a member of the PROS Committee and that the PROS Committee has not taken a position on this. However the City Council has taken a position on splitting the park in future redistricting and that PROS did not take a position when that policy was adopted.

Mims: Noting there is a benefit of having multiple assembly representatives with the park as a constituent, but an increased chance that no member will have a strong interest in the park if it is split among multiple districts. Voicing his discomfort with the proposed position.

Gardner: Noting this is a position in the state government, not city government, where the council is primarily concerned.

MOTION to TABLE:

Mauceri moves to table. Mims seconds. No objection. Tabled by consensus. (Kornberg recused)

6. Governing Board Appointments & Seating of Newly Appointed Members.

Ostrow: Thanking those members of the board who had chosen not to seek reappointment, but who were in attendance. Noting that they had all served their community and both the remaining board members and the stakeholders owed them a debt of gratitude.

Introducing David McCracken who, with Luisa Nubavarcharian, would act as a teller. Explaining the procedures that had been developed by the Rules and Elections Committee and previously distributed to the board and the public.

Asking the body if there was any objection to reversing the order of two of the items as published, the opening statements and the selection of public comment cards by the tellers. No objection.

Explaining that a rule limiting public comment to questions only and requiring that "advocacy" statements be presented in writing was improper, would violate the Brown Act open meeting rules and would not be followed. Instead, the public would be free to make any comments they wished regardless of content during the public comment period.

Arslanian: Clarifying that non-voting appointed members can participate in discussion and question period.

Khanjian: Clarifying that some candidates are not here, but could still be successful in the process.

Public Comment:

None.

District A:

Linda Demmers, Candidate: Making candidate statement, explaining background and interests in the neighborhood. Describing her view of issues in District A, including street repair issues, water main maintenance, power outages, and public safety. Noting the importance of the park in the city and the neighborhood.

Khanjian: Noting candidate statement is on the website, but not in the distributed packet.

O'Grady: Asking about candidate's education and professional background.

Ostrow: Asking about candidate's role on any board that might come before the board seeking funding.

Demmers: None.

Mauceri: Asking about prospective committee involvement.

Demmers: Sharing background in Roberts Rules and interest in education and fiscal management.

Voting Members turn in ballots.

Tellers count and President announces vote count: 7 votes cast in favor of Linda Demmers.

District B:

Ostrow: Explaining that candidate Jackie Hyde is not present and did not submit a candidate statement.

Tellers count and President announces vote count: 7 abstentions

District C:

Barbara Ferris, Candidate: Making candidate statement, explaining that she lives in District C and works for Symphony in Glen, which performs in Griffith Park. Explaining that she does a lot of her personal shopping and business throughout the district. Hoping to join the council to help with outreach to stakeholders.

Arslanian: Supporting the candidate and acknowledging the event Ferris helped to organize bringing neighborhood groups together.

Mims: Supporting candidate.

Bae: Supporting the candidate.

Ostrow: Asking if the candidate is a member of an organization that would ask for support from the GGPNC.

Ferris: States she is Managing Director of Symphony In The Glen and determines where we go to request funds and determines where they go to request funds and will not come to the GGPNC to request funding.

Tellers count and President announces vote count: 7 votes, no abstentions, for Ferris.

District D:

Ostrow: Reading Riley Robbins and Nathan Duke's candidate statements.

Campbell: Clarifying that Robbins previously indicated he would have to miss the meeting due to work travel to NY.

Tellers count and President announces vote count: 2 votes for Robbins, 5 abstentions.

Malhi arrives.

District E:

Nelson Bae, Candidate: Sharing his experience on the board and his hope to continue his service. Pledging to be a “doer” rather than a “talker.”

Mauceri: Noting that the board has experience working with Bae. Asking how Bae’s future work will help fulfill his vision of the council as a positive example for the neighborhood.

Bae: Noting his interest in the development of community spaces on vacant lots, including the lot at Lyman and Hollywood.

Arslanian: Acknowledging the candidate’s contribution in his short tenure on the board, which was providing refreshments for the meetings.

Nubaravacharyan: Thanking Bae for his service.

Ostrow: Asking if the candidate is a member of an organization that would ask for support from the GGPNC.

Bae: No.

O’Grady: Asking Bae to commit to using sustainable flatware and serve ware at future meetings.

Tellers count and President announces vote count: 8 votes for Bae.

Education:

Ostrow: Noting Widmer has withdrawn.

Caitlin Price, Candidate: Delivering candidate statement, including background as a resident, recent student in local LAUSD schools, experience on political campaigns, and experience working interning in local government. Sharing familiarity with Facebook and other social media, and offering to work on those areas as well.

O’Grady: Noting his work with Price on outreach efforts.

Kornberg: Noting advocacy statement submitted.

Arslanian: Noting youth of the candidate, and the benefit of this diversity to the GGPNC.

Mims: Asking about candidate’s work with Councilman Kerkorian’s office.

Bae: Asking about how the candidate, at such a young age, developed an interest in this public service.

Mauceri: Noting that the Education chair is a work-intensive role on the council. Asking about the candidate's availability for this work.

Ostrow: Reading Amanda Shi-Werts statement and explaining that the candidate informed the chair she would not be able to attend the meeting.

Daven Desai, Candidate: Delivering opening statement, sharing background in the neighborhood and experience in local schools.

Mauceri: Noting that staying involved with the council despite unsuccessful previous attempts to serve on the board often leads to future board membership and asking if Desai will serve on the committee and get involved regardless of outcome of the voting in the meeting.

Mims: Noting that the council has been involved in supporting student activities and physical improvements in the local schools.

Ostrow: Asking about possibility of coming before the council in a capacity with any other organization to ask for money.

Desai: No.

Tellers count and President announces vote count: 6 votes for Price, 1 vote for Desai, 1 vote for Shi-Werts.

Recreation:

Daniel McCarthy, Candidate: Introducing himself as a representative of single, young, renters who wish to preserve and protect the neighborhood, not destroy it. Hopes to be a voice of reason on the board. Promising not to waste board meeting time. Noting that he is a member of the Relay for Life, which has asked for money from the GGPNC in the past – DWP took the Mulholland site away from the organization. Noting support of public access to Rowena Reservoir, free basketball courts in Griffith Park.

Mark Mauceri, Candidate: Introducing himself, his professional experience, and his background on the GGPNC. Noting demographic changes in the neighborhood and the needs for recreation programs. Urging the GGPNC to spearhead the effort to maximize existing facilities and create new opportunities.

O'Grady: Noting long relationship and asking about achievements in AYSO and basketball hoops.

Ostrow: Asking about involvement in other organizations that come to the GGPNC for financial support.

Mauceri: Treasurer for Survivor's Truths, which has not come to the council for money in the past, but conceivably could in the future.

Jeff Gardner, Candidate: Sharing his experience as current Recreation Representative, PROS Committee member, and GGPNC founding efforts. Noting advocacy for conversion of asphalt parking lot in Griffith Park to recreation space. Sharing advocacy

for non-organized recreation in Griffith Park. Noting his willingness to show up and do the work.

Ostrow: Asking if the candidate is a member of an organization that would ask for support from the GGPNC.

Gardner: No.

Tellers count and President announces vote count: 4 votes for Mauceri, 3 votes for McCarthy.

Public Safety:

Ostrow: Noting Stevens has withdrawn.

Andrea Iaderosa, Candidate: Reading statement and explaining experience as committee chair. Noting current issues, including CERT training, area-wide emergency preparedness, fire safety in the wake of budget cuts, and crime prevention.

Public Comment:

Ralph Tropf: Noting he originally thought he would run for this position, and withdrew because he wanted more experience on the council before doing so. Sharing that he is an avid walker and is concerned about pedestrian safety in light of reckless driving practices in the neighborhood.

Masi: Supporting the candidate and noting her previous service.

Bae: Clarifying implications of budget cuts on Engine 35.

Kornberg: Noting this is a new position on the board and its creation reflects the candidate's success on the committee.

Ostrow: Noting how the candidate has used her committee to perform invaluable outreach. Asking if the candidate is a member of an organization that would ask for support from the GGPNC.

Iaderosa: No potential conflicts.

Tellers count and President announces vote count: 8 votes for Iaderosa.

Business:

Rob Menz, Candidate: Reading candidate statement, explaining that he serves as the Business Committee chair. Noting that he ran for this position in September 2009 unsuccessfully, but stuck around, got involved, and persevered. Sharing work on the business committee.

Mauceri: Asking about role with the BID, suggesting that the Business Rep should be a de facto member.

Menz: Explaining that he is not a member of the BID, because his business is not within the boundaries of the BID. But he serves on a BID committee and attends meetings.

Arslanian: Thanking Menz for continuing to serve.

Ostrow: Noting Menz serves on Kiwanis and has asked for support from the GGPNC in the past.

Ostrow: Reading Nasif Benna's candidate statement

Tellers count and President announces vote count: 8 votes for Menz.

Ostrow: Clarifying that Mauceri will vacate District E Representative Seat when he assumes the Recreation seat.

MOTION:

Khanjian moves to continue discussion to fill vacant seat for District B. Kornberg seconds.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION:

Mauceri moves to continue discussion to fill vacant both B and E. Withdrawn.

No Objection to Main Motion. Passed by consensus.

District B:

Ostrow: Clarifying that voting on vacant seat B will be limited to District Representatives. Confirming that Daven Desai is interested in serving in that role.

Tellers count and President announces vote count: 5 votes for Desai, 3 abstentions.

Mauceri resigns from District E seat.

MOTION:

Bae moves to continue discussion to fill vacant seat E. Mims seconds. No Objection. Passed by consensus.

District E:

Ostrow: Confirms Daniel McCarthy is interested in serving in this capacity.

Mims nominates Daniel McCarthy for vacant seat in District E. Arslanian seconds.

Tellers count and President announces vote count: 10 votes for Daniel McCarthy.

MOTION:

Kornberg moves to close appointment process. Nubaravacharyan seconds. No objection. Closed by consensus.

Ostrow: Presenting certificates of service to outgoing members.

New board members seated.

During the selection process for all vacant board seats, with the exception of the Public Safety Seat, no member of the public in attendance at the meeting filled out a speaker card or made an oral request to provide public comment on these agenda item.

7. Final 2010-2011 Budget Items:

Ostrow: Introducing current budget position: roughly \$6,000 remaining in the budget, with budget cuts expected next year. Explaining that sponsorship of Los Feliz Street Fair did not make it on the agenda due to a miscommunication. Explaining that this is the last meeting to authorize these funds this fiscal year. Explaining that adding this to the agenda requires a 2/3 majority to deem it an emergency.

Members of the public in attendance at the meeting did not fill out a speaker card or make an oral request to provide public comment on this agenda item.

MOTION

O'Grady moves to consider funding the Los Feliz Street Fair on an emergency basis. Bae seconds. No Objection. Motion to discuss spending item passed by consensus.

- a. Sports & Recreation Committee Motion to spend \$1,002 to expand Youth Basketball program project (equipment).

MOTION:

Mauceri moves to spend \$1,002 to expand Youth Basketball program with additional equipment. Malhi seconds.

Mauceri: Explaining previous GGPNC activity on this project and advocacy to CD4 for additional funds. Presenting new proposal for additional funds to complete project in conjunction with CD4 assistance.

Ostrow objects for purposes of discussion.

Ostrow: Asking what credit card purchase can be made for \$1,002.

Mauceri: Explaining that the \$1,002 will either be paid as a deposit on a future order that will be completed once CD4 money comes in or for a portion of the equipment.

Masi: Noting use tax on out-of-state goods.

Ostrow: Clarifying that GGPNC has no income tax return on which to pay a use tax.

McCarthy: Asking what the contingency is for the \$5,000 from the GGPNC if CD4 fails to come through with the \$8,000.

O'Grady: Clarifying that this came through the Sports & Recreation Committee.

Demmers: Suggesting the committee ask for more.

VOTE:

Abstaining: O'Grady

In Favor: Khanjian, Campbell, Masi, Desai, Mauceri, Bae, Demmers, Iaderosa, McCarthy, Malhi, Price, Menz, Ferris, Kornberg, Ostrow

Opposed: None.

Motion passed by majority vote.

Members of the public in attendance at the meeting did not fill out a speaker card or make an oral request to provide public comment on this agenda item.

b. Public Safety Committee Motion to spend \$320 on Neighborhood Watch Sign Stickers

MOTION:

Iaderosa moves to spend \$320 on 250 Neighborhood Watch Sign Stickers. Ferris seconds.

Kornberg objects for the purposes of discussion.

Kornberg: Suggesting sticker include website URL.

Ferris: Suggesting sticker say the full name of the council

VOTE:

Abstaining: None.

In Favor: Khanjian, Campbell, Masi, Desai, Mauceri, Bae, Demmers, Iaderosa, McCarthy, Malhi, Price, Menz, Ferris, Kornberg, Ostrow, O'Grady, Kornberg

Opposed: None.

Motion passed by majority vote.

Members of the public in attendance at the meeting did not fill out a speaker card or make an oral request to provide public comment on this agenda item.

c. Emergency Motion to purchase \$1,000 Los Feliz Street Fair Sponsorship

MOTION:

Menz moves to sponsor Los Feliz Street Fair in the amount of \$1,000. McCarthy seconds.

Menz: Introducing Street Fair and Sponsorship benefits. Noting that this year's fair will be on Hollywood Boulevard and run by an outside vendor.

McCarthy: Clarifying amount of remaining unspent funds.

Ferris: Asking which vendors benefit from the street fair sales.

Campbell: Asking about sustainability efforts at the event.

O'Grady: Noting that money sent back to the city is not money wasted.

Ostrow: Supporting the motion for outreach.

Desai: Noting that if the council has a booth, there needs to be a handout.

Kornberg: Noting there needs to be follow-through to man the booth.

O'Grady: Clarifying this did not come through committee.

VOTE:

Abstaining: Campbell, O'Grady, Khanjian

In Favor: Masi, Desai, Mauceri, Bae, Demmers, Iaderosa, McCarthy, Malhi, Price, Menz, Ferris, Kornberg, Ostrow

Opposed: None.

Motion passed by majority vote.

Members of the public in attendance at the meeting did not fill out a speaker card or make an oral request to provide public comment on this agenda item.

- d. Motion to purchase \$1,500 worth of copier supplies for Ivanhoe Elementary, which will help enable the school receive a new free Duplo copy machine.

Ostrow cedes the chair to Kornberg to present the motion.

MOTION:

Ostrow moves to purchase \$1,500 worth of copier supplies for Ivanhoe Elementary, which will help enable the school receive a new free Duplo copy machine. Ferris seconds.

POINT OF INFORMATION:

Bae clarifying that part of Ivanhoe's district falls within the GGPNC boundaries.

Ostrow: Presenting funding proposal, explaining that kids from our district attend the school and that the school has been faced with significant budget cuts. 16 year-old copy machine is barely functioning and is essential for continued functioning at the school. They have to buy a new machine and money will come from other programs if this council and other sources cannot make these purchases for the school. If the school spends \$5,400 on supplies they will receive a new free machine. These proposed funds will go towards that goal. Noting that Ivanhoe is not a Title I school and so receives less funding. Explaining that his son attends Ivanhoe and has been an active supporter of the school.

No Public Comment.

Discussion:

Bae: Clarifying that funds also sought, though unsuccessfully, from Silver Lake Neighborhood Council.

Malhi: Asking for clarification as to why Silver Lake Neighborhood Council did not approve funds.

Menz: Confirming there is an opportunity for additional outreach.

O'Grady: Noting that this did not come through committee, could have, and should have. Explaining that Title I designates a district with lower incomes. The lack of a Title I designation indicates this school has better funding sources than other schools. Silver Lake Neighborhood Council is focused on a lower income school – Micheltorena.

Mauceri: Opining this is a grey area: the school can't get a copy machine, office equipment isn't a compelling program. But they need this to function. The council has some available funds. Hopefully, if successful this would serve as a catalyst for funding in Silver Lake as well.

McCarthy: Noting there is a precedent of funding outside jurisdiction, but that this is a grey area as well. Asking what will be purchased if the copy supply goal is not met.

Ostrow: Explaining that the school has a deficit of \$330,000 and funds will go to a laundry list of items that will otherwise be cut. They won't risk losing this money and have committed to purchasing these supplies.

Ferris moves to vote. Masi seconds.

VOTE:

Abstaining: Malhi

In Favor: Ostrow, Campbell, Masi, Mauceri, Desai, Khanjian, Bae, Demmers, Iaderosa, McCarthy, Price, Menz, Ferris, Kornberg

Opposed: O'Grady

Motion passes by majority vote.

8. Approval of Past Meeting Minutes

- a. Motion to Amend April 12, 2011 Meeting Minute Approval.

MOTION:

Kornberg moves to amend April 12, 2011 minutes. Mauceri seconds. No Objection. Passed by consensus.

Members of the public in attendance at the meeting did not fill out a speaker card or make an oral request to provide public comment on this agenda item.

- b. April 19, 2011 Meeting Minute Approval; Discussion & Action as appropriate.

MOTION:

Kornberg moves to approve. Bae seconds. Mauceri, O'Grady, Campbell, Desai, Price, Menz, Ferris abstain. No Objection. Passed by consensus.

Members of the public in attendance at the meeting did not fill out a speaker card or make an oral request to provide public comment on this agenda item.

9. Executive Committee, Rules & Elections Committee, and Budget & Finance Committee Appointments.

Ostrow: Explaining background that this was handled in the same meeting as appointments under the old bylaws. The newly adopted bylaws do not contain this same requirement for tonight's meeting.

Mauceri: Sharing that he never agreed with the previous policy. Suggesting a recess to pick this up at the next meeting.

MOTION

Mauceri moves to recess until June meeting. Ferris seconds.

Ostrow: Clarifying process.

MOTION to AMEND

Mauceri moves to amend to allow for item 10. Khanjian seconds.

Masi: In favor of taking time, but suggesting a special meeting to discuss what the responsibilities of these roles are.

Bae: Agreeing with this suggestion.

McCarthy: Suggesting this could be done online.

Mauceri: Recommending interested members consult existing office holders.

Ferris moves to close discussion and vote. Kornberg seconds. No Objection.

VOTE on AMENDMENT:

In Favor: Ostrow, O'Grady, Khanjian, Campbell, Mauceri, Bae, Demmers, Iaderosa, McCarthy, Malhi, Price, Menz, Ferris, Kornberg

Opposed: Masi, Desai

Amendment approved by majority vote.

VOTE on MAIN MOTION as AMENDED:

In Favor: Ostrow, O'Grady, Khanjian, Campbell, Mauceri, Bae, Demmers, Iaderosa, McCarthy, Malhi, Price, Menz, Ferris, Kornberg

Opposed: Masi, Desai

Motion passed by majority vote.

Members of the public in attendance at the meeting did not fill out a speaker card or make an oral request to provide public comment on this agenda item.

10. Other Comments and Announcements.

Mauceri: Sharing advice on transition steps for new members, including reading governing documents.

Kornberg: Noting email and business card information

Recess 11pm, May 17, 2011.

Meeting Resumed 10:15 pm, June 21, 2011.

Ostrow: Distributing ballots and reviewing procedures. Explaining that he is the sole remaining member of the Executive Committee. Explaining that his term has not expired, but that he will resign to hold an election for his seat if anyone else is interested. Since no one is, the process proceeds with Ostrow remaining as President.

Vice President of Administration:

Ostrow: Introducing position.

Mauceri: Explaining his experience working with the previous VP Administration, who held more Rules & Elections committee meetings than in years past and accomplished substantial progress.

De Ocampo nominates Robert Menz. Menz declines.

Ferris nominates Mauceri. Mauceri declines.

Mauceri nominates Demmers. Bae seconds. Demmers accepts.

No other nominations.

VOTE COUNT:

14 votes for Demmers.

Vice President for Communication and Outreach:

Ostrow: Introducing position.

Bae nominates Iaderosa. Iaderosa declines.

Kornberg nominates Ferris. Ferris declines.

POINT of INFORMATION

Robbins: Clarifying the roles of this position in comparison to other outreach efforts by other committees.

Ferris: Noting that the executive committee can function without filling this position until next month.

Ostrow nominates McCarthy. McCarthy accepts.

VOTE COUNT:

14 in Favor of Dan McCarthy

Treasurer

Ostrow: Introducing position.

Kornberg nominates Bae. Bae accepts.

VOTE COUNT:

14 in Favor of Nelson Bae

Secretary

Ostrow: Introducing position.

Kornberg: Sharing her experience on the council.

Bae nominates Caitlin Mendoza-Price. Price accepts.

VOTE COUNT:

14 in Favor of Caitlin Mendoza-Price.

During the selection process for all vacant executive committee seats, no member of the public in attendance at the meeting filled out a speaker card or made an oral request to provide public comment on these agenda item.

Meeting adjourned. 11:02pm.