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**EDUCATION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES (draft)**

Tuesday, July 07, 2011 – 7:00 PM

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CERTIFIED COUNCIL #36

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01. CALL TO ORDER. ROLL CALL:

7:05 PM –

Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council (GGPNC) Education Chair, Caitlin Mendoza-Price, called the meeting to order.

Committee Members present (03):

Mendoza-Price, Caitlin - Chair		
Dodge, Marian	Mauceri, Mark (7:10 PM)	Simmons, Debbie
Jolley, Mark	O'Grady, Tomas	Tyler, Justine
Lee, Dorothy	Rodriguez, Mary	

Absent: 6; Dodge, Jolley, Lee, Rodriguez, Simmons, Tyler.
Public / GGPNC Board Members (2): Demmers, Ostrow

Chair, Caitlin Mendoza-Price asked if there was any objection to moving to agenda Item #4 until other committee members arrived; no objections.

02. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

7:05 PM – None.

03. APPROVAL OF MARCH 30, 2011 MEETING MINUTES

8:15 PM –

(Item taken out of order)

MOTION (Mauceri): To approve June 2010 minutes as written, but to augment committee members' attendance based on any previous resignations that were not available/contemplated at time of meeting.

SECOND: (O'Grady).

APPROVED: By consensus.

04. BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011/2012; DISCUSSION AND ACTION AS APPROPRIATE

7:10 PM –

Mauceri arrives.

Mendoza-Price also asked if there were any objection to suspending parliamentary procedure and having an open session given the small number of people present; no objection.

The committee reviewed the previous year’s allocation and expenditures, which was approximately: \$13,900.

Budgeted: \$9,000 (traditional 20% of NC’s \$50K minus 10% to offset NC budget cut down to \$45K). Additional monies were allocated to Education projects given the unique circumstances of available funds last fiscal year, around \$5K in additional funding. The group concurred the upcoming year would be much more “tighter” regarding expenditures.

Mauceri opined that traditionally the committee played a “reactive” role when it came to \$ allocations, usually dividing the budget equally (25%) among the four public schools within GGPNC boundaries (Franklin Avenue Elementary, Los Feliz Elementary, T.S. King Middle School and John Marshall High School). He stated he felt this isn’t a proactive approach with some schools expecting an annual allocation as fait accompli. He believes the allocation process should follow a grant model where each school makes its pitch and shows how the funding will have tangible benefit at the school (ultimately raising the student experience and API scores). In the past, he has been underwhelmed by certain schools’ lack of initiative and follow-up when it came to NC funding.

O’Grady concurred and pointed out the two requests for funding he will introduce are willing to come before the committee or the Board. He expressed frustration with trying to help launch “friends of” 503(c) adjuncts that have proven so successful at Franklin Avenue Elementary, Ivanhoe, and now starting to gain traction at T.S. King Middle School.

O’Grady presented two requests for funding in the upcoming year:

The creation of an edible garden facility at Franklin Elementary once former “bungalows” are removed by the LAUSD thus freeing up land space; total: \$4K. Expansion of an after-school drama program at T.S. King Middle School with Aimee Arts, an organization the GGPNC previously funded for work at the school; total: \$2K.

Mauceri believes T.S. King is the “hub” in a “hub and spoke” system that could enable a viable K-12 public education program within GGPNC boundaries, and if realized, the neighborhood benefit would be extraordinary.

Ostrow (as public) confirmed O’Grady’s assertion a large number of students would be continuing on at T.S. King from Ivanhoe Elementary, something of a paradigm shift from previous years. O’Grady added the administrators at T.S. King believe they’ll see a marked API increase when the results are released.

Demmers (as public) posed questions of whether drainage issues would come into play at Franklin Avenue Elementary. O’Grady felt they would not based on the current plan.

MOTION (Mauceri): To recommend a total committee budget of \$8100 with \$4K and \$2K allocated to Franklin Elementary and T.S King respectively, with the remainder held as contingency funding.

SECOND: (O’Grady).

APPROVED: By consensus.

05. OTHER COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

8:20 PM –

Mauceri stated he felt the Education Committee was at a crossroads and there was some “housekeeping” to do. First in the form of identifying which of the former committee members had formally resigned and which had fell away for various reasons, e.g., Mark Jolley former Vice Principal at T.S. King changed schools and was probably a committee member to help King, but now may have possibly joined a new NC. An effort should nbe made to reach out to all former committee members and get a definitive answer.

Mauceri also suggested Chair, Caitlin Mendoza-Price, meet with the LFIA’s Marilyn Bush, as Bush had a deep background in LAUSD history and protocols and had served as the LFIA’s Education Chair for quite a while.

Demmers suggested seeing if Daven Desai, newly appointed District Representative (and teacher), was interested in joining the committee?

06. ADJOURN

8:30 PM – Motion to adjourn by O’Grady. Seconded by Mauceri; meeting adjourned.