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GREATER GRIFFITH PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
"Your Neighborhood. Your Voice. Your Council"

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

AGENDA

September 21, 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. Quorum Check.
2. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items
3. Reports from Public Officials
4. Reports from Community Organizers
5. Executive Committee Reports
 - a. President's Comments (5 min.)
 - b. Treasurer's Report (Supplement 1) (45 min.):
 - i. Presentation of Finalized Budget for Approval.
 - ii. Discussion and Action as appropriate regarding recommitment, cancellation, or reallocation of the 2008 board allocation of \$10,800.00 for Fire Recovery Signage.
 - c. VP Administration's Report on Rules & Elections Bylaw Revision Progress (5 min.)
 - d. Secretary's Report on Voicemail Options and Discussion & Action as Appropriate on Free Voicemail Options. (10 min.)
 - e. Outreach Update
6. MOTION (Supplement 2): Contribute \$2,000 towards the after school "Theatre Arts" by Aimee Art Productions at the LACER/ENRICH KING afterschool enrichment program at Thomas Starr King Middle School. (Brought by O'Grady, Campbell, Mahli, Vukovic, Kornberg, Mauceri; 30 min.)
7. Committee Reports
 - a. Planning, Zoning & Historic Preservation Committee (Supplement 3): MOTION to Adopt 6 Recommendations in Response to City Planning Commission Signage Approval Authority Recommendations (20 min.)

- b. Green Committee (Supplement 4)
 - i. MOTION: No Gas Blower Campaign Letters (O’Grady; 15 min.)
 - ii. MOTION: To grant \$2,000 to support Eco Tour (O’Grady; 30 min.)
 - iii. Presentation on Best Practices & MOTION: GGPNC Board Members will make a concerted effort to not bring plastic bottled water, single-use plastic bags and Styrofoam containers to board meetings. (Campbell; 15 min.)
- c. Culture & Events Committee
 - i. Joint MOTION of the Outreach and Culture & Events Committees: that the GGPNC support the October 5th Stakeholders Information Gathering regarding Barnsdall Art Park. Event will be hosted by Barnsdall Art Park Foundation in cooperation with EHNC and the Hollywood Arts Council. (5 min.)
 - ii. Discussion and possible action on letter regarding motion to City Council from Arts Parks and Health Committee. (5 min.)
- 8. MOTION (Supplement 5): To send Letter to Councilman LaBonge and Assemblyman Kerkorian regarding the Procedure for Establishing a Neighborhood Council File (15 min.)
- 9. Approval of Meeting Minutes for September 2009 and August 2010 (Supplement 6)
- 10. Other Comments and Announcements
- 11. Adjourn

AGENDAS & PUBLIC COMMENT: Agendas are posted for public review on the Council’s website, the Community Police Center at 1965 Hillhurst Avenue, the Public Library, Los Feliz Branch at 1874 Hillhurst Avenue, the Los Feliz Post Office at 1825 N. Vermont Avenue, ‘Albertson’s’ at 2035 Hillhurst Avenue, ‘Starbucks’ at 1700 N. Vermont Avenue, and possibly other locations. As an entity covered under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting the Neighborhood Council Project Coordinator, Betty Wong Oyama, at (213) 485-1360 or e-mailing Betty.Wong@lacity.org.

To address the Board, the public is requested to fill out a ‘Speaker Card’ on any agenda item prior to the Board taking action on it. Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only at the time the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on matters not appearing on this Agenda within the Board’s subject matter jurisdiction are heard during the Public Comment period, limited to 2 minutes per speaker, unless waived by the Board’s presiding officer.

PROCESS FOR RECONSIDERATION: The Board may reconsider and amend its action on items listed here if that reconsideration takes place immediately following the original action, or at the next regular meeting. The Board, on either of these two days, shall: 1) Make a Motion for reconsideration and, if approved, 2) hear the matter and take an action. If the motion to reconsider an action is to be scheduled at the next meeting following the original action, then two items shall be placed on the agenda for that meeting: 1) A Motion for Reconsideration on the described matter and 2) a [Proposed] Action should the motion to reconsider be approved. A motion for reconsideration can only be made by a Board member who has previously voted on the prevailing side of the original action taken. If a motion for reconsideration is not made on the date the action was taken, then a Board member on the prevailing side of the action must submit a memorandum to the Secretary identifying the matter to be reconsidered and a brief description of the reason(s) for requesting reconsideration at the next regular meeting. The aforesaid shall all be in compliance with the Ralph M. Brown Act governing public entities.

DOCUMENT ACCESS: In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings distributed to a majority or all of the board members in advance of a meeting may be viewed at Los Angeles Public Library Los Feliz Branch (lobby reference shelf), at our website by clicking on the following link: www.ggpnc.org, or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact: secretary@ggpnc.org or call: (323) 908-6054.

SUPPLEMENT 1

Item 5.b: Presentation of Finalized Budget with Discussion and Action as appropriate regarding recommitment, cancellation, or reallocation of the 2008 board allocation of \$10,800.00 for Fire Recovery Signage.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2008 Meeting Minutes Excerpt:

- **PARKS RIVER & OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE:**

- Committee Chair BERNADETTE SOTER moved that **GGPNC make \$10,800 in direct expenditures to underwrite the cost of creating and fabrication Fire Recover signage** and brochures on the recovery process, signs to be placed at affected trailheads in Griffith Park and to be used to post other information when no longer needed to promote fire recovery. Seconded by LOUYSE. ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS.

b. SOTER presented a proposal to reprint a brochure on fire recovery with the GGPNC logo on it and a possible mass mailing to educate people about fire recovery in Griffith Park. SOTER will provide specific costs next month.

SUPPLEMENT 2

Item 6: Motion to grant \$2,000 to fund drama/music at King Middle School After School Program

Project Proposal:

Scope of Work:

Aimee Art Productions: Building Self-Esteem and Literacy Through the Arts, is offering its services as a special introductory offer to Friends of King Middle School to begin a Pilot program in Theatre Arts which would give students in grades 6th-8th an opportunity to experience Drama skills, interpersonal skills, and build their teamwork and self-esteem in astonishing ways with a professional actor/writer/performing artist, culminating in an evening performance for the school community on Friday, Dec. 17th.

Sequencing:

- **12 weeks – Weds. Sept. 22 – Fri. Dec. 17 with show Fri. Dec. 17th early evening**
- **Wednesdays after school 3:30-5:00 PM** – 11 weeks of rehearsal, 1 week of tech
- Production Week – the week of Dec. 13th-17th – rehearsals daily 3:30-5:00 PM, and Friday stay after school until show that evening
- Price: This is roughly a **\$4000 value** (normally a show like this at Franklin Ave. Elementary costs \$3800 with 20-25 students, and at Immaculate Heart cost is \$6000 with 40 students)
- Offered to Friends of King Middle School for the low price of **\$2000 for up to 25 students to participate as a Special Introductory Offer and Pilot Program**
- If more than 25 students sign up, we will add another Teaching Artist onto the project for an **additional \$800** so that students can work in two groups
- If working with 25 students or less, price remains the same, and we request parent volunteers to assist the Teaching Artist so that students may work in small groups as well
- Performance would be an **Original Theatre Piece** created by the students, for the students, using **Text, Music and Movement**, via the use of structured Improvisation games based on the professional Theatre the work of Viola Spolin and Augusta Boal, in which students create characters, conflict, settings, and story using focused games such as “ZipZapZop,” “Give and Take,” “One Word Story,” “Who, What, Where, Why, When,” “Freeze,” “Gibberish,” “Hot Seat,” and more.
- Subject matter would be relevant to students’ daily lives (i.e. **friendship, conflict resolution, life goals, career choices, teen responsibility and peer pressure**)

Provided by Aimee Art Productions:

- High quality **professional Teaching Artist**, experienced with students of all ages and proficient at working with middle school-age students, offering a wealth of knowledge in theatre skills, games, and performance

- **Commercial Liability insurance** via Western Heritage, serving as an umbrella policy to LACER and LAUSD, covering students and AAP staff
- Ability to organize performance and volunteers to create a successful experience for the students and a quality performance
- **Knowledge of school culture** and **experience working with PTA's**, Booster Clubs and parent groups for any necessary assistance
- Simple **props** to assist with the telling of the story

Provided by Friends of King Middle School:

- At least **one parent volunteer at each rehearsal**, to assist with classroom management, bathroom and snack supervision, and small group work
- At least **three parent volunteers at performance** to assist with admission, parking, costumes, and backstage needs
- Rehearsal and performance **space, lighting and sound equipment** (3 microphones onstage, or possibly just one, we need to hear acoustics and student projection)
- **Simple costumes provided from home** or by Friends of King (i.e. all black, or King T-shirts with black pants and tie shoes)
- **Optional:** student or parent volunteers to create **backdrop or set** for performance, perhaps a mural or canvas of some kind, or blocks to create levels (also ok to have a simple blackbox stage feel)

Future Plans and Goals for Collaboration:

- If this pilot program is successful, Aimee Art Productions hopes to build a partnership with Friends of King so that we can embark on Shakespeare, full-length scripted musicals, dance performances, talent shows, and other arts enrichment classes to supplement the work of LACERS and other after-school offerings at King Middle School, in order to further enrich its students in the arts
- If there is a need and desire from stakeholders, Aimee Art Productions can offer its services to Friends of King Middle School for a wide variety of classes in Theatre, Music, Dance, Visual Art, and Interdisciplinary classes (yoga, cooking, gardening) – see our Gourmet Brochure

Local Schools and Programs Currently & Recently Working with Aimee Art Productions:

Franklin Avenue Elementary School, Verdugo Woodlands Elementary School, Glenoaks Elementary School, Immaculate Heart Middle School, 74th Street Elementary School, MonteVista Elementary School, Parkview Elementary, La Primaria School, Mountainview Elementary, Charles Helmers Elementary, Delaney-Wright Fine Arts Preschool, Camelot Kids Preschool, Ivanhoe Elementary, West Hollywood Elementary, Hancock Park Elementary, Marlborough Summer School, Pilgrim Summer School, Studio A Dance, Kids World School, Payne Elementary, Kranz Middle School, Voorhis Elementary, Miramonte Elementary, Maxon Elementary, Cogswell Elementary, Twin Lakes Elementary, Baker Elementary, Madrid Middle School, Music Center of Los Angeles, Precious Blood Elementary, Transfiguration School, St. Casimir's School, Stone Soup Child Care, St. Andrew's School, Faucher Academy, Education-Through-Music – LA, The DaCamera Society, The Core Knowledge Foundation, Valentine Elementary, Carver Elementary, Tulita Elementary, Jefferson Elementary, Alta Vista Elementary, Opal Robinson Elementary, Birney Elementary

SUPPLEMENT 3

Item 6.a: MOTION to Adopt 6 Recommendations in Response to City Planning Commission Signage Policy

DRAFT CITY PLANNING COMMISSION DECISIONS 8/26/2010 RE HOLLYWOOD SIGNAGE SUPPLEMENTAL USE DISTRICT (HSSUD) REVISED ORDINANCE, WITH AMENDMENTS, REFERRED BY CITY COUNCIL 7/13/10, CF NO. 07-2858--S-1, CPC-2007-5856-SN. [9/7/10, 2 pm, Tentatively Planning and Land Use Management Committee will consider this proposed ordinance and the CPC recommendations.]

[Material below, written 8/27/10, is based on Richard Spicer's notes taken during the meeting, which started about 8:45 am and ended a little after 1 pm. Official statements of decisions by CPC not available

until later. Planning Department and city attorney staff will present the CPC decisions, the staff recommendations, and their research into the other recommendations to PLUM and City Council in Sept. A few edits made 9/8 after 9/7 conference call: Kevin and Blake (Plan Dept) and Kerr, Nyla, Richard (GGPNC).]

Decisions of CPC on 8/26/10 (Vote 6 to 1):

1. Limit the total number of super graphic signs in the HSSUD to 60. (See Background below.)
2. Limit future super graphics in the HSSUD to two “nodes” in vicinity of (1) Vine between Hollywood and Sunset Blvds. and (2) Hollywood and Highland. Boundaries to be further defined by Planning Department staff.
3. Incentive to remove existing signs for replacement with super graphic signs changed from 1 to 1.75 to 1 to 2.00.
4. Incentive to allow greater coverage of walls signs.
5. Incentive to reduce roof top signs with full panels, in stead of 1/3 panels or no panels (“historic style”).
6. Preferences/recommendations to be research by Planning Department and City Attorney
7. Require that future building and development proposals that involve signage come to the CPC for review, including not just development proposals required to be reviewed under current law (e.g., variance requests) but also “by right” projects so that the design, locations, size, etc. of the proposed signage will be part of the review from beginning to the end of the development process.
8. Require that certain per cent of signage in development agreements be set aside for cultural events and services.
9. Encourage that persons proposing developments have their projects reviewed by a design unit within the city, urban design studio, for the relationship between the design of the proposed building and the design of the signage. Part of the research is to determine the extend of the resources at this unit, currently one staff and a few volunteers, to perform the proposed responsibility.

Background:

Vote. Because the CPC voted for the proposed ordinance, with amendments, AND added the above conditions, the City Council to pass its proposed ordinance, with amendments as sent to the CPC, will need 10 instead of 8 votes.

In the HSSUD, super graphics signs currently on buildings and approved in the process by November 2008: currently on buildings: 35; approved in the process: 13; total 48. The 60 proposed cap by CPC includes the 48 so allows for 12 more. Most of the 48, but not all are in the two “node” areas and in central Hollywood.

Caps. The Commissioners discussed a cap of 75 and not more than three or four more in each of the two nodes. Woo favored a smaller # of additional super graphics. He did not support the cap of 60, but did support the other provisions above.

The staff presentations, including power point, included summary points and details on the location of super graphics, existing and proposed, in specific parts of the HSSUD map. Community Renewal Agency, Hollywood, gave oral presentation on past and present relationships between proposed CRA related developments and signage.

CRA Board approves signage arrangements on proposed developments in its area, including some take down signage in exchange for new signs and/or in lieu payments. CRA and Planning staff covered ranges of revenue from signage and numbers of signs, including super graphics in the HSSUD, which is most of the the Hollywood Community Plan area.

CPC Public Hearing. Approximately 15 to 20 persons spoke, including representatives from two other NCs. On behalf of GGPNC, Richard submitted the sign letter with 11 points, dated March 17, 2009, and emphasized in two minute statement provisions that should apply in the HSSUD--including notification to NCs and abutting property owners of proposed signs, effective enforcement with funding and fines, and general opposition to super graphic, digital, and roof top signs.

Points made by others at the CPC hearing, included doing a study of occupancy and vacancy in buildings in the HSSUD and consider proposed developments on their merits, not on signage,

Hollywood Chamber of Commerce made 10 points in letter for managing and quality control on super graphic signs. Some others spoke in favor of the proposed ordinance, including the bans, while others spoke against the ordinance and its bans on super graphics because of the potential for harm to encouraging development and improvements in the economy.

Recommendation 1: Require that the City Planning Commission review and approve all signage--including signage on land, existing buildings, and proposed on new building--covered by the HSSUD adopted ordinance and in all other signage supplemental use districts (ssuds), including in downtown Los Angeles and ssuds proposed in the future.

Background. That authority would be consistent with past GGPNC Board recommendation that public notice and review be required on proposed signage on existing land and buildings and on proposed buildings and developments. The CPC has developed substantial knowledge on signage on and off existing and proposed buildings during its several meetings and hearings in 2008, 2009, and 2010 on the proposed HSSUD ordinance and amendments, as well as on the draft comprehensive sign ordinance and several interim signage bans.

The Planning Department and the Community Redevelopment Agency each have similar processes and standards for reviewing some signs, including super graphics and roof top signs, but not all signs. Those reviews include required evaluations and results from building and safety and fire departments on super graphics and roof top signs, including fire safety, engineering, location on building, visibility, and some on lighting hours and intensity (still evolving).

Recommendation 2: Limit New Signage in the large HSSUD Primarily to Two "Nodes" in Central Hollywood and current signs in Central Hollywood.

Background. Most of the current super graphics signs in the HSSUD are in the vicinity of two "nodes": (1) Vine between Hollywood and Sunset Blvds. and (2) Highland between Hollywood and Sunset Blvds.

Recommendation 3: Continue to oppose new super graphic and roof top signs, consistent with past GGPNC Board Recommendations.

Recommendation 4: For any new signs--including super graphic, wall, and roof top--require reduction of current signs, such as conventional billboards, as required in the HSSUD ordinance approved by the City Planning Commission in early 2009.

Recommendation 5: Support the HSSUD Ordinance, with amendments, sent by the City Council to the CPC in Mid-July, 2010.

Background. This ordinance bans most super graphic and Electronic Message Displays Displays as Wall Signs. It removes the Sign Reduction Program associated with the construction of super graphics because under this ordinance new super graphic signs are banned, except for those approved before November 2008. Wall signs are allowed under certain amount and size criteria.

Recommendation 6: In the event an entity erects a different signage than granted a permit, then that permit is considered revoked and the entity and existing signage subject to the cancellation of the permit.

SUPPLEMENT 4

Item 7.b: Green Committee Motions

No Gas Blower Letter to Lowes Corporation, Home Depot Corporation, and Orchard Supply Corporation:

The Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council and its stakeholders have been working with the City of Los Angeles's Street Services Division to ensure compliance with Los Angeles Municipal Code 112.4:

"No gas powered blower shall be used within 500 feet of a residence at anytime. Both the user of such a blower as well as the individual who contracted for the services of the user, if any, shall be subject to the requirements of and penalty provisions for this ordinance. 2/13/1998."

Many of our stakeholders, as a result of our "say no to gas blowers" outreach campaign, no longer permit gas blowers to be used on their property. However, gardeners are understandably confused as gas blowers are for sale at all of our local Orchard Supply Hardware stores here in the Los Angeles area. These hardworking gardeners purchase what they believe to be a machine that they may use anywhere and are then understandably frustrated when they are told that they are indeed breaking local laws.

We respectfully ask, as a public service, that you post in a conspicuous location near where gasoline powered blowers are for sale a notice to the effect of:

LAMC 112.4: No gas powered blower shall be used within 500 feet of a residence at anytime in the City of Los Angeles. Both the user of such a blower as well as the individual who contracted for the services of the user, if any, shall be subject to the requirements of and penalty provisions for this ordinance. 2/13/1998.

Only electric blowers are legal to use within 500 feet of a residence.

We think that Orchard Supply Hardware, as a good corporate citizen, has an obligation to assist local government whenever it can in ensuring compliance with local laws. Your customers and our stakeholders would surely appreciate reminders when they are purchasing items at your stores that are illegal to use in some areas.

Additionally, as you have both electric and gasoline powered blowers for sale in all of your LA stores, we feel you will suffer no negative financial impact because of this, as your customers surely will simply choose the electric option instead.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. If you have any questions or need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Tomas O'Grady, the chair of our Green Committee at Tomasogrady@ggpnc.org or (323) 387 3866. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Ron Ostrow, Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council (By: Tomàs O'Grady, Chair, GGPNC Green Committee)

No Gass Blower Letter to the United States Post Office, Starbucks Corporation, and Alcove Restaurant:

We have received complaints from our stakeholders that gas blowers are being used in the maintenance of the property located at 1929 Hillhurst Ave. (Alcove Café & Bakery). It is illegal to use gasoline powered leaf blowers within 500 feet of a residence. Los Angeles Municipal Code 112.4 states:

No gas powered blower shall be used within 500 feet of a residence at anytime. Both the user of such a blower as well as the individual who contracted for the services of the user, if any, shall be subject to the requirements of and penalty provisions for this ordinance. 2/13/1998.

Many of our stakeholders, as a result of our "say no to gas blowers" outreach campaign, no longer permit gas blowers to be used on their property.

We respectfully ask that you ensure that your gardener no longer uses gas blowers in violation of LAMC 112.04. The alternatives are a simple rake and broom or electric powered blowers. We feel that as a

popular local establishment, Alcove could be setting an example for Los Feliz and all of Los Angeles in its commitment to clean air and quieter streets.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. If you have any questions on this matter or need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Tomas O'Grady, the chair of our Green Committee at

Tomasogrady@ggpnc.org or (323) 387 3866.

Sincerely,

Ron Ostrow, Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council (By: Tomàs O'Grady)

No Gas Blower Letter to the City of Los Angeles Street Services:

Working together with your office, our stakeholders, and various neighborhood groups, the Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council is very pleased to report that as a result of our "say no to gas blowers" outreach campaign, many of our stakeholders, if not the majority, no longer permit gas blowers to be used on their property. We have some streets that are 100 percent gas blower free. We thank you Mr Harris and your office for your willingness to work with us, particularly Larry Morales, Jeannie Chavez, and of course yourself. Your friendly demeanor and professionalism have contributed to our success. The warning letters that have come from your office have worked.

However, we now believe that we have accomplished what is possible through outreach. We would like to see the remaining violators be reminded and cited if necessary by an investigator from your department.

As per your conversation with Tomas O'Grady, chair of the our green committee, we would like to move forward with the option of paying for up to 13 hours of labor (using one investigator to patrol the GGPNC area) at an approximate cost of no greater than \$500 to the Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council. If this plan is implemented, the GGPNC will pay through the city transfer. Councilman LaBonge will also receive a copy of this letter, so that his office may assist in facilitating this. Our only request is that they work closely with our green committee regarding timing, as we would like to let our stakeholders know that enforcement is indeed happening. While this may seem counterproductive, our goal is to simply get the message across to those remaining people that LAMC 112.04 is being enforced. We would like to give our stakeholders, particularly our hardworking gardeners, an opportunity to comply without receiving a citation.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. Please contact Tomas O'Grady, the chair of our Green Committee at Tomasogrady@ggpnc.org or (323) 387 3866 to iron out the details.

Sincerely,

Ron Ostrow, Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council (By: Tomàs O'Grady, Chair, GGPNC Green Committee)

SUPPLEMENT 5

Item 8: MOTION: To send Letter to Councilman LaBonge and Assemblyman Kerkorian regarding the Procedure for Establishing an Neighborhood Council File

Dear Councilmen Kerkorian and LaBonge,

The Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council may be interested in opening a Neighborhood Council File with the City Council as allowed under council file 08-0942 (<http://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=08-0942>). On January 13, 2009, the City Council adopted various actions, put forth by your committee, under Council file No. 08-0942. These included approving the process by which Neighborhood Councils can initiate Council Files. According to 08-0942 there are three main steps, including:

1. Completing a Neighborhood Council File Submission Sheet and attaching documentation of the Neighborhood Council Board Action.
2. Filing the Neighborhood Council Submission Sheet and attachment with the City Clerk.
3. Filing of Form 54 by all Board members on the Neighborhood Council Submission Sheet with the City Ethics Commission.

According to the City Clerk's office, final decisions have not been made regarding the format or the content of Form 54. The City Clerk is thus unable to execute step # 3 and therefore neighborhood councils are unable at this time to file a council file, despite the passage of 08-0942 which empowers us to do just that.

The Neighborhood Council File system is a pilot project which we thus assume ends on January 13, 2011 (using the 2 year pilot project rule), so we ask for prompt attention to this matter so that neighborhood councils may be afforded the opportunity to open a file.

Thank you for your consideration and quick attention.

Sincerely,

Ron Ostrow, President, Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council (By Tomàs O'Grady, Chair, Green Committee, Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council)

SUPPLEMENT 6

Item 9: Approval of Past Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order. Quorum Check.

7:15pm

Present: Ostrow, Kornberg, DeMonte, Wilson, O'Grady, VanKeuren Campbell, Mauceri, Arslanian, Napier, Gardner

Excused: Nubaravacharyan, Hyams, Masi, Khanjian, Masi

Absent: Vukovic

Late: Mims, DeOcampo

2. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

Jack Martinez, Los Angeles Arts & Athletics Alliance: Reporting on Silver Lake Jubilee, which was a successful event in part thanks to support from the GGPNC and other local NCs. \$6,000 raised for local non-profits.

Campbell: Reporting on success of environmentally responsible festival efforts. Diverted 4,000 lbs of waste and provided free water station.

O'Grady: Sharing his experience at this fantastic event. Thanking organizers for making the green efforts they did.

Public Comment

John F. John: Commenting that one full agenda available for the public does not fit spirit of the brown act.

Kornberg: Explaining that the Secretary is printing from home, footing full cost of this and other items while finances are cleared up.

3. Reports from Public Officials

Mary Rodriguez from Councilman LaBonge's Office:

- Introducing Carolyn Ramsey, Public Relations
- Reporting on recent arson in the area, at least 12 fires set, suspect in custody 2 weeks ago, released for lack of evidence, rearrested and re-released, monitoring him now. 30 years old, white male, blond matted hair, wearing t-shirt and shorts.
- Recapping community gatherings: Tracy St Residents Association in July, National Night Out at O'Grady home and Amesbury Road residents, Hoover Walk Block Party two weeks ago also a huge success.
- Thanking organizers who got Marshall students to take care of Tracy St trees.
- Reporting utility cuts under discussion – working with city to get repairs made in a timely manner.
- Noting pictures on display at Korean Cultural Center through August 27th

Wilson: Inquiring about budget cuts – how can we understand how it might effect us in this neighborhood?

Rodriguez: Unable to provide specific information at this time.

Ramsey: Trying to press departments to maintain services. LaBonge created beautification staff, as an example, of how we can fill the gaps. Call if you see services slipping.

Rodriguez: Noting that her office did hear medians throughout the city will not get the normal level of care.

Richard Spicer: Marshall School Track still not open. Remembering that LaBonge's office requested neighborhood volunteers. Wondering if perhaps Department of Recreation & Parks might work with LaBonge on this issue.

Rodriguez: Some interest expressed, but school is going through so many changes and cuts, including personnel responsible for the field.

4. Reports from Community Organizations

Robert Menz, Kiwanis: Sharing details of No Charge Dental Clinic for kids (middle school and younger) at Selma through Hollywood/Los Feliz Kwanis.

5. Presentation from Recreation & Parks re: Haunted Hayride

Vicki Israel: Informing of event – LA Haunted Hayride – in Griffith Park at the Old Zoo and Parking Lot 2 by the Merry Go Round through 1031 Productions starting October 8th from 7 -10:30pm weeknights and 7pm –12am weekends. Featuring Halloween attractions, environmentally responsible measures including 0 waste goal. Event was held at Gillette Ranch last year and was very successful.

Joe Celices: Providing additional details: 9 – 11 security guards each night, along with park ranger and LAFD personnel. Park Ranger the central organizer. Family-oriented event. Patrons required to purchase wrist band to enter. Los Feliz Blvd will not be advertised as an entrance. Northern Zoo Drive Entrance and 134 exit at Victory will be emphasized. Exiting traffic will go out through Autry Museum.

Website: www.losangeleshauntedhayride.com

Question Period:

Kornberg: Clarifying that set amount (\$80k) goes to Griffith Park. No estimate for total revenue.

Wilson: Clarifying that revenues will be spent to cover traffic, park ranger. Roughly 1,000 people expected each night (300 cars). Admission is tiered depending on night and individual. First project with this production company.

Arslanian: Clarifying that event includes hay maze and carnival rides. Hay ride will be in the Old Zoo. No pedestrian traffic in Old Zoo. Carnival rides will be on the asphalt by the parking lot. Concerned that the estimated 14,000 people who will come create a considerable cost.

DeMonte: Clarifying that the admission price covers everything but food concessions.

Campbell: Clarifying that a BioDiesel truck pulls hayride. City transportation in negotiations with production company to extent MTA services.

O'Grady: Applauding 0 waste goal.

Mims: Clarifying city expenses covered and \$80k, no less, no more will go to the park.

Israel: Building on earlier comments from Mary Rodriguez concerning budget cuts. Budget cuts will be felt in the park. Lights were out in Vermont canyon and Fern Dell. They are now back on because the bulbs in question are no longer made. Recreation and Parks paid to get them fixed. Bureau of Street Lighting responsible for their continued maintenance, working to get them changed to low voltage lights that can be more easily maintained in the future.

Ostrow: Inquiring about fire in the park

Israel: 2 acres burned. Same suspect as other fires in the neighborhood.

6. MOTION: The GGPNC endorses the Sierra Club's LA Beyond Coal Campaign and encourages the LA City Council to support a plan to eliminate coal from the electricity supply of Los Angeles.

MOTION: Campbell so moves. Same letter as that read into the record in the July meeting.

O'Grady seconds.

Question period:

Mims: Expressing support for the concept of curbing fossil fuel use, including coal. Concerned about existing contracts and capital costs associated with a switch from coal to renewable energy sources.

Requesting additional economic analysis.

Campbell: Explaining that LADWP will be on top of this process of contract adjustment. Sierra Club seeking grass roots support - important to motivate this progress. Cost of coal is rising. Real cost of coal was always high.

Chrissy Scarborough, Sierra Club: Utility looks at leases as an asset – they can sell them and put money towards renewable energy. Significant costs associated with coal including risk that EPA will shut these plants down – there's a precedent for this in LADWP's current contracts. Once EPA puts regulations on these plants the asset is devalued. AB 32 will produce 10 billion dollars in fines, for example. May be

prudent to divest now rather than once these plants are shut down. Additional upside in local job creation. Economic analysis is break even by 2020.

Mims: Clarifying that this motion basically represents taking a philosophical position.

Discussion:

Mauceri: Remembering that at the last GGPNC board meeting the DWP presentation from Greg Bartz included a similar proposal.

DeMonte: Expressing skepticism that the EPA will come down hard on these coal plants because this is an important industry in many states.

Gardner: Noting that the letter focuses on problems with coal and then calls for doubling speed on renewable energy increases, but doesn't say much about wind and solar and so possibly ends up encouraging nuclear power. Suggesting it may be more effective to encourage more rooftop solar in the city. Voting in favor, but concerned about unintended consequences.

Wilson: Hard to make a criticism, because we're not against pollution. Letter is well written, but it's philosophical not tangible. And we may not be effective in this arena. Supporting it, but concerned this is not the best use of our time.

Arslanian: Agreeing with Wilson. Comes from good intentions, but who's interests are being represented?

Mims: This has some value for the council as an educational experience. Adopting a position and sending a letter may have a marginal impact.

O'Grady: Multiple NCs involved. Telephone books a topic of Green Committee activity. Spent \$26k at home to do this himself.

Gardner: Letter writers consider advocating decreasing charges to solar panel owners who produce more energy than they use.

Campbell: President of City Council has said that he is in favor but looking for community organizations to voice support.

Ostrow: There's been consensus expressed – if we're worried about wasting the time of the council, we should stop defending our motivations unnecessarily. Stick to the merits of the matter at hand.

Question Period Ends. Wilson Objects.

Wilson: Corporate powers looking to take advantage of the greening too – we need to keep track of that as well.

Vote on Motion to Endorse Letter of Support for Beyond Coal Campaign

Abstain: Wilson, Arslanian

In Favor: Kornberg, DeOcampo, Mims, Gardner, Mauceri, O'Grady, Campbell, Napier, DeMonte

Motion Carries by Majority Vote

7. Executive Committee Reports

a. Outreach

i. MOTION: Letter Opposing Proposed BONC Notification Rules

MOTION: to send the following objections to BONC's proposed Notification Rules:

Kornberg moves that: The Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council opposes Resolution numbers 2 and 4 set forth by the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners.

Policy Number 2 states that "If a Neighborhood Council has a website and/or stakeholder email database, the Neighborhood Council shall also post all notices of meetings/agenda required under the Brown Act, including Board and standing committee agendas, on the Neighborhood Council's website as well as distribute these agendas to their stakeholders through their email database pursuant to the time line requirements under the Brown Act."

The GGPNC has as many as 15 meetings each month and requiring an email each time runs contrary to effective Outreach practices. Sending out 15 emails every month will most definitely cause disinterest and annoyance among our stakeholders. Our purpose is to get people involved and serve their community. This policy will only cause negative effects and an email each time is tantamount to harassment.

Policy number 4 states that "Neighborhood Councils shall notify the Department of (a) the physical posting sites for their Board and committee meeting, (b) their website address, if and (c) confirm with the Department whether they use a stakeholder database to distribute their agendas. Neighborhood Councils shall be required to provide this notification on a form approved by the Department. A Neighborhood Council's posting site must be approved in writing by the Department, and a Neighborhood Council may request any changes by submitting an additional form."

Most of the Governing Board and Committee members are volunteers who hold full time jobs and work long hours. Creating this extra burden will not only put members at a disadvantage, but it will also create unnecessary extra work. Just like the public, we want our members to be encouraged and motivated to help their community, and by enforcing this policy, we are going to discourage members who don't have the extra time to receive approvals. One of the purposes of the Neighborhood Council is to step forward and better the community, and not worry about canceling a meeting because proper approval wasn't received. It is our due diligence to serve the community and this policy will definitely delay that goal.

Campbell seconds.

Question Period:

Wilson: Questioning the assertion that we have 15 meetings a month.

Mauceri: Reviewing content of proposed letter.

Gardner: Questioning whether the GGPNC is even bound by BONC's recommendations.

Public Comment:

Richard Spicer: Agreeing that this is objectionable. Suggesting that we include what we already do (communications, website, etc.) in the letter to demonstrate the objections is not out of laziness.

Discussion:

Gardner: Noting that BONC has been in control of NCs and DONE had authority over NCs. Sharing experience as co-chair of Atwater Village NC when posting took a lot of time. Commending current Executive Committee for trying to comply with rules.

Ostrow: Clarifying that NCs relationship to BONC is unclear and that BONC has yet to demonstrate its authority on this point.

Wilson: Suggesting that emailing the database isn't that onerous.

Mims: Concerned about BONC trying to dictate where postings takes place and DONE approving them, because one of our primary responsibilities is outreach – the methods of doing that are best left to the NCs.

Mauceri: Agreeing with Mims. Concerned these requirements inundate stakeholders and dilute effectiveness.

Arslanian: Objecting to the suggestion for 9 posting places. Noting that the GGPNC has approved 3 because 5 reliable secure places were unavailable.

DeMonte: Explaining that at the BONC meeting where they passed this they only discussed 7 posting places and expressing the view that though it was passed unanimously it will not be enforced.

Mims: Opining that physical posting is archaic and that emailing is the norm and for good reason, but when Bruce Carroll was responsible for this he was very careful to email only frequently enough so that it would be read.

Discussion ends. Gardner Objects.

Vote on Motion to Oppose BONC Posting Recommendations

In Favor: Kornberg, DeOcampo, Mauceri, Mims, O'Grady, Campbell, Arslanian, Napier, Wilson, DeMonte

Opposed: Gardener

Motion Carrier by Majority Vote.

b. President

Ostrow: Announcing timelines for filling vacancies.

Timeline for PROS Chair: application deadline extended to 9/24. Special Meeting on 10/5 at 7:30pm at Ranger house. 10/19 Executive Committee decision.

Timeline for Religious Representative: 9/24 application deadline, presentations and vote at Governing Board Meeting on 10/19.

c. Secretary

Kornberg:

- Reminding board member that all communication must flow through @ggpnc.org accounts and that she will provide all possible assistance to those still in the transition from personal email to official email.
- Sharing good news that custody of the key to the Citibank Meeting Room has been transferred to her so that the GGPNC may have free use of the space whenever possible.

8. Committee Reports

d. Transportation

John John: Reporting on completion of traffic light at Finley and stop sign at Rodney & Kingswell. With the close of those two initiatives, the Transportation Committee is now pursuing a new campaign to upgrade traffic light at Franklin. First step is the traffic study.

MOTION: that the GGPNC board authorize sending the following letter LADOT and CD4 office and the CD11 (City Transportation Committee Chairman):

Due to ongoing and increasing congestion of eastbound traffic on Franklin Avenue, which causes backups past Mariposa and encourages drivers to shortcut north through residential streets between Kenmore and New Hampshire, the GGPNC requests that the LADOT conduct a traffic study at the intersection of Vermont and Franklin with the intention of possibly upgrading the traffic signal to provide left and right turn arrows for eastbound traffic on Franklin.

Wilson moves to adopt letter. DeMonte seconds.

John: Explaining the letter will be sent to DOT, CD4.

Question Period:

Campbell: Supporting the idea of alleviating traffic through promoting other transportation. Wondering what efforts have been made to expand Hollywood DASH on Sundays.

John: Answering that no effort to expand DASH service has been made in conjunction with this issue, but more generally efforts have been made in the past.

Discussion:

Wilson: Supporting the tactic here to keep it very specific. City Councilman has said we “live in a pass through area.” This will be a long process and this is the beginning.

No Objection. Motion Passed by Consensus.

e. Public Safety: MOTION to Allocate \$600 to Tracy Street [Neighborhood Watch Signage](#)

MOTION: To Allocate Up To \$600 towards cost of Signs and Sign Installation for the Tracy Street Neighborhood Watch

Kornberg: moves. Napier seconds.

Andrea Iaderosa, Public Safety Chair: Introducing the motion and David Farmer.

David Farmer, Tracy Street Neighbors Association: This is an example of neighbors taking care of each other – the least expensive form of crime fighting is crime prevention.

Question Period:

Mims: Where will they be placed?

Farmer: Along Tracy St from Hyperion to Talmadge, possibly neighboring streets as well. All in compliance with city posting rules – all on public property.

Ostrow: Clarifying that \$600 is the total cost, so the GGPNC would be paying for the entire project. To date the neighborhood association has not collected dues or raised funds.

Farmer: \$513 to get 10 signs. Remainder of funds will be used towards installation. Farmer will personally cover the remainder.

Ostrow: Questioning if they can only document \$513, can we allocate \$600?

O'Grady: Explaining that the council can pass a motion for "up to" \$600 and then invoices would be submitted.

Mims: Noting that LADOT will provide installation vendors.

Public Comment:

Richard Spicer: Concerned that the sign says to call the police dept but doesn't give a number.

Farmer: Explaining that these signs are pre-made and generic. Members can be given the right numbers to call.

Discussion:

O'Grady: Recommending Farmer and the neighborhood organization as reliable and diligent

Farmer: Sharing that local LAPD officer gave this sign to use as an example and endorses this effort

Arslanian: Pleased people coming forth out of the community with these projects.

Kornberg: Sharing that Dan Sandman supported this type of project.

Mims: Check with DOT about installation costs

Wilson: Thanking Farmer and laderosa for putting the program together.

Gardner: Suggesting money will need to be put towards graffiti removal because the signs are close to the high school.

No Objection. Motion Passed by Consensus.

f. Planning, Zoning & Historic Preservation (5 Minutes Each, Sponsored by Masi, Drafted by Spicer, see Supplement 4)

i. MOTION: Allocate up to \$500 for Printing DHCP Documents

MOTION:

DeMonte moves to allocate up to \$500 for printing. Wilson seconds.

Richard Spicer: Referring members to background information in Agenda. Revised plan is here. EIR coming. Land Use planned. We have 6 copies of this new version. PZHP and GGPNC's previous comments were incorporated.

No Objection. Motion Passed by Consensus.

ii. MOTION: Recommending 180 day review period for HCP Documents

MOTION:

DeMonte moves. Mims seconds.

Richard Spicer: Providing background information – GGPNC's previous recommendations took 6 months. Other NCs need this time as well.

No Objections. Passed by consensus.

iii. **MOTION: CIS regarding Signs & Billboards**

MOTION:

DeMonte moves. Wilson seconds.

Richard Spicer: Providing background on previously adopted CIS. This is an easy way to get the point across, especially if we can't be there to represent the board in person.

Ostrow: Clarifying that this is a motion for previously written and submitted documents to be resubmitted.

No Objections. Motion Passed by Consensus.

g. Arts & Culture: Discussion and Action as Appropriate regarding Funding Proposal for Independent Shakespeare Company

MOTION: To Support Independent Shakespeare Company's Griffith Park productions with a grant of \$5,000 as previously agendized and discussed.

Arslanian so moves. Wilson seconds.

Question Period:

DeMonte: Clarifying with David Melville that there are still outstanding bills to pay in order to satisfy our accounting and documentation requirements.

Campbell: Asking Melville about cost increases and budget cuts this year in the move to Griffith Park

David Melville: Griffith Park is more expensive than Barnsdall was. So the company is performing two weeks fewer and Recs & Parks have reduced costs. Marketing budget also cut. Fortunately big audiences showing up anyway.

Discussion:

O'Grady: Arts & Drama being cut at LAUSD. This number is too high when we need to allocate funds towards school programs. Suggesting \$1,200.

Kornberg: Expressing support for this project and concern over limited funds. Suggesting that a vote for this project is warranted but will necessitate pulling support from any future Arts & Culture initiatives.

Arslanian: Arguing that this is free to kids – this is educational. This is more important than ever as arts are being cut at LAUSD. Non-Profits filling the gap and rising to the occasion.

Wilson: Agreeing that because arts are being cut, we need this.

Campbell: Important to support this event. We should contribute more than Silver Lake because it brings people to our community. Suggesting \$2,500.

Mauceri: Disagreeing with O'Grady. We took a 10% hit. Moves to reduce \$5,000 by 10%.

Motion to Amend:

Mauceri moves to reduce by 10% to \$4,500. Wilson seconds.

Gardner: Asking for clarification as to what line item in the budget this would come out of
Ostrow: Clarifying that this would come from Outreach Events, which was allocated \$16,000 in our placeholder budget.

No Objection. Amendment Adopted by Consensus.

Continued Discussion of Motion for \$4,500.

O'Grady: Looking for a greater reduction. This is a huge chunk to take at the beginning of the year. They put their logo in the program to obligate us. There was no authorization for the use of our logo.

Ostrow: Clarifying there is no coercion, and that if we wish to have corrective action taken for the unauthorized use of our logo we can have a separate discussion.

Mauceri: Explaining history of previous discussions on this point.

Ostrow: Clarifying that at a previous meeting the board was told that that if the GGPNC didn't get in the program it would be in a curtain speech. This was their choice to put this in their program. It is not relevant to the decision to fund this event that they used the logo and we can discuss our authority to vigorously pursue any attempt to defraud in a separate discussion.

DeMonte: Expressing her view that the use of the logo was not malicious.

Ostrow: Ruling any further discussion of the use of the logo Out of Order.

O'Grady objects.

Vote on Amended Motion to Fund \$4,500 to Independent Shakespeare Company

Abstention: Campbell

In Favor: Kornberg, DeOcampo, Mauceri, Gardner, Mims, Arslanian, Napier, Wilson, DeMonte

Opposed: O'Grady

Amended Motion Passes by Majority Vote.

9. MOTION: To Amend Bylaws to Include a Table of Contents and Index

MOTION: To Amend Bylaw to Add Table of Contents and Index

DeOcampo Moves. Mauceri seconds.

Discussion:

Mims: These are not Bylaws. These are not a Bylaw Amendment. Motion out of order.

Mauceri: This issue was discussed in committee. The thought was that this was the most prudent path in the absence of clear definition of what constitutes a bylaw from the city attorney.

Mims: Supporting this as a tool, but it's not a Bylaw Amendment

Wilson: Agreeing that this motion is not changing the Bylaws. It's changing the Table of Contents to the Bylaws.

Ostrow: Clarifying other NCs have this.

Mauceri: This makes it easier for the committee to operate.

DeMonte: BONC recommending all NCs have Table of Contents for their Bylaws.

Motion to Amend:

Mims: The Bylaws are a document. The items in question are a tool to read that document. Amended Motion to approve items for the Bylaws and that any reproduction include those items. Wilson seconds. of Contents Away from the Bylaws they still exist.

Objections from Mauceri.

Kornberg: Experience in DONE approval process suggests that approval as a Bylaw Amendment is the path of least resistance.

Vote on Amendment:

Abstention: DeMonte

In Favor: Mims, Gardner, Arslanian, Napier, Wilson

Opposed: Kornberg, DeOcampo, O'Grady, Campbell, Mauceri, Ostrow

Vote on Original Motion (Requires Super-Majority)

Mims Objects.

Motion Fails to Pass for Lack of Super-Majority

10. Approval of Past Meeting Minutes

MOTION: to adopt July Meeting Minutes

DeMonte moves. Kornberg seconds. No Objection. Motion Passed by Consensus.

11. Other Comments and Announcements

Napier: Big Blue M progress: Tiling ceremony on August 26th and October 21st unveiling, 10 am at Marshall on the corner.

Arslanian: Sharing Culture & Arts Committee activity, including Barnsdall ground breaking.

12. Adjourn

10:03 pm.