



Greater Valley Glen Council ("GVGC")



13654 Victory Blvd., #136, Valley Glen, CA 91401

www.greatervalleyglencouncil.org

REGULAR VIRTUAL BOARD MEETING

Minutes

January 4, 2021

VIRTUAL MEETING TELECONFERENCING NUMBER FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

In conformity with the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 (MARCH 17, 2020) and due to concerns over COVID-19, the Greater Valley Glen Council meeting will be conducted entirely telephonically. Every person wishing to attend and/or comment at this meeting must **dial (669) 900-6833** and **enter 891 0503 2935** and **then press #** to join the meeting. You may join the meeting as early as 6:45 p.m. Instructions on how to sign up for public comment will be given to listeners at the start of the meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Officers

Anthony Bethel	President
Cosmo Moore	Vice President
Andrea Schmitt	Treasurer
Joanne D'Antonio	Secretary

Board Members

Leslie Aguirre	At-Large Rep	Artur Manasyan	Youth Rep
Joseph Barmettler	District 4 Rep	Jah Milton	At-Large Rep
Anthony Bethel	District 1 Rep	Cosmo Moore	District 4 Rep
Joanne D'Antonio	At-Large Rep	Sloan Myrick	District 5 Rep
Margie Curtis	At-Large Rep	Kristin Robinson	At-Large Rep
September Forsyth	At-Large Rep	Andrea Schmitt	District 6 Rep
Jonathan George	District 5 Rep	Robin Shafer	At-Large Rep
Walter Hall	At-Large Rep	Alex Silva	District 1 Rep
Heidi Harrison	District 2 Rep	Anthony Sipp	District 6 Rep
Mickey Jannol	At-Large Rep	Krista Sipp	At-Large Rep
Andrea Jones	At-Large Rep	Dan Stueve	At-Large Rep

Items with a heading followed by an asterisk () indicate there are possible motions for all listed Motions that follow. Motions are followed by a second, Public comment, Board comment/discussion, and other actions including a Call for the question, and Roll Call vote.*



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Item 1 Pledge of Allegiance.

Item 2 Call to Order at 7:02 p.m. and Roll Call. 18 present, 4 absent (Aguirre, Curtis, Forsyth, Silva) **Quorum achieved.**

Item 3 Chair instructions for Public Comment.

Item 4 * Approval of December 7, 2020 Regular Board Meeting Minutes approved as submitted. (Bethel, D'Antonio) **Motion passed.** 18 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 4 absent (Aguirre, Curtis, Forsyth, Silva), 0 recused.

Item 5 President Bethel announced that Leslie Aguirre has resigned from the Board. * Nomination of Michael Hjelmstad for a District 2 Board Seat * (Bethel, Harrison) Motion Passed. 18 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 3 absent (Curtis, Forsyth, Silva)

Note: Vacant seats consist of one District 2 Rep, and two District 3 Reps at the time of Agenda. Per the Bylaws Article V, Section 6, any Board member may nominate a stakeholder to the President and the President will submit the nomination for the next Board meeting's agenda. Stakeholders shall meet the same eligibility requirements that apply to the position they would fill, as are required of elected Board Members.

Item 6 Government Representative and LAPD Reports.

Lorraine Diaz of CD 2 announced Nikki Ezhari as our new CD 2 Field Rep. She has been our Field Rep in past years.

John Darnell, Acting DONE Rep. announced NC election outreach session on Jan 6 and also BONC meeting same day.

Tammy Ramirez of School Board Member Schmerelson's office announced services available and U.S. Grant High School Academic Decathlon Team's win.

Regular Board meeting recessed at 7:25 p.m. for Special Board Meeting

Regular Board meeting resumed at 7:35 p.m.

Item 7 * President's Motions & Actions.

Motion 1: * Expenditure of up to \$1000 to purchase up to 10 "no dumping/311" signs to be installed initially at the Whittsett Avenue median. (Bethel, Myrick) **Motion withdrawn for Committee reconsideration.**

Motion 2: * GVGC board approves expenditure of up to \$1000 to purchase 2 signs to be installed at the "Welcome to Valley Glen" monument at Burbank and Coldwater Canyon and 1 to be installed at Vanowen and Fulton. Signage will be temporary and be the same artwork as the current signage at the Vanowen/Fulton monument. (Myrick, D'Antonio)

Motion passed. 14 yes, 1 no (Hall), 2 abstain (Schmitt, A. Sipp) 3 absent (Curtis, Forsyth, Silva), 2 ineligible (Hjelmstad, Manasyan), 0 recused.



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Item 8 * Treasurer's Report and Motions.

Motion 1 * Approval of November 2020 MER. (Schmitt, Bethel) A copy is attached to agenda and there is also a link here:

<https://clkrep.lacity.org/ncfunding/mer/B18C90C1-E804-453C-9C8C-94361CD39E65L.pdf>

Motion passed. 14 yes, 0 no, 2 abstain (D'Antonio, Milton), 4 absent (Curtis, Forsyth, George, Silva), 2 ineligible (Hjelmstad, Manasyan), 0 recused.

Item 9 * Arts & Education Committee. Report and Motions.*

Motion 1: * The GVGC moves that the Board endorse distribution of a book called Behind These Walls written by multiple youths during and after their time in Juvenile Detention, compiled by and provided free by Heidi Harrison, to troubled young people between the ages of 12 to 18 to help them and perhaps inspire them to write their own stories for a possible future GVGC initiative.

Motion withdrawn. City Attorney referral needed.

Item 10 * Outreach Committee. Report and Motions. *

Motions 1: * The GVGC moves that the board approve up to \$200 to CrowdPurr for a second Virtual Trivia Night. The format for this will have more participant interaction and an emphasis on getting to know your neighbors. (Shafer, Jannol)

Motion passed. 15 yes, 1 no (Moore), 1 abstain (Milton), 3 absent (Curtis, Forsyth, Silva), 2 ineligible (Hjelmstad, Manasyan), 0 recused.

Motion 2: * The GVGC moves that the Board approve up to \$600 to print fliers about the Neighborhood Council Elections and to pay a service to deliver them to homes not covered by the Valley Glen Neighborhood Association's Valley Glen Voice, mostly in the Laurel Grove Area, and to post at apartment buildings. (Shafer, Moore)

Motion passed. 17 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 3 absent (Curtis, Forsyth, Silva), 2 ineligible (Hjelmstad, Manasyan), 0 recused.

Item 11 Public Safety Committee. There were no motions. Tiny Homes Zoom event with speaker from Hope of the Valley to take place January 5.

Item 12 Planning and Land Use Committee. There were no motions. Chair reported making inquiries into demolition notices received.

Item 13 * Government Relations Committee. Report and Motions. All motions marked *

Where Los Angeles City Council Files (CF) are referenced, their intent, status and history can be found at the LACityClerk Connect website: <https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/>

Where California State Legislation is referenced (SB or AB), their intent, status and history can be found at: <https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billSearchClient.xhtml>

Motion 1 and CIS: * The Greater Valley Glen Council opposes the motion put forward in Council File 20-1376. The policies put forward will be expensive to enforce and ultimately ineffective. We maintain more supportive measures can be taken without criminalizing the unfortunate with this motion. [CIS: Against] (Hall, D'Antonio) Lorraine Diaz of CD2 reported that City Council is rewriting their motion. **Motion Failed.** 3 yes (D'Antonio, Harrison, K. Sipp) 10 no, 5 abstain (George, Jones, Manasyan, Moore, A. Sipp) 3 absent (Curtis, Forsyth, Silva) 1 ineligible (Hjelmstad) 0 recused.



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Motion 2 and CIS: * The Greater Valley Glen Council recognizes that the entitlement process for new development in the City can be a very lengthy one but opposes the proposal put forth in CF 20-1477 to establish a new structural demolition policy that would allow demolition of existing properties without an approved set of development plans and which the motion characterizes as being a public nuisance. Such a policy could incentivize landlords to allow their properties to degrade to “public nuisance” status and demolish them hoping to facilitate planning approval but leave the affected community with long-term vacant lots as well as a diminished housing stock and fewer retail and commercial properties that could be otherwise repurposed for sheltering the homeless. The GVGC is on record (CIS, CF 20-1145) as favoring such repurposing. Demolition permits should only be issued upon approval of development plans for the properties involved and proof of financing for new construction. [CIS: Against] (Hall, Jannol) **Motion passed.** 15 yes, 1 no (Harrison), 1 abstain (Shafer), 4 absent (Curtis, Forsyth, George, Silva), 1 ineligible (Hjelmstad), 0 recused.

Motion 3: * The Greater Valley Glen Council approves sending of letters to the Board of Public Works stating its opposition to the final approval of any plan submitted in response to its Request for Proposals for a Sidewalk and Transit Amenities Program (STAP) that includes installation of any digital signs at bus shelters that are visible to drivers traveling on the adjacent street. [Background: copy and paste streetsla.lacity.org/stap-program-fact-sheet] (Hall, Moore)

Motion Passed. 16 yes, 0 no, 2 abstain, 3 absent (Curtis, Forsyth, Silva), 1 ineligible (Hjelmstad), 0 recused.

Item 14 Parks, Medians, & Improvements Committee. There were no motions.

Representative Reports --

Need volunteer to replace Leslie Aguirre as Homeless Liaison

Sustainability Report (D’Antonio)

City Tree Inventory for Greater Valley Glen is complete with a total of 13,967 sites. Information will be online.

Protected Tree Amendment passed City Council to add toyon and Mexican elderberry to protected trees ordinance, and new higher fees to be set for removal of protected trees.

NCSA Trees Committee presenting **Your LA Trees . . . What You May Not Realize** 1-10-'21 program by D’Antonio and Diana Nicole.

Item 15 No Public Comment on non-Agenda Items.

Item 16 No Board Comments on non-Agenda Items

Item 17 * Motion to Adjourn (Bethel, Schmitt) **Motion passed.** Meeting adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

Inquiries may be directed to Joanne D’Antonio, Board Secretary
jdantonio@greatervalleyglencouncil.org or (323) 459-4429.