



Greater Valley Glen Council ("GVGC")



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

www.greatervalleyglencouncil.org

REGULAR VIRTUAL BOARD MEETING

MINUTES - May 3, 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 845 8685 4295** 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

Joseph Barmettler	District 4 Rep	Cosmo Moore	District 4 Rep
Anthony Bethel	District 1 Rep	Sloan Myrick	District 5 Rep
Joanne D'Antonio	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
Michael Hjelmstad	District 2 Rep	Krista Sipp	At-Large Rep
Mickey Jannol	At-Large Rep	Dan Stueve	At-Large Rep
Andrea Jones	At-Large Rep		
Artur Manasyan	Youth Rep		
Jah Milton	At-Large Rep		



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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.*

Item 1 Pledge of Allegiance.

Item 2 Call to Order at 7:02 p.m. and Roll Call: 16 present, 5 absent (George, Harrison, Jannol, Myrick, Silva) Quorum achieved.

Item 3 Chair instructions for Public Comment.

Item 4 * Approval of minutes * Board Member Myrick joined.

Motion 1: * Approval of April 5, 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes * **(Bethel, Hall)**

Motion passed. 17 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 4 absent (George, Harrison, Jannol, Silva), 0 ineligible, 0 recused.

Item 5 Left intentionally blank.

Note: Vacant seats consist of two District 3 Reps and 2 At-Large Seats at the time of this 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.

Sophia Soudani of Assemblyman Nazarian's office reported that he is now on the Appropriations Committee. Also, his office has supported 1100 pending EDD cases.

SLO Perez that SLO Robert Sewell is temporarily covering the Van Nuys area of Valley Glen for SLO Justin Bergmann who has retired. He also reported an uptick in crime including the recent shooting at the Woodman Bar.

Brenda Yanez, Field Deputy for Supervisor Sheila Kuehl reported the County is beginning to meet the Yellow Tier. Vaccinations are available at any County site without an appointment. Her contact info is B.Yanez@BOS.lacounty.gov 818 908-3831

Jeff Camp, CD 2 Field Deputy reported that Karo Torossian is covering as interim Planning Deputy, and Camp requested he also be copied: jeff.camp@lacity.org 818 274-1064

Tammy Ramirez of School Board Member Scott Schmerelson's office announced webinars for elementary school students and on standardized testing. GVGC Board Member Schmitt commented that playgrounds at Colfax School did not open as scheduled.

Adriana Cabrera of D.O.N.E. reported election deadlines and June payment deadlines at end of fiscal year. Her contact info is Adriana.cabrera@lacity.org 213 473-7469
Boards should continue to meet virtually. Our fund rollover is \$10,000 (no encumbrances)



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Board member Jannol joined.

Item 7 * President's Motions & Comments. All motions marked *

June will be last meeting for this Board. Secretary needs to take minutes at July Board meeting until new secretary is elected.

Motion 1 * The President moves that the GVGC approve a Neighborhood Purpose Grant in the amount of \$3,180.41 to Erwin Elementary School for the purpose of purchasing an ActivePanel V7 interactive smartboard for the classroom. Application was attached to agenda. Erwin Principal Koudsi explained the need for this item, which Kittridge School already has. (Bethel, Moore)

Motion Passed. 14 yes, 2 no (Barmettler, Forsyth), 1 abstain (Jones), 3 absent (George, Harrison, Silva), 1 ineligible (Manasyan), 0 recused

Motion 2 * The President moves that the GVGC approve up to \$1,800 to renew its Zoom Pro subscription for one additional year. The current subscription expires on 06/16/2021. The term of the subscription will be from June 16, 2021 to July 15, 2022. It will continue to include 8 user licenses and 1 webinar license for up to 100 attendees per meeting or non-concurrent webinar. This account will continue to be used for remote Committee Meetings and is separate from the City provided Board license used for Board Meetings of up to 500 attendees. (Bethel, D'Antonio)

Motion Passed. 17 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 3 absent (George, Harrison, Silva), 1 ineligible (Manasyan), 0 recused

Motion 3 * The President moves that the GVGC approve a payment of \$130 to Personal Storage for the month of July. The payment is due by 06/30/2021 and the deadline to submit the payment request is 06/01/2021 * (Bethel, Schmitt)

Motion Passed. 17 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 3 absent (George, Harrison, Silva), 1 ineligible (Manasyan), 0 recused

Item 8 * Treasurer's Report and Motions. All motions marked *

Motion 1 * Approval of March 2021 MER. A link here:

<https://clkrep.lacity.org/ncfunding/mer/A88AFCD6-A398-4A36-8D09-4E2FBAEFC5C1L.pdf>

(Schmitt, Hall)

Motion Passed. 17 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 3 absent (George, Harrison, Silva), 1 ineligible (Manasyan), 0 recused

Item 9 * Arts & Education Committee. Report and Motions. All motions marked *

Motion 1: * The GVGC moves to approve up to \$100 for fliers and e-blasts to promote a Zoom based "Storytime For Children" ongoing program on Saturday mornings at 10 AM. The virtual events will be sponsored, administered, and run by the Group Rep Theater Group. The GVGC will be named as a sponsor solely for their promotion of the events. The projected start date is May 9, 2021 if approved. * (Milton, Jannol)

Comments included too short turnaround time and no list of books to be read in the program.

Board Member Harrison joined the meeting.

Motion failed. 7 yes (Hall, Hjelmstadd, Jannol, Milton, Myrick, Schmitt, Shafer), 8 no, 2 abstain (Robinson, K. Sipp), 2 absent (George, Silva), 1 ineligible (Manasyan), 1 recused (Harrison)



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Item 10 * Community Safety Committee. Report and Motions. All motions marked *

Motion 1 * The Community Safety Committee moves that the Greater Valley Glen Council issue a Neighborhood Purpose Grant for up to \$7,000 to the Los Angeles Police Foundation for the purpose of purchasing a Radar Feedback Device. This motion supersedes any previous motion regarding the Radar Feedback Device. * (Schmitt, Hjelmstad)

Motion Passed. 17 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain (K. Sipp), 2 absent (George, Silva), 1 ineligible (Manasyan), 0 recused

Item 11 * Outreach Committee. Report and Motions. All motions marked *

Motion 2 * The Outreach Committee moves that the GVGC approve funding of \$750 to purchase a one page advertisement in the VGNA Voice Newsletter to announce the new Board Members after the election and promote the Council to the community. * (Shafer, Bethel) **Motion passed. 16 yes, 1 no (Hall), 0 abstain, 3 absent (George, Milton, Silva), 1 ineligible (Manasyan), 0 recused**

Motion 1 * The Outreach committee moves that GVGC sponsors a third Virtual Trivia Night on and requests funding up to \$175 to purchase a one month CrowdPurr Seminar subscription to run the program. * (Bethel, Jannol) **Motion passed. 12 yes, 1 no (Stueve), 4 abstain (D’Antonio, Forsyth, Hall, Harrison), 3 absent (George, Milton, Silva), 1 ineligible (Manasyan), 0 recused**

Item 12 Planning and Land Use Committee. There were no motions.

Committee Chair D’Antonio reported on State bills pending that override local control of land use, zoning, density and parking space elimination in buildings.

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 recognizes Los Angeles and California as world leaders in striving to achieve 100% carbon-free, clean electricity. The NREL LA100 study finds “all LA100 scenarios include significant deployment of renewable and zero-carbon energy by 2035 , accounting for 84%–100% of energy” but also that “Accelerating the target year to 2035 increases both costs and benefits.” The report projects “The estimated total cumulative costs of new investments needed to achieve the 100% target across the suite of scenarios explored range from \$57 billion to \$87 billion (2019\$) depending on the scenario and load projection.” Without a benefit/cost analysis resulting from setting 2035 as the City’s 100% clean electricity deadline and without an even-handed study of how such a goal would affect rates, we do not favor the imposition of the hard-and-fast 2035 deadline. We do favor this motion’s recognition of the importance of environmental justice in any final plan. In all final decisions to be made in this matter, environmental review consistent with CEQA requirements should be required and not short-circuited in order to make a 2035 target. As emphasized, LADWP must be ready to maximize any funding that might become available under President Biden’s initiative to decarbonize the electric grid. (CF 21-0352) [CIS: Against unless amended.] * (Hall, D’Antonio)

Motion passed. 13 yes, 0 no, 5 abstain (Bethel, Harrison, Myrick, Shafer, K. Sipp), 3 absent (George, Milton, Silva), 0 ineligible, 0 recused



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Motion 2 and CIS: * The Greater Valley Glen Council recognizes the goal of reducing plastic waste both on land and at sea. We favor CF 21-0002-S100, the resolution in SUPPORT of the proposed Federal Break Free From Plastic Pollution Act that would shift responsibility for plastic waste pollution clean-up to those that produce it, the establishment of minimum recycled content mandates for certain products, the establishment of a national container deposit system, and the elimination of waste export loopholes. [At the same time, we recognize that between the producer and final disposition of a product's residues, there is the purchaser/user. Littering is an ongoing problem, and better enforcement of litter laws is needed.] [CIS: For] * (Hall, D'Antonio)

Motion passed. 18 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 3 absent (George, Milton, Silva), 0 ineligible, 0 recused

Item 14 * Parks, Medians, & Improvements Committee. All motions marked *

Motion 1 * The Parks and Community Improvement Committee moves that the GVGC approve funding of up to \$400 to purchase large "gator" bags to provide water to young saplings that have been planted on Victory Blvd. * (Myrick, Moore)

Motion passed. 17 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 3 absent (George, Milton, Silva), 1 ineligible (Manasyan), 0 recused

Motion 2 * The Parks and Community Improvement Committee moves that the GVGC approve funding of up to \$600 to purchase pet waste bags to refill dog waste stations in Valley Glen and Laurel Grove parks. * (Myrick, Hall)

Motion Passed. 17 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 3 absent (George, Milton, Silva), 1 ineligible (Manasyan), 0 recused

Motion 3 * The Parks and Community Improvement Committee moves that the GVGC approve funding of up to \$500 for signage, plants, and supplies to build a butterfly garden in Valley Glen Park. This initial project may lead to similar projects in other Greater Valley Glen Parks. The goal is to provide vegetation to promote the health of local butterfly species. This motion supersedes the previously withdrawn motion. (This motion is for funding and does not imply any approvals from RAP at this time) * (Myrick, D'Antonio)

Motion passed. 13 yes, 0 no, 2 abstain (Barmettler, Harrison), 5 absent (Forsyth, George, Hjemstad, Milton, Silva), 1 ineligible (Manasyan), 0 recused

Item 15 Representative Reports

DWP Representative Hall reported that there will be an effort to put together a presentation by the end of the month regarding a program for getting to 100% renewable energy.

Sustainability Representative D'Antonio reported on the following events:

Final Sidewalk Repair Program EIR:

Released and has no analysis of long-term effects on tree removals for sidewalk repair. 778 trees have been removed in this program through March 2021 (80 since last July)



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NCSA meeting:

Marta Segura of the Mayor's Office of Climate Emergency Mobilization will be spending 18 months finding out what people want before anything is done. Trying to get more staff.

Liliana Griego of FoLAR said LA River Project has dismissed removing concrete. Army Corps of Engineers don't want it removed. There were no community meetings. Letter to sign on FoLAR website.

USDA biodiversity

Non-native plants leave areas open to problems like Lyme disease.
Lawns are monoculture and not good for the ecosystem – introduce diversity.

CFAC Policy Committee

The head of the Planning Commission notified the Mulholland Design Board that they no longer had status to be involved in Planning Decisions. Yet specific plans are Code so this was illegal.

Audubon: Treecare for Birds and Other Wildlife – no pruning or removals during nesting season (spring to fall). Illegal to do so. Dead limbs should be reduced, not completely removed.

50 Years of CEQA – UC Davis Law School all day webinar

No discussion of preservation of nature; focus on greenhouse gases, fire prevention and environmental equity.

Item 16 Public Comment on non-Agenda Items

Glenn Bailey: invited participation in VANC and LANCC; warned that CF 21-0407 could lead to standardization of neighborhood council bylaws and recommended we file a CIS

Item 17 Board Comments on non-Agenda Items.

Shafer: Food Drive May 15 needs volunteers.

Item 18 * Motion to Adjourn * (Bethel, Shafer) Unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 10:01 p.m.

Next Regular Board Meeting is on June 7, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

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