



**WEST UNIVERSITY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**  
**WUNA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, February 6, 2020, 6:30-8:00 PM**  
**Trinity Church - Fellowship Hall**  
**400 E University Blvd.**

**I. Call to Order, Roll Call, Pizza, and Welcome**

6:30 pm Lisa Agababian, Margaret Bly, Brian Chaneka, James Glock, Lenor Glover, Daniel Kirk, Rick McDonnell, John Patterson, Sabrina Rigas, Fred Ronstadt, Sally Rusk, Judy Sensibar, Mack Sigmon, Willem VanLeeuwen, and David Zipps are present. Lisette DeMars and Henry Werchan are excused. The following guests are welcomed by the Board: Evren Sonmez, Bill Schlesinger, Amanda Monroy, Jeanne Downen, Crystal Delahunty, Chris Gans, Adam Milnor, Andy Bemis, Julie Katsel, Scarlett Van Damme, and Richard Meyer. The Ice breaker question is "Tell us your favorite part of living in the neighborhood." The answers were many but each sounded like, livability, walkability, trees, access, 4th Avenue vibe, easy access and proximity to amenities.

**II. Approval of Meeting Minutes and Treasurer's Report**

In accordance with the consent agenda the Treasurer's report is approved as submitted. The December minutes were not received by the members; copies are distributed and approval of these is tabled.

Margaret read minutes from the January 2020 meeting and will submit them at the end of tonight's meeting

**III. Announcements and Call to the Audience**

- **February 16** is the date for the White Elephant Rummage Sale sponsored by HFAC on 7th Street is announced by Judy Sensibar.
- **March 1**, there will be a Blessing of the Animals Event at Trinity Commons.
- **March 27, 2020** from 7:00 am to 1:30 pm volunteers are needed for the Tucson Homeless Connect event at Santa Rita Park, 401 E. 22nd Street. For questions please email [sonykuchta@cox.net](mailto:sonykuchta@cox.net)

- There are “petition circulators” making the rounds in the neighborhood discussing yet another high rise building on the eastside of Euclid where currently there are homes. The circulators are telling folks that the homes will be moved. They are using the idea of neighborhood blight to encourage signing the petition. Mayor and Council could override the Main Gate Overlay. Please be active; four votes against the override will be needed.

#### IV Community Events

- February 8 Trees for Tucson** will be conducting a tree trimming event in Catalina Park; they are especially interested in talking to those neighbors who have newly planted trees from Trees for Tucson. A reminder will be sent out by Jim Glock.
- Stonyfield Organic grant has been approved.** Details will follow. Many thanks to Henry for his efforts. A family park without pesticides and herbicides for weed control will be great. The water harvesting grant is also on track.
- 6th Avenue University Boulevard traffic calming project.**

Guest speakers Andy Bemis from ADOT and Ryan Fagan, from Tucson Transportation Department speak and answer questions regarding the project. Evren Sonmer from Living Street Alliance also answers questions.

The three admit there are still some challenges. The University Blvd bike Blvd project should be up and running by mid-July with which they want to make our temporary project compatible. Evren is seeking volunteers - using speed guns - to observe traffic in the area. A sign up sheet is circulated and collected by Evren.

We are still on track for two speed tables with flat tops and reflectors to be installed along 6th Avenue.

**March 7, 2020 is the date for street painting.**

- Jim Glock reminds everyone that the Spring 4th Avenue Street fair will be celebrated the weekend of March 20 - 22.** Volunteers will be especially needed and appreciated as he will be recuperating from heart surgery. The Spring Fair location at 4th Avenue and 7th Street is very busy, averaging a beer sold every 15 seconds. Noah Sensibar, Danny Kirk and Damon Turner will take over managing the WUNA booth and Jim will do his best to work with everyone from the sidelines.
- The plant swap is set for April 4, 2020 in Catalina Park**
- Friends at Ben’s in 2020:** please weigh in on topics you would enjoy listening to.

#### V. Committee Reports CCRC

**Henry submits his written report as he is unable to attend this evening.**

Mortar board volunteer weekend is Saturday 29 February. Many neighborhoods expressed interest, so we need to provide our choice of projects as soon as possible. Our recommended projects so far are to clean up our traffic circles and Catalina Park. I don't

think it will be appropriate to target projects on private property (a request from last year). Unfortunately, I am in a workshop that day, so I can coordinate the effort, but we will need someone to be on the ground contact the day of the cleanup. If you are interested in volunteering, please let me know.

Spring Fling is scheduled for April 3-5. Everyone is invited, students are free, non-students have a nominal charge, or they can bring 4 cans of food, or some children's book to gain free entry.

29 February 6pm is a Campus Pantry Benefit Dinner. Details can be found on the campus pantry website, or you can email me if you are interested in such a worthy cause.

Feb 12th there is a free mental health training workshop at Abrams Public Health Center. I do not think registration is required, but unfortunately I cannot find details yet online (only an announcement of the last event). If anyone is interested, I will pass along details when they become available.

March 12 is (or starts?) US census self reporting. For individuals that are homeless the UofA library will be available as a self reporting site.

CoT M&C recently voted to establish a tree "czar". I think the czar part of the name is made up, but this is a person who will have oversight of all tree canopy related initiatives in the city. I'm not sure if this is the same announcement as the Tucson One Water plan that was recently announced.

Rincon Heights reported discussions of a possible 14 story building at the SW corner of 6th Avenue and Campbell, a property owned by Scott Cummings. They obviously have concerns and we should be prepared to support their concerns.

I put out the following event announcements that may also be of interest to WUNA residents:

Tree Pruning Workshop that was held last weekend (a request was made to forward the links for the recorded videos--if you are interested I can send them to you)

HFAC White Elephant Sale 16 Feb 10am-3pm

Brains & Brews Science Speak Easy at SkyBar 13 February 6:30pm-8pm

Science Advocacy Workshop on 29 February 10am-3pm

Festival of Books and Science City: 14-15 March

Also, I'm pleased to report that the CCRC has selected 3 initiatives from our Livable Communities project to champion for 2020:

Increased tree canopy

Historical preservation and promotion

Extend and connect pedestrian and biking segments (part of Pedestrian and bicyclist safety)

I will be contributing to and reporting progress on these 3 initiatives, and welcome anyone in the neighborhood who is passionate about any of these to volunteer to support the effort.

Julie Katsel from UofA introduces herself and her intern Scarlet VanDamme. She reports at the Beta house has been suspended from social events and that this action should have abated unwelcome noise. Further she states the owners of the house, former members, have been very cooperative and will work with the fraternity to become better neighbors.

#### **Development Committee**

Rick states that the committee is working on several issues.

TEP will be installing transmission lines from I-10 & Grant to Kino and 36th Street. **There will be a meeting March 3 at the Ward 6 offices to discuss the project.**

WUNA is part of the Historic 4th Avenue Coalition and should pay dues.

**Rick McDonnell moves that we agree to pay the dues and remain a member. Jim Glock seconds the motion. There being no further discussion, the motion passes. Judy Sensibar abstains.**

**Parks' Committee will be meeting February 20th from 5:00 to 6:30 at the Friends Meeting House, 931 N. 5th Avenue, across from Catalina Park.**

Our request to make Catalina Park close at sunset has been held up by the city attorney's office. We have been working on changing the signage to be able to enforce better reduced hours.

Sally states that she has heard from neighbors complaining about the "walking zombies" in the park; they are in fact practicing a meditative walk exercise.

8:03. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting is dismissed.