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West University Neighborhood Association
P.O. Box 3336
Tucson, Arizona 85722

March 4, 2010 REGULAR Neighborhood Meeting Minutes

The West University Neighborhood Association (WUNA) Board of Directors met on Thursday February 4, 2010, at the Trinity Presbyterian Church, 400 E. University Boulevard in Tucson.

I. Call to Order, Roll Call and Welcome

President Chris Gans calls the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. Secretary Teresa Vasquez calls roll.

The following board members are present: Chris Gans, Richard Mayers, Cheri Wiens, Lori Boston, Adrienne Parry/Gal Witmer, Carolyn Niethammer/Ford Burkhardt, Brian McCarthy, Dave Boston, Robert Pitts, Jane McCollum, Jerry Juliani, Sandra Morse, John Patterson, Kurt Tallis, Teresa Vasquez, Roger Wiens, and Anne Sawyer.

The following **Residents** are in attendance:

Sam Sanders, Mindy Bernstein, Marilyn Massino, Jill Bielawski, Sondra Means, Jeff Thomas, Herb and Kerry Stratford and A.W. Copland.

Donovan Durband, **Ward 6**

Erik, **Cyclovia Representative**

Officer Williamson, **Tucson Police Department, 791-5032**

Teresa Williams, **Code Compliance Administrator, City of Tucson**

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes and Treasurer’s Report.

No minutes were distributed to the Board prior to meeting. February meeting minutes will be approved at the April meeting.

Jane McCollum moves to approve the February Treasurer’s Report. Brian McCarthy seconds, and report is approved as submitted.

III. Announcements:

Carolyn Niethammer introduces Casey Clapp, who tells us about the University of Arizona group Youth Against Cancer, who plans to have a Spring Egg Hunt on Saturday March 27th at 10am. The event is supposed to raise awareness for ovarian cancer; donations/volunteers are welcome; advertising will begin soon.

Kurt Tallis says Wednesday, March 10th from 4-6pm the Budweiser Clydesdales will be going up and down 4th Avenue ... and maybe to Main Gate Square.

IV. Call to the Audience

Officer Williamson was asked a couple questions about our neighborhood. Williamson is our new TPD officer.

Dave Boston handed out a Cyclovia map.

Donovan Durband said he has been hearing concerns about teenage overflow into the neighborhood, and Ward 6 is aware of all the issues.



V. Beer Booth and Street Fair

Kurt Tallis said that Street Fair posters are available – and are free!

Jeff Thomas thanked those who have already volunteered to work at the next 4th Avenue Beer booth. He emailed rules and new organization for the booth. The Street Fair is March 19-21st. Please contact him if you need any information.

VI. Cyclovia

Erik Ryberg presented the Cyclovia concept and history; closing streets for people to walk and bike in the street; Tucson has a 5.5 mile route (see map). There will be a soft closure of the streets and some are in our neighborhood. A soft closure means that police and barricades will be around the route but if you need to get to your street/driveway you will be able to do so.

The event will be on Sunday, April 18th from 10-2pm.

Activity nodes will be around the route, with activities for all ages. They really want people to participate, especially if they live along the route.

Jane McCollum said Main Gate Square will be accommodating participants – a good activity node for walkers/bikers.

Catalina Park will also be an activity node with: 1)BICAS available to fix/answer bike questions; 2) Zuzi dance presentation; 3) bike road class information; 4) helmet give-a-ways; 5) puppet show bike related; 6) water bottle give-a-way; and more.

Dave Boston said there are sponsorship opportunities for this event.

MOTION: Dave Boston moves for WUNA to sponsor Cyclovia for \$1500. Seconded by Sandra Morse. Discussion ensues.

AMENDED MOTION: Richard Mayers amends the motion; moves for WUNA to sponsor Cyclovia for \$500. Seconded by Sandra Morse. Motion passes 12-1-2.

VII. City of Tucson Code Enforcement

Teresa Williams is the City of Tucson Code Enforcement Administrator. She presents an overview of their responsibilities and passes around two handouts with the same information.

Responsible for: 1) Neighborhood Preservation (weeds, overgrowth, debris, vacant/neglected buildings, motor vehicles, electrical, plumbing, etc.); 2) Zoning and Land Use Code; 3) parts of the Sign Ordinance.

Their division is complaint driven; they receive approximately 1000 cases per month; mostly citizen's call; phone (791-5843) and an on-line form is the best ways to contact them: www.tucsonaz.gov/csd/violation/. They have 20 inspectors who check violations; mail a warning letter; usually have 30 days to comply; re-inspect the property for compliance; if not in compliance, charge \$75 fee (services available for the elderly); if still do not comply then issued a citation and sent to court and judge is responsible. Fines range from \$125-\$2500. They usually get 80% compliance.

Also have VANS Program, or Vacant and Neglected Structures. Options are to fix your property or tear it down, but if it is within a historic district, then they put a hold on it and encourage sale of the property to a new owner who will repair it.

Discussion: Code Enforcement does not directly help with aid for elderly, but ask Housing & Community Development because there are new federal programs; heights should be 7feet above sidewalk, 15feet above street and a 4foot walking path; they don't address lead paint; they work with the police regarding peddlers; only force people to fix historic properties to a feasible point.

VIII. Historic Street Signs

Chris Gans passes around two options for our street signs, one with a tree and one with a lamp post.

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MOTION: Carolyn Niethammer moves to approve the image with the tree. Seconded by Sandra Morse. Discussion. Motion passes 13-0-1.

Ward 6 will begin to fundraise for this West University project. Donovan Durband will keep us informed.

IX. Committees

- A. CCRC Report: John Patterson says that City of Tucson Environmental Services is an enterprise fund, meaning that they are self sustaining. There could potentially be a \$3 increase in garbage pick-up.
- B. John also spoke briefly about the Memorial Complex meeting held on Monday, February 22.
- C. Park Update: Gal Witmer says that the design team is following the February 4th meeting direction. The project is currently \$100,000 over budget but the design team feels it is better to get the project out to bid. The neighborhood and design team will identify things in the drawings that could be alternates incase the project will need that.

Discussion ensued.

- D. Downtown Neighborhoods and Residents Council (DNARC): Richard Mayers says Chris Leighton of ParkWise spoke with the group on Monday about the residential parking program – this will be changing in July and our neighborhood needs to meet with him.
- E. The prices are likely going from \$2.50 to \$48 or \$78, which depends on hours and enforcement. Currently West University residents only purchase 20% of the available on-street residential permits. Richard will arrange a neighborhood meeting with Chris to discuss this issue further.

Chris Gans would like to purchase a computer monitor for WUNA – this will help with the website and newsletters.

MOTION: Richard Mayers moves to allow Chris to spend up to \$200 on a monitor. Seconded by Sandra Morse.

AMENDED MOTION: Adrienne Parry moves to allow Chris to spend up to \$500 on electronics for WUNA use. Seconded by Sandra Morse. Motion passes unanimously.

X. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Teresa Vasquez
Secretary
