

Thursday, April 6, 2023-6:30 PM  
West University Neighborhood Association  
April Board Meeting, Trinity Presbyterian Church, 400 E. University Blvd.  
and Via Zoom, <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84584666599>

I. Call to Order, Roll Call and Welcome

At 6:34 p.m., Betsy Larson called the meeting to order. The following members were present: Lisette DeMars, Chris Gans, Jim Glock, Joel Ireland, Betsy Larson, Rick McDonnell, Andy Pongratz, Shannon Riggs, Judy Sensibar, Erec Toso, Willem Van Leeuwen, Henry Werchan, and Dave Zipps. Absent: Brian Kemp, Adam Milnor, Mack Sigmon, Holly Vaden, and Lex Wilcox.

Also present: Diana Amado (Ward 6), Kevin Berrigan (AGR), Steve Carlat, Dylan Gilmore (AGR), Sam Ireland, Jimmy Jagielski (Zeta Psi), Anna Lawrence, Brett Miller (AGR), Michael Morris, Sandra Morris, Samantha Neville (Pima County District 5), Adam Pongratz, Megan Schrag-Toso, and Lt. Aaron Wine (TPD).

II. Announcements and Call to the Audience

Lisette DeMars invited everyone to a memorial for Douglas Finlayson on April 16 from 2:00 to 4:00 in Catalina Park. She requested that everyone come and share a story. Douglas passed away on January 10, 2023.

Betsy Larson stated that Sunday is Easter and WUNA is having an Easter egg brunch and egg hunt. Everyone should feel free to bring food. The event is pretty chill and usually runs a couple of hours. Jim Glock stated that the splash pad may be operating and he has gotten a beer permit.

III. Consent Agenda: March Meeting Minutes; Treasurer's Report.

Jim Glock stated that we did twice the net from the beer booth at the 4th Avenue Street Fair as compared to December. Hats off to the Kappa Alpha volunteers, who stepped up and were fun to work with. Jim observed that if the fraternities want community service in addition to clean ups, we should avail ourselves of their services as they do a nice job. Jim stated that, going forward, we will need to submit an application to compete for a beer booth at the street fair, but we are in good shape because we are respecting FAMA's desire to help other nonprofits.

There being no objections, the minutes for the March 2023 board meeting, and the Treasurer's Report for March 2023 were approved pursuant to the terms of the consent agenda.

IV. TPD Update

Betsy Larson introduced Lt. Aaron Wine, [aaron.wine@tucsonaz.gov](mailto:aaron.wine@tucsonaz.gov), who was recently promoted to district commander for areas including those along Congress downtown, up 4th

Avenue to University, and University to the east. His responsibilities include WUNA, Iron Horse, Rincon Heights, and Pie Allen. Lt. Wine stated that Starbucks on Speedway has closed its lobby because of aggressive behaviors by individuals loitering at the store, and TPD is responding there and at the Circle K across the street. Steve Carlat asked if the issues like the ones at Starbucks are a 911 call and Lt. Wine stated that they are; TPD uses the same model: trying to remove the incentives that cause people to stay in these locations and to ultimately engage in bad behaviors. Lieutenant Wine stated that TPD is taking a holistic approach to keeping neighborhoods safe, including outreach and enforcement, including a focus on drug dealers. Lieutenant Wine stated that our parks are looking good, he encouraged us to keep up use and maintenance of the parks, and he stated that TPD will address issues quickly. He also stated that crime in all categories in WUNA is down: burglaries, larcenies, assaults, and criminal damage. Jim Glock noted that vehicle safety is a big issue for our neighborhood; Lieutenant Wine stated that TPD's traffic section recently launched a new reporting mechanism and he will follow up with the lieutenant in charge of that program to find out how to use it. Henry Werchan observed that groups of ATVs have become a real issue on University, taking over the road, traveling in the middle turn lane, and generally creating a nuisance. Dave Zipps stated that there are a lot of cars exceeding the speed limit on Euclid by a wide margin and also running the light at University in both the north and southbound directions. Henry and Dave thought that increased enforcement in both areas is in order.

#### V. Catalina Park Bulletin Board

Betsy Larson introduced Adam Pongratz, who is proposing to build a bulletin board in Catalina Park. Adam stated that a bulletin board is needed to inform the community about events and remind neighbors of issues and problems. Adam stated that the billboard could either be stored in a shed and moved into place or embedded in concrete footers. He is seeking \$500 plus donated materials; a pin board with a glass case would be \$400, leaving \$100 for miscellaneous expenses. Jim Glock stated that if the bulletin board is embedded in the ground, a slew of permits will be required; Jim suggested that the footers go between the curb and the sidewalk so the jurisdiction is Transportation, not Parks. Jim did not think the project would need review by Planning & Development Services, but thought it would be good to get a courtesy review from Historic. Betsy Larson and Lieutenant Wine thought it should be non-glass, Lieutenant Wine thought it should not have a solid canopy (to prevent camping) and Chris Gans thought it should be made of metal (so it can't be set on fire). Jim Glock then moved to allocate \$500 to the project so Adam would have a budget that allowed him to refine the details of the project and then return to the Board with a final design. Joel Ireland seconded the motion, and all present and voting approved the motion, with one abstention (Zipps).

#### VI. Pima County District 5 Report: Samantha Neville

Samantha Neville stated that Adelita Grijalva represents District 5 on the Pima County Board of Supervisors. Samatha had a PowerPoint Presentation that showed a map of the districts and a blow-up of District 5, noting that it has the most overlap with the City. Samantha stated that she is in charge of constituent assistance and is here to answer questions and collect information on issues of concern. Samantha stated that the Board of Supervisors

oversees public health, flood control, libraries (including eight in District 5), waste management, conservation, animal care, and criminal justice, as well as utilities and law enforcement in unincorporated areas. There are two meetings per month, and the Board of Supervisors votes on county policy, constituent services, advocacy, and strategic planning. After each meeting, Ms. Grijalva does a 10-15 minute recap, which can be found on her YouTube channel. Samantha stated that the District 5 office can help us by supporting neighborhood events, answering questions and conducting research, collaborating on initiatives (e.g., Gates Pass and I-11), connecting us with resources, and advocating for neighborhood priorities.

## VII. Committee Reports

### A. Development Committee

Rick McDonnell stated that there will be an informational meeting with TEP on Tuesday, April 11, at the Ward 6 office to discuss the proposed franchise agreement with TEP. The proposed agreement includes an increase in the franchise fee from 2.25% to 3%, with the additional 0.75% (the Community Resilience Fee) going to undergrounding transmission lines and, to a lesser extent, climate initiatives. Rick stated that the increase will raise \$5 million per year, which is not enough to underground the lines associated with the Kino to DeMoss-Petrie project, but it does get the ball rolling. Rick stated that the new agreement will go up for a city-wide vote on May 16, and we and the other historic neighborhoods are very much in favor of it; if it dies, we are back to square one.

Rick stated that another meeting at Ward 6 on the Capstone project is coming up on April 27 at 6:00 p.m. Rick thought we would probably see similar material to the last meeting, perhaps with some updates. Rick stated that, from our point of view with respect to this phase, we are looking at design: mass, facades, traffic, water mitigation, and pedestrian access. Henry Werchan asked if the comment cards from the last Ward 6 meeting got compiled; Diana Amado stated that Capstone did not share them with the ward, but understood that they would. Henry stated that there was no change to the proposal when it was presented to the CCRC and it got a lot of negative feedback. Diana stated that she expected Capstone to address the feedback at the next ward meeting; knowing her boss, he will ask them about it.

### B. Historic Fourth Avenue Coalition

Shannon Riggs stated that H4AC had a great Made in Tucson; there were improvements with trash pickup and bathrooms. Shannon stated that H4AC's board voted recently to rent space at 311 E. 7th Street to do events year round, and there will be no charge for H4AC's partners.

### C. CCRC: Campus Community Relations Committee

Henry Werchan stated that Capstone was on the agenda at the most recent meeting and it generated a lot of negative feedback, as noted above. Henry reported that spring fling has been canceled and the CCRC's next meeting is Tuesday, April 11.

#### D. Streets Committee

Jim Glock stated the bids for sidewalk ramps at intersections have come in at four times the budget. Jim stated that he is working with the City to try to find additional funds and also looking for a lower cost design. Jim stated that he has petitions to distribute for the speed humps on 3rd Avenue and 4th Street near Time Market. Jim also stated that Blue Moon has painted traffic circles and he thought we should explore whether we can get one at 7th Avenue and 1st Street pending construction of the traffic circle there. Jim stated that he requested a bid for one from the contractor who did the speed hump on 6th Avenue and the traffic circle at 5th Avenue and 4th Street.

#### E. Parks Committee

Judy Sensibar stated we are on the agenda for WUHZAB for a cantilevered umbrella at Anza plus two benches, one of which will be dedicated to Douglas Finlayson. Michael Morris reminded everyone about the memorial service for Douglas on April 16 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Judy stated that Tucson Clean & Beautiful will come twice per year to help with clean ups if we can also get the fraternities involved.

#### VIII. Adjournment

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.