

**WUNA Annual Meeting
Thursday, April 7, 2011.**

1. Call to Order: Roll Call. Welcome.

The meeting was called to order at the Trinity Presbyterian Church meeting room at 6:35 p.m. by Chris Gans, WUNA president. Other board members attending: Richard Mayers, vice president; Ford Burkhart, secretary; Carolyn Niethammer, historian; Dave Boston (Area 7); Jerry Juliani (at large); Janet Pitts Labate (Area 1); Richard Mayers (Area 8); Brian McCarthy (Area 5); Cathy Morrison (at-large); Carolyn Niethammer (Area 4); Jennifer O'Connor (Area 3); John Patterson (at large); Others attending: Noah Sensibar; Josh Brodsky, Az Star; Bob Morrison; Mary Ellen Wooten, Tucson Pima Arts Council; Susan Wink, artist; Jeff Diederichs (619 E. 6th St.); Jill Bielawski. Donovan Durban, Ward 6 office, City of Tucson.

2. Approval of Minutes and treasurer's Report. Minutes were approved; Brian moved, Cathy seconded, unanimous. Treasurer's report approved, Jenn moved, Cathy seconded, unanimous vote.

3. Announcements.

Cathy Morrison announced that she was sponsoring an event for Jonathan Rothschild.

4. Call to audience.

Officer Jobe Dickinson reported recent crime statistics. 6 burglaries, 2 without force; 21 larcenies. Cathy asked him about the time of day that loud noise is in violation of the ordinance, saying that on April 6, there was a late concert in a parking lot along Fourth Ave. He said there is no time frame, it's a matter of what's reasonable and what the complaint is. A concert with a permit would be legal, but it depends on numbers attending, and so on; call 911 or nonemergency TPD line and the office will check on criteria. Cathy said that at 5th St. they had an outdoor stage going at 11 p.m. Dickinson said the nuisance ordinance has no time frame – 2 p.m. can be unreasonable.

Jeff Diederichs: He cited problems of traffic diverter into his alley by his house, at 619 E. 6th St., near Roskruge, where the traffic is now being funneled down a one lane alley, creating a traffic hazard. Chris said we are working on ways to have it not be a permanent closure, but only at various times of day. Chris and Richard are meeting with TUSD/TPD/city officials to improve the situation. Chris said we are working to address these neighbors' concerns, but also to keep people from cutting through the neighborhood at peak pick-up or drop-off times.

5. Susan Wink, artist.

Wink and Mary Ellen Wooten of the Tucson Pima Arts Council held a discussion of art for the Time Market Streetcar stop art project. Eight artists in all are taking part in art for the streetcar line; with a \$75,000 budget. For example, The Poetry center near UA will post poetry. Susan Wink talked about a questionnaire for feedback from WUNA area residents. She works as a ceramic sculptor, and with metals. She is from Roswell, N.M.

6. Committee Reports .

A. John Patterson, CCRC. Reported on the plans for the University perimeter, with an arboretum nursery that would make plant stock available to the public. Spring Fling may return to the campus, but there is opposition from Sam Hughes Neighborhood Assn. John attended an

open house on Tyndall Ave. redevelopment; will begin in April, with a \$452,000 budget for roadway, bike, angle parking, landscape features (trees will include Mexican ebony, pistache, cordia.)

Jennifer O'Connor reported on speeding in the neighborhood, on Third Avenue mainly between Speedway and University. We have met with Jim Glock, COT transportation direction, and are working on it. Cathy reported an accident at 5th and University, a car going west veered and came close to taking out the Audubon Society. People think the Epic Café area is a speedway zone for many people. Jenn asked that we educate neighbors about the dangers as more traffic becomes congested there.

Catalina Park Splashpad: Chris said funds should be allocated next Tuesday, and construction may start in late May. The pool will stay closed but will be a reservoir for the splashpad because it is not ADA consistent; picnic tables that were once in will be taken out; existing tables will remain; two walks diagonally through the park will be ADA accessible. The bathrooms are closed, and that has kept a lot of loitering out of the park. This project may bring more people into the neighborhood to use the park, in a positive sense.

Graffiti abatement. Graffiti workshop programs cover Sixth Street and south, so not in our neighborhood. The city urges take pictures and report it to the graffiti abatement program. They will hold workshops for the neighborhood to teach people how to abate graffiti.

Empty Building: For the old Baptist Church property, kids are hanging out and maybe doing tagging or partying; the old Baptist educational building has been boarded up.

Street fair: Chris reported that we had a good time those 3 days. We make a considerable amount of money for WUN. Jeff was a stalwart leader; gross was \$18,000 for the three days; tips were \$1,500 total.

The District: Richard led discussion of the proposed appeal of the city decision to allow the present The District project; we have dropped the idea of an appeal to mayor and council and reached an agreement with developer who will sign a 15 year covenant, that they will not demolish 3 historic houses (although 3 others will go). Noah had offered an idea for them to pay into our historic preservation fund, \$15,000 now, and \$2,500 annual payments for 15 years, for a total of \$52,000 for an historic preservation program that has been inactive with grant funding. We can give it away to poor people to put new roofs on their houses. They are operating a high-end development, and have no interest in having drinking parties near the site; the problem is that the table was tilted when COT took away our bargaining power. Cathy noted that the city had reported that this development would not negatively impact surrounding properties. The appeal got within 1.5 hours of being filed, Richard said; the appeal was written and now we have it as a template for the future. We simply did not have the council votes for our position; something worse could have followed if this project did not move ahead. Noah offered valuable help in the negotiations for the site, and Chris thanked Noah and Richard for all the hard work on the project.

In short: We gained a buffer zone, a transition across 5th St. Cathy expressed outrage at the destruction of a pre-1900 house for the project.

Tabard Apartments: There are signs that something major will happen on this site. Richard noted it is in the HPZ

Trinity Church: It is under pressure to build apartments on its parking lots; with the streetcar, they won't need so much parking. Richard noted it is in the HPZ.

Historic landmarks: Cathy said we should designate historic landmarks, which could limit the height of new construction in the area. Cathy is doing research to discover more landmarks that we can cite.

7. Adjournment. The next meeting is May 5, 2011. Meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Ford Burkhart, Secretary