

Thursday, May 5, 2022-6:30 PM
West University Neighborhood Association
May Board Meeting, Trinity Lutheran Church, 400 E. University Blvd.
and Via Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84584666599>

I. Call to Order, Roll Call and Welcome

At 6:33 p.m., Judy Sensibar called the meeting to order. The following members were present: Betsy Besenik-Larson, Lisette DeMars, Jim Glock, Kat Henderson, Rick McDonnell, Andy Pongratz, Judy Sensibar, Erec Toso, Holly Vaden, Willem Van Leeuwen, Henry Werchan, Lex Willcox, and Dave Zipps. Absent: Jane McCollum and Shannon Riggs. Also present: Samantha Neville (Pima County District 5).

Prior to the meeting, Judy Sensibar emailed the Board proposing that we use the ice breaker to put together a list of homes in the neighborhood that should have plaques to note information of historical significance. Judy nominated 629 N. 7th Avenue. Jim Glock stated that we have \$16,000 in historical preservation funds we can use for this purpose; he nominated the Quaker Meeting House on 5th. Avenue between 1st & 2nd Streets. Andy Pongratz nominated 315 E. 1st Street and 903 N. 5th Avenue. Rick McDonnell nominated 722 N. 3rd Avenue, one of about 50 homes in the neighborhood designed by Tucson architect Henry O. Jaastad, Tucson's mayor from 1933 to 1947, who built this home for himself in 1910. Rick also nominated 907 N. 5th Avenue, which was built at the same time as 903 N. 5th using the same architects. Erec Toso suggested that we have an overall entry sign to the neighborhood in one of the roundabouts; he also nominated 105 E. 1st Street. Willem Van Leeuwen nominated 729 N. 6th Avenue, which was built in 1903, Kat Henderson nominated the pink house, Lisette DeMars nominated any original adobe structures in the neighborhood, and Lex Willcox nominated the historical museum on 2nd Street. Rick observed that the original nomination form for the neighborhood has lots of information that could go on a plaque, that 114 of the 640 homes in the neighborhood were considered architecturally significant in the nomination, and that a significant number of homes were designed by well-known architects of the day, including Henry Josten.

II. Announcements and Call to the Audience

Judy Sensibar stated that she had made more copies of the welcome letter for new residents in the neighborhood. She requested Board members take copies and distribute them as necessary. She also stated that the letter is on the website.

III. Consent Agenda: Approval of Meeting Minutes and Treasurer's Report

Jim Glock reported that net proceeds from the sale of beer, water, and sodas at the street fair was \$9892.04 and tips were \$2024.15. This was a record high collection, mostly due to the higher price of beer plus sales of sodas and water. Tips will be split between the food bank at Trinity and Roskrige School.

There being no objections or corrections, both the Treasurer's Report and the April 2022 Minutes were approved in accordance with the provisions of the consent agenda.

IV. Pima County District 5 Report: Samantha Neville

Samantha Neville gave an update on District 5 developments, including the designation of May 23-29 as Period Poverty Awareness Week and a partnering with the diaper bank of southern Arizona to collect period products; the appointment of Jan Leshar as Pima County administrator; the adoption of a sustainability resolution authorizing the County to establish a climate action plan to reduce carbon emissions by 50 percent below its 2005 levels by 2030 and align the County's efforts with the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement; the issuance of a new coloring book of protected plants and animals in the Sonoran Desert; and the adoption of a new District 5 map to comply with state law.

V. Cleanup, May 21: Grace Lutheran Church

Judy Sensibar stated that there will be a neighborhood clean up on May 21 organized by Grace Lutheran Church. Holly Vadern stated there will be a big roll off and the clean up will start at 8:00 a.m. Grace will provide water and donuts and "we will go until we stop." Jim Glock stated that the clean up could be over in two hours because the roll off fills quickly. Judy stated that we need trucks to ferry trash to the roll off; both Jim and Holly reported having pickups. Kat Henderson asked whether any discarded items could be reused; Judy stated that anything good has already been taken and Rick McDonnell confirmed that what gets picked up is trash.

VI. Committee Reports

A. Historic Fourth Avenue Coalition: New Structure and Goals

Lisette DeMars gave an update on the work of H4AC's Sustainability and Development Committee, which has been conducting community outreach and surveys to help establish a roadmap for future projects. H4AC will be using the roadmap to seek grants and prioritize projects for the benefit of 4th Avenue-area businesses, residents, and the community. Many of the proposed projects are in the neighborhood. Lisette also stated that Shannon Riggs texted an update that funds have been allocated for businesses to fix glass and paint and that WUNA received \$1000 for traffic mitigation. A link to the survey results, the map, and the top priorities is below.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/19b7uwmE7SIHONFPUpi2TPg8mKX1iXwX/edit>

B. CCRC: Campus Community Relations Committee

Henry Werchan reported that the committee meets next week. At the last meeting, the principal topics were sidewalk repair and the cost of traffic circles (approximately \$25,000 to \$27,000). Judy stated that the City's pilot cost share sidewalk repair program has expired.

C. Streets Committee

Jim Glock reported that the Streets Committee had a meeting to review the traffic mitigation map and to discuss neighborhood priorities including the traffic circles at 5th Avenue & Fourth Street and Seventh Avenue and First Street, as well as parking, sidewalks, and traffic circles. Jim stated that Ben McDonald has agreed to assist with the work needed to get approval of a traffic circle at Seventh Avenue and First Street, although our 2022 budget for traffic circles has been exhausted. Henry Werchan asked if the above costs for traffic circles are correct; Jim stated that he looked up the man hours and materials, and with saw cutting, raising manholes, and permitting, that's what it costs.

D. Development Committee

Rick McDonnell stated that the Development Committee had a Zoom meeting on May 4. Two big issues were discussed: (1) the letter to new neighbors and the need to help them navigate the under-resourced city approval process for new projects so those projects comply with all neighborhood requirements, and (2) the upcoming May 11 continued public hearing on TEP's proposal to amend the development code to allow TEP to seek exceptions that would permit it to overground new utility lines on scenic or gateway corridors. Rick stated that TEP is looking to move line siting for the Kino to DeMoss-Petrie project to 2023 and is using the additional time to get the development code changed. Rick said we need to continue participating in the hearings and letter writing; stuffing the mailbox will be important.

[NB: Since the May 5 meeting, there have been a number of developments on TEP's proposal to amend the development code. Steve K provides a summary in his July 18 newsletter at the following link: <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/AZTUCSON/bulletins/3220f53>]

E. Parks Committee

Judy Sensibar stated that Trees for Tucson and Tucson Clean and Beautiful will be hosting a groundwater-stormwater mixer at Owl's Club on May 6 at 6:00 p.m.

VI. Adjournment

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:49.