

West University Neighborhood Association Board Meeting June 1, 2017

6:34 pm The meeting is called to order

***I Call to Order, Roll Call and Welcome:***

The following Board members are present: Fred Ronstadt; John Patterson; Jan Labate; Sally Rusk; Judy Sensibar; Carolyn Neithammer; Margaret Bly; Richard Mayers; Chris Gans; Lisette DeMars;

The following neighborhood members are present: Perry C. Baglione, Raul de los Angeles, Wim van Leeuwen, Sara Chavarria, and Francesca Jarvis.

***II Approval of Meetings Minutes and Treasurer's Report:***

Upon motion of Jan Labate and second of Chris Gans the minutes of the April 6, 2017, meeting are approved with one abstention by Chris Gans.

Upon motion of Jan Labate and second by Judy Sensibar the Treasurer's Report is approved.

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

Francesca Jarvis, WUNA resident since 1965 residing at 629 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street, discusses the state of the sidewalks and streets in the neighborhood, specifically the sidewalks on 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue between 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Streets and Jacobus. Because of the unsafe and uneven nature of the curbs, and or the lack of curb cuts, Ms. Jarvis who uses a power chair for transportation is forced to move out into the streets which are also in disrepair. She asks if there is anything WUNA can do to help with the unsafe and hazardous situation. She is referred to the Tucson Department of Transportation and Chris Gans agrees to contact Jesse Soto for relief.

A general discussion regarding the state of the streets in the neighborhood ensues.

***IV Committee reports – Sixth Ave. Road diet, Bylaws.***

Margaret Bly reports that the committee to review and refresh the bylaws is set for Tuesday June 6, 2017 at 10 a.m. at Time Market.

Carolyn Neithammer reports on the meeting with the web designer Susan Totten. The cost of the web design will be between \$1,500 and \$2,000.

A motion is made and seconded by Richard Mayers to accept the proposal and to proceed with the web design process. Upon Jim Glock's return he will be asked to provide a down payment check to Susan Totten. Richard Mayers opposes the motion and upon a vote the motion is passed.

Richard Mayers discusses the 6<sup>th</sup> Ave Road Diet and advises that the next phase will be to walk the neighborhood to gather data from the residents regarding their opinion on the matter. Mr. Mayers emphasizes that the road diet's main objective is traffic calming. The members who signed up to help walk the street at a TBA date will be contacted directly by Mr. Mayers.

Wim Leeuwen and Sara Chavarria who live on 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue address the Board expressing their concerns about the road diet plan. Discussion ensues. Ms. Chavarria requests hard data in support of the road diet and Mr. Mayers agrees to make it available to her.

***V Future WU projects:***

Fred Ronstadt from the Fourth Avenue Merchants Association would like to begin a conversation to extend the boundaries of the Street Fair north of University Blvd to approximately 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. After discussion by the members, Chris Gans proposes that a committee be formed to discuss the extension.

Fred Ronstadt further advises that a PRIDE sidewalk will be dedicated on June 23 at the intersection of 6<sup>th</sup> Street and 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

***VI Misc. Items including CCRC, neighborhood news, etc.,***

Chris Gans states that he attended the storm water harvesting program at the Ward 6 office and advises that anyone wishing to participate in the program is asked to submit their proposal to the Ward 6 office no later than June 23, 2017.

Chris Gans reminds the Board that when the Trinity buildings are demolished WUNA will need a 6 x 8 space to house historic records, files, and other materials stored by the Board.

Chris Gans further asks for suggestions to bring more community events to the neighborhood. Past ideas have included ice cream socials, music, porch fests. Any and all reasonable suggestions will be appreciated.

Chris Gans also states that the Board needs professional help to assist in legal matters to and including liquor board hearings and land use issues. Past initiatives have not been successful for a variety of reasons, but it is his belief that if professional consultants were available matters could have better outcomes for the neighborhood.

Considerable discussion ensues. A motion to approve hiring technical and or legal consultants is made by Fred Ronstadt and withdrawn. Chris Gans and Richard Mayers will continue to talk to some people in order to properly address the issue of needing to utilize legal or technical consultants. A motion will be made at a future date should the need arise.

Richard Mayers makes statements regarding the liquor board hearing regarding the Blind Tiger liquor license being sought for 628 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue and further states that a bigger and perhaps more effective stand can be taken against the bar\restaurant when they seek a land use variance. The letter prepared by the Board to address the matter was insufficient to give WUNA standing to speak at the hearing.

John Patterson reports that there have been several changes to the CCRC committee including the arrival of the new U. of A. president and the retirement of several key people. He further reports that Our Savior Lutheran Church located at Campbell, just north of Speedway, similar to Trinity Presbyterian, is seeking to re purpose parts of their buildings to include affordable housing units for seniors.

8:02 p.m. There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Margaret Bly, Block 9 representative, Acting Secretary.