



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

**05 June 2008 Board Meeting Minutes**

The West University Neighborhood Association (WUNA) Board of Directors met on Thursday, 05 June 2008, at the Trinity Presbyterian Church, 400 E. University Boulevard in Tucson.

President, Lori Boston, called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m., welcomed everyone to the last board meeting before summer break (no WUNA board meeting in July or August), and reminded all of August Pot Luck on National Night Out. Secretary, Joe Wasiak, called roll. The following board members were present: Lori Boston, Gal Witmer, Joe Wasiak, Cheri Wiens, Bridget Werchan, Brian McCarthy, Adrienne Parry, Jenn O'Connor, Carolyn Niethammer, Chris Nichols, Mary Nichols, Teresa Bommarito, Chris Gans, and John Patterson. The following were also in attendance: Patrol Officer Angel Ramirez, Jane McCullum, Margo Donaldson, Samuel Ace, Barbara Kiddle, Mindy Bernstein, Teresa Perrault, and Richard Mayers.

**MOTION:** Accept the WUNA February 2008 Board Meeting Minutes.  
Motion passed.

**MOTION:** Accept the WUNA February 2008 Treasurer's Reports.  
Motion passed unanimously.

Lori Boston made the following announcements:

- Trinity Presbyterian Church has renumbered the rooms in the Mission Center. The WUNA Office is now located in Suite 101 and we are meeting in Suite 205.
- The WUNA Ice Cream Social on Wednesday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, was a big hit with over 135 people in attendance. Lori publicly thanked Shamrock Dairy for donating all the ice cream.
- Jenn O'Connor announced receipt of approximately 130 responses to the Neighborhood Survey. Results will be used as one aspect of community input for Neighborhood Area Plan revision. Concern was expressed about folks 'stuffing the ballot box'. Jenn assured folks every effort had been made to prevent this and reminded everyone that this was only an information gathering survey, not a binding vote.

Officer Ramirez passed out pamphlets of various community services from graffiti abatement to posting of signs. Mindy Bernstein voiced condolences on the line-of-duty death of Officer Hite.

Lori Boston announced the appointment of Jane McCullum and Tom Warren as Area 10 Representative to replace Barbara Kennedy who has moved from the neighborhood.

Mindy Bernstein provided an update on the Downtown Links, announcing the next meeting of Downtown Links Citizens Advisory Committee was scheduled for Monday, June 9. Beginning at 4:30 PM various new options will be available for viewing and discussion. Her thoughts were that Mayor and Council would pass the newly presented 3D alignment regardless of DLCAC recommendations and that business interests were promoting the new alignment. Mindy's desire is to push for retention of as much historic structure in the area as possible. The DLCAC has set

an August deadline for recommendation of new alignment through the Ninth Avenue / 6<sup>th</sup> Street area.

Several other board members mentioned they had met with Ward 6 Council Member Nina Trassof and reported Nina supports the new 3D alignment for the Downtown Links. Nina expressed a strong desire to have neighborhood involvement in determining the use of vacated areas resulting from the new alignment.

Lori Boston provided an update on the Community Food Bank Distribution Center at Trinity Presbyterian Church. Distribution begins July 8 and will continue on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays 12-4 PM. The distribution center will be staffed entirely by volunteers. Between 50-60 volunteers have already signed up. Volunteer training is June 21 from 9-11 AM. Additional volunteers are still needed, especially volunteers with pickups, vans, or SUVs willing to pick up the food (this can be done at times when distribution center is not open). Anyone desiring to volunteer was asked to contact Margaret Bly, the WUNA coordinator, or Lori.

Cheri Wiens suggested that with a balance of 11,866.46 in the WUNA Treasury, we should be looking at how we manage and use our money. She suggested that a minimum amount be placed in reserve and invested to draw interest.

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| <p><b>MOTION:</b> WUNA shall maintain a minimum of \$5000 in an interest bearing account.<br/>Motion passed unanimously.</p> |
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Folks were then queried about possible uses of WUNA funds. Several suggestions arose:

- Lori mentioned that Sandra Morse knows of \$1500 to plant trees and suggested WUNA could match funds.
- John Patterson suggested hiring an arborist to conduct workshops on trimming trees.
- Historic neighborhood signage was mentioned.
- Holding periodic neighborhood cleanup days was suggested.
- Third Avenue residents suggested traffic circles and speed bumps.
- More social gatherings were suggested.
- The idea of holding a Green Initiatives Workshop or Festival was brought up.
- It was suggested WUNA do outreach to neighborhood schools and businesses.

Folks suggesting ideas were asked to research the idea and get on the agenda to provide details at a future meeting.

The Business Committee was tasked with drafting a budget.

Gal Witmer provided information of current historic preservation issues. She reminded everyone that Tucson Mayor and Council would be voting on establishment of Neighborhood Preservation Zones at their June 10 meeting. The ordinance proposes to incorporate Historic Preservation Zones within Neighborhood Preservation Zones. She mentioned that the Chair of the Historic Commission has hired a consultant to investigate Green Initiatives in Historic Districts and that this was a topic for discussion during the upcoming State Historic Conference in Rio Rico.

Gal brought up that the Armory Park Historic Advisory Board has placed ads in local realty publications about historic zoning. She thought it might be appropriate for WUNA to fund West University Historic Zone Advisory Board to place similar ads in contractor publications.

This kicked off a discussion about how new and current residents are informed about the significance of living in historically zoned property. An idea was raised to provide a welcome package to new residents that included information on living in historically zoned property. Carolyn Niethammer volunteered to put together a welcome packet containing the historic zoning guidelines. Brian McCarthy volunteered to check the Home section of Sunday's newspapers to find properties that sold in the neighborhood. It was agreed that the July neighborhood mailing would focus on historic zoning – who to contact when you want to do a modification to your property and what the process entails.

Lori Boston gave a quick summary of WUNA events planned this summer:

- Ice Cream Social on June 4.
- Movie Nights at Trinity Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall on Wednesdays except July 2, beginning with dinner at 5:30 PM, movie at 6 PM, followed by discussion.
- Chili Cook-Off on July 30 with professional food judge.
- West University Neighborhood Pot Luck 7-9 PM, August 5, in Catalina Park.

Joe Wasiak reviewed last year's request for Back-to-Basics Grant to install historic signage throughout West University Neighborhood. He solicited ideas for modifying and submitting the request this year. It was felt that some funding could be obtained from the Pima County Historic Commission and perhaps WUNA to show buy in. It was suggested to scale back signage to the perimeter on the neighborhood and major thru-streets like Euclid, University, Fourth Ave, and Sixth Ave.

**MOTION:** Have Joe Wasiak prepare a revised Back-to-Basics proposal for neighborhood signage by September WUNA Board Meeting.  
Motion passed unanimously.

Chris Nichols reported on Tucson High Magnet School Summit Meetings. He stated that summit participants agreed that through a group effort of THMS, TUSD, TPD, City of Tucson, and neighborhoods much has improved in the area surrounding THMS. He encouraged residents to contribute to the Badger Watch Program, a tax donation program funding THMS clubs to regularly clean up neighborhood surrounding THMS campus.

**MOTION:** WUNA match Iron Horse Neighborhood Association's donation to the Badger Watch Program.  
Motion passed unanimously.

It was suggested that WUNA consider advertising at their Fourth Avenue Street Fair beer booth that a portion of their profits would go toward the Badger Watch Program.

Chris responded to a previous meeting's request for follow up on traffic mitigation. Chris stated that the position from TDOT was eventually there would be a decorative median barrier between Third Avenue and left turn lane at Euclid along 6<sup>th</sup> Street to address pedestrian and vehicular traffic issues. When installed, the barrier at First Avenue would probably be removed and the barrier at Second Avenue retained. In the meantime, TDOT intends to leave things as they are since TPD and TUSD reports these mitigation devices have made a significant difference in the area. If residents want the devices removed they would need to circulate a petition.

Chris also reported on the May 30<sup>th</sup> meeting of the TUSD Safety Review Committee. At this meeting a Roskrige Assistant Principal raised concerns for student safety around the perimeter

of Roskruge, especially Third Avenue and 5<sup>th</sup> Street. The committee took an action to develop back-in, angled parking around the Roskruge perimeter and establishing a dedicated student drop off zone along Second Avenue in an effort to improve student pedestrian safety.

Chris Nichols announced the new neighborhood website: [westuniversityneighborhood.org](http://westuniversityneighborhood.org)

He asked that board members provide him information about their years on the board and projects they were involved with. He intends to place this on the website.

John Patterson reported on the last CCRC meeting. There was a presentation on the new I.C.A. building on the eastside of campus. John expressed his concern that the University gave great consideration to Sam Hughes Neighborhood concerns when planning the I.C.A., yet seems to be ignoring concerns of West University Neighborhood and Pie Allen Neighborhood when it comes to the new dormitories on the southwest edge of the campus.

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| <p><b>MOTION:</b> John Patterson is to report to the CCRC that WUNA objects to the height and density changes of the new dorms near our neighborhood.<br/>Motion passed unanimously.</p> |
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John reported that Melissa Vito, Dean of Students, was making efforts to reduce the abandonment of animals as students depart the campus at the end of the school year. She has added awareness discussions to orientations and included this subject in the Student Housing Directory.

John also reported that Jefferson Park residents have incorporated as a 501-3(c) to advocate neighborhood rights against student housing developers in their area.

Lastly, John summarized Red Tag statistics for the year: 57% non-university related / 43% university related. 1/3 of the university related were associated with fraternities. Dean of Students processed 19, 1 deemed a major violation.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joe Wasiak  
Secretary