

WEST UNIVERSITY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

WUNA Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, October 8, 2020, 6:00-7:30 PM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85321504375?pwd=WGRWWmc2M2VodzJWS0hJYVNTS0U3dz09>

Minutes

1. Call to Order, Roll Call and Welcome. 6:03 p.m.

The following Board members are present: Margaret Bly, Brian Chaneka, Lisette DeMars, Jim Glock, Lenor Glover, Jan Labate, Jamie Leon Guerrero (FAMA), Rick McDonnell, Sally Rusk, Judy Sensibar, Willem Van Leeuwen, Henry Werchan, and David Zipps. Also present are: Diana Amado (Ward 6), Alicia Constantino, WUNA resident, Off. Bill Bradway, Sgt. Jack Julsing, Parks Officer Jen Hider, Capt Dennison, Lt. Tim Reese, and Off. Preston Hould from Tucson Police Department.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes and Treasurer's Report

The minutes are approved with minor corrections. Jim Glock states that the Report was submitted immediately prior to the commencement of this meeting and that the Treasury is in good shape. The Treasurer's Report is accepted in accordance with consent agenda provisions.

3. Announcements and Call to the Audience

Jim Bly (via Margaret) asks if the neighborhood can do something to help improve the walkability of the sidewalks. Diana states that sidewalks are part of the right of way and the responsibility of the homeowners. Rick McDonnell states that when a particularly egregious

sidewalk is encountered neighbors can contact the City to file a complaint and ask that sidewalk codes be enforced. Living Streets Alliance may also have some ideas. The issue of sidewalks will be on the November agenda.

Jan Labate asks about solar panels and preserving the historic tax benefits. Conversation ensues. Rick McDonnell will draft a letter to the West University historic board asking for guidance on this important issue.

4. Discussion with TPD

Several officers discuss their efforts in the parks, especially DeAnza and Catalina. They have made a significant arrest and reduced the drug trafficking; however, upon his release, the offender continued his activities in a different park. Clearing out DeAnza Park has the negative effect of sending the homeless to Catalina Park.

The Dog Park in De Anza should help to reduce the number of offenders there as generally speaking people wishing to break the law do not want to do so where their activities can be easily observed. Recently the officers were pleased to notice children playing in the park and a reduction in the accumulation of trash. They reminded us all that correct park usage is really the best way to deter criminal activity.

TPD will continue to use the criminal justice system and zone restrictions to enforce compliance and reduce unsavory activities in our parks.

Jim Glock makes statements about the Sunrise to Sunset provisions and the use of the sidewalks in Catalina Park. Unfortunately, the

restrictions apply to everyone. The issue of better sidewalks will be revisited at the November meeting.

Jack Julsing, TPD, with the Homeless Outreach team can be contacted at 520 528 1000 or Jack.Julsing@tucsonaz.gov. He states that he is beginning to make early morning sweeps of the parks and removing shopping carts; he is hopeful that this action will help reduce trash accumulations. He further makes a report about a program he is instituting based on something being used by Mesa Police Department named Housing First. The concept is to provide housing for the homeless where they can have privacy in their own space rather than a shelter. He estimates that the cost of managing one homeless person on the street can be as high as \$30,000 per year, but individual housing as little as \$12,000; a savings of over \$18,000 per year in addition to the concept being more humane. He is also instituting a program called Community Court where the laws can be managed better by requiring the offenders to obtain I.D.s, enroll in programs, to help them get back on their feet and into their own homes. This program in Mesa has reduced arrests by approximately 75%. Here in Tucson, 14% of those contacted have accepted the housing option. Their goal is to have something they call Functional Housing and believe there will be additional money available for the future of the programs.

WUNA members are asked to write letters to the Mayor and Council in support of the programs.

5. Community Events

Lenor Glover reminds everyone that October 25, 9-11 am: Planting Day for Water Harvesting and trees, shrubs and the irrigation improvements will be completed then. Jim Glock reminds the Board

that money is available to provide refreshments; receipts should be submitted to him for reimbursements.

6. Committee Reports

Lisette De Mars, Parks Committee states that the virtual training on mental health and how to best manage people in crisis is set for November 21. The training will be five and a half hours. If interested, keep a lookout for the flyer which should be available soon.

Henry Werchan, CCRC: Campus Community Relations Committee states that the next meeting is set for Tuesday, October 14. He will have a more extensive report in November. Further, he believes in-person classes at the university will resume October 12.

Rick McDonnell and David Zipps, Development Committee thank everyone who participated in the TEP survey. TEP is no longer planning to bring the 138kilovolt wires down Euclid. Please contact Rick directly if you have additional questions. The TEP issue is now the concern of other neighborhoods. It is time to step back, although we will continue to be supportive of undergrounding the power lines.

Jamie Leon Guerrero, FAMA states that there is a conversation regarding the Winter street fair. She hopes to have concrete information for the November meeting. Exciting things are in the future. Four new businesses have opened recently. Stay tuned.

7. Future Meetings Discussion

The consensus is that Zoom meetings have been successful; November and December meetings will continue via Zoom. Willem VanLeeuwen states that he has a Zoom account and would be happy to be the

coordinator. Diana Amado also states that they will continue to be present and or to sponsor the Zoom meeting.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting is adjourned

7:32 pm

Respectfully submitted

Margaret Bly

Recording Secretary.