

Northwest Neighborhood Association (NWN) monthly meeting, Saturday 4th October 2008
monthly meeting minutes
1 P.M.-3 P.M., 4 October 2008
Northwest Neighborhood Center, 2160 N 6th Avenue

Members present: Dan Dorsey, Armando Vargas, Hannah Soreng, James Ray, James Krepps, and Leona Davis.

Guests present: Judith Anderson, Pro Neighborhoods; and Kara Cutis, Tucson Police Department (TPD)

1 General items to begin meeting

1-a. Welcome & introductions - Armando opened the meeting at 1:08 PM and introductions were completed.

1-b. September minutes were passed out, read and accepted by consensus.

2. Ward III Liaison, Tamara Prime, report in absentia

All items in her report are covered as separate items below in the minutes.

3. TPD general report

Kara Curtis, TPD liaison person to the community, gave a short report and handed out the crime statistics for the last month for our neighborhood. There was some general talk of crime in the neighborhood.

4. NWN concerns

4-a. Housekeeping – Checks & Balances – The members approved and acknowledged miscellaneous letters that Armando had sent over the last three months concerning the Back to Basics grant money request for the Bronx Wash termini and mini park at 6th and Linden; and the bicycle boulevard proposed for 4th Ave as a part of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTA). Both items are implied in the neighborhood conceptual plan and Bronx Wash plan, yet neither item in itself is an action and implementation plan unless the NWN takes or approves action. There was various discussion on both items.

4-b. Web site development discussion

Hannah has proposed we develop a website for NWN, similar to the ones other neighborhoods have. There was general consensus that the idea was a good one, and Hannah agreed to find more information on what Department of Neighborhood Resources (DNR) support was available to help us get started, as well as look at other examples of neighborhood websites.

4-c. Possible changing meeting date and time

There was discussion only on possibly changing the date and time of our monthly meetings to the first Wednesday of the month from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM. There was general agreement on this time, and it was decided this item would be put to a vote next meeting.

5. Neighborhood Improvements updates

5-a. Pima County Neighborhood Reinvestment (PCNR)

The Intergovernmental Agreement IGA is still pending final approval from Board of Supervisors (BOS) then it will be moved onward July 2009 to the City design unit. The BOS will meet this week to vote on PCNR projects, and letters to the BOS in support of our project might help. There was general agreement that separate funding for the pedestrian bridge over Bronx Wash at 5th Ave will be needed, and that should be a priority for the next major funding source search.

5-b. Pro Neighborhoods grant

There was discussion about a possible grant request for tree planting along 4th Avenue. This is another project that is implied in our neighborhood conceptual plan. It was agreed that Dan, James K, Leona, and Hannah would form an ad hoc exploratory committee to look at applying for

a Pro Neighborhoods grant for this purpose. Judith, from Pro Neighborhoods, gave a briefing on how the grant process works and what the approval board is looking for in projects.

5-c. Tree pruning on 4th Avenue between Lester and Waverly

A tentative date was set for November 15th. Armando will work on getting a roll off for the pruning debris and some cutting and pruning tools for us to use.

6. Other events/reminders

6-a. The Drachman Institute will present on Monday, 6 October 2008, a solar energy workshop at Northwest Center at 630pm.

6-b. There will be a Mansfield Park Neighborhood Center (MPNC) meeting on Wednesday, 8 October 2008, at Parkside Terrace Apts at 630pm.

6-c. Ward III Neighbors will meet on Wednesday, 15 October 2008, at Woods Library at 630pm.

6-d. There will be a 'Greening' event, Saturday, 25 October 2008, at the Ward III office, 1-3pm, which will involve a plant exchange, Trees for Tucson and water harvesting information.

7. North Tucson Weed & Seed Steering Committee and Community (NTWSC), and North Tucson Coalition

7-a. NTWS Steering Committee/Community updates & next meeting

7-b. North Tucson Coalition of the involved neighborhood associations. It was decided the vote for our involvement would be delayed until it was determined if the NTWS Coalition actually received the funding from the grant.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 PM and the next NWNA meeting is scheduled for Saturday, 1 November, at 1 P.M.