

MITCHELL PARK WEST NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

MINUTES October 4, 2008

1. Recap of Meeting with Tempe Parks Dept, Oct 1

We received a grant for 9 new Mitchell Park benches. Four of the existing benches located in the Children's Area will be replaced. Locations for the remaining 5 benches were shown in a map available at the meeting depicted by pink flags.

Bench design will be the standard blue with 2 end arm rests and one in the middle. Benches with this design can now be seen at Jaycee Park. Benches will be ordered as soon as the concrete is poured. The City anticipated the benches to be installed the first of 2009.

Mitchell Park is number 24th on the list of parks to be renovated.

Over 400 trees were lost in City parks during the Sept 1 wind storm. City wants input on replacements. Benefits of Jacaranda trees were discussed.

The idea of a plaque in the park commemorating Margaret McGinn was preliminarily dismissed by Parks' officials as against Parks Dept policy. The City would be willing to add Margaret to list of commemorated individuals kept at a City office. This idea was discussed with an action item to continue further discussions with the City on this matter to keep pursuing alternatives.

Basketball court lights will soon be equipped with shading to prevent light overflow into residences.

2. Traffic Calming

Eric Iwersen of the City will discuss the traffic calming plan at the December meeting. Traffic signs and barricades are temporary and will be reviewed by the City in November. Check out the Tempe in Motion web page of the City web site for details.

Streets further west of Mitchell Drive have no calming but could be considered by the City with neighborhood input. Traffic circles will soon have signs telling drivers to go counterclockwise around the circle for left turns. Neighbors report that chicanes are working as intended for slowing traffic.

The importance of calming circle landscaping and business landscaping was noted.

Check out the Tempe in Motion web page of the City web site for providing any comment and checking further details.

A plea was made by Penny to email Eric Iwersen of the Neighborhood traffic calming with positive messages as well as suggestions.

3. Alleys

Mayor Hallman has expressed increased interest in alleys as a community focus. Los Angeles has over 900 miles of alleys. Pat Moffitt will meet soon with Mitchell Park East on alley activities. A subcommittee was formed with Pat Moffitt, April and Patricia as members.

Dumpsters left in alleys with lids open after pickup days can be a problem. Also discussed was fence damage by City equipment from bulk trash pickup and garbage dumping from persons not residing in the area. Residents are urged to call in complaints.

4. Art Fest

A large more formal art fest is now put on hold due to significant projected costs to meet City requirements if City services are needed or due to any retail activities.

Alternatives such as a scaled down approach was discussed.

5. Other

Continue to check the MPWNA web page for information.

Dulux Paints on north side of University west of Priest can give Mitchell Park West residents a discount on Glidden paints if they mention the MPWNA.