



MITCHELL PARK WEST NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Board Meeting Minutes

June 11, 2009, 6 pm, Childsplay conference room

Board Members Present: Ira Domskey (ID) Chair, Mark Lymer (ML) Vice Chair, Kirby Spitler (KS), Pat Konomos (PK), Scott Seibel (SS), Carol Sparks (CS), Billy Gawrych (BG), David Saar (DS), Joe Gibbs (JG), Monica Wadsworth-Seibel (MW)

Board Members Absent: Penny Wilson

Residents and Guests: Mac McGinn (MM)

CALL TO ORDER OF REGULAR MEETING: Ira Domskey, Chair

1. REVIEW OF AGENDA: Approved

2. APPROVE MINUTES FROM MAY 9 and 14, 2009 MEETINGS:

Approved with corrections

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS – NONE

4. CONTINUING ITEMS

1. 2009 Neighborhood Grant Application– Community Garden

- The time line for the grant review and decision making was discussed. The selection panel meets in July. End of August is approval by Council of grants selected.
- The Board discussed a draft letter to Shauna Warner responding to the concerns and allegations made by John Purchase regarding the grant development process. Two Board members were sympathetic to Mr. Purchase's concerns and stated that the letter did not reflect their views. It was agreed that the letter should state that it was not a consensus of the Board members.

2. Mitchell Park – New Basketball Court lighting

Sub-Committee to the Board: 'Park Liaison Committee', Kirby Spitler, Penny Wilson and Mac McGinn

- ID
- Characterized Mark Richwine's comments
 - Bruce Liddil's concerns were not necessarily those held by Parks & Rec.
 - It was time to upgrade lights anyway
 - Ina, as facilitator did a good job

- Keep the courts lit and available at night and help out Bruce
- KS -Didn't feel the facilitator did that good of a job
- Some things that were said were not true or factual
- Was disappointed by the City's expert, Roger Smith (a consultant to the Parks and Rec. Dept.) advice/explanations
- PK -Asked if the round fixtures be shielded?
- MM -Parks solutions will be presented at next meeting
- Overall, the process has moved forward
- Don Happ said other cities have timers on court lights
- Hopes Tempe will look at other cities
- BG -Timers are the best option.
- Also, the lights are being turned off at 9pm. The sign on the courts reads 10:30pm. Turning the lights off at 10:30 has been a great compromise considering that the park is open much later. 9pm is way too early to be shutting the lights off.
- PK -What would the cost of timers be? What was the cost to install the lights there now?
- JG -There might be a cost savings with timers.
- CS -Are there dimmers available for these fixtures?
- ML - There are LED light fixtures available for this use.
- Mike Kroelinger can attend the next meeting.
- MK suggested looking at Raleigh, NC and Scottsdale
- Tempe should always 'lead the way'.
- MM -Tempe should keep in mind the dark sky ordinance in the already in the zoning ordinance
- KS - All the parks are getting lighting upgrades
- MW -Richwine listened at the last meeting
- BG -Keep in mind ASU is near. Lots of students use Mitchell Park
- ML -We need to get the Master Planning process moved up.
- Suggest we 'define' the 'types of parks' so everyone can be on the same page
- During the Master Planning process, that is inclusive, there is consensus
- KS -The early description of the process for this issue should be remembered and followed
- JG -Ina should attend and facilitate the next meeting, and everyone should bring ideas to the table
- DS -Clear understanding of the solution and process should be understand and corroborated
- MW -Court lights at basketball should not be misrepresented as a general lighting source for other uses at the park
- BG -Feels that the spillage of lighting is a bonus to other activities

3. 2008 Neighborhood -Grant Benches

- KS - The Board has the opportunity and additional power in communications with the City
- The Board can't abrogate freedom of speech
- The Board votes in majority, and the majority vote is the Board opinion
- The work at the park slabs was sub-standard (commercial) work
- DS -Did the city use an outside contractor?
- KS/ML-Yes
- JG -Parks employees have been seen driving their trucks on the new, not fully cured, bench pads
- ML - ADA guidelines do not dictate the radiused areas on the pads
- JG -The Liaison Comm should write a letter to the Parks Dept and get back to the Board with the response from Parks
- KS - Read aloud a draft. The draft of the note was approved.

4. Goals and Visioning Committee

PK/DS/CS volunteered to meet to meet over the summer and develop a list of ideas for presentation to the Board at its next meeting. They will do some outreach to get input from neighborhood.

5. Website

- ID - Is there a way to have neighborhoodlink.com act more like a list serve?
- ML -The website masters have been responsive to other requests for info. Suggest you write them about the idea.

6. Summer Events

- PK - Request the City Tool Box and dumpster for a cleanup
- CS - Maybe that would be better in the Fall.

7. Art Grant

- ID -The 'call to artists' will be before the next meeting.

5. Review of Action Items and Next Meeting

Aug 27 is the next Board Meeting meeting.

ADJOURNMENT