



MITCHELL PARK WEST NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/Mitchell_Park_West/home

General Meeting Minutes, February 27, 2010

Location: Mitchell Park Ramada

Present: All Mitchell Park West Board members, 7 residents, three City staff members, and Mitchell Park East resident Linda Knutson.

Greeting and Call to Order

Announcements

Art on the Fence: Scott said all is ready to roll on March 6.

City Staff Reports and Discussions

1. *Tempe Police:* Sgt. Click reported theft in our area is down 70 percent. Graffiti is also down, helped by early reporting and quick response by the city. She encouraged us to continue to lock up all homes and belongings and to report suspicious activity.
2. *Transportation:* Jayson Hartong, Senior Transit Coordinator, stated since revenue is down, the city proposes cuts and changes in routes and rates for both rail and bus transportation. He handed out opinion surveys. A public hearing on this issue will be held March 1 at Pyle Center. A final decision will be made on March 31.
3. *Neighborhood Services:* Shauna Warner, Director, stated construction of the permanent traffic-calming structures will start in April. In response to questions, she stated the calming structures are reducing speeds. Funds for the project were provided by new Tempe developers.

Continuing Items

1. *Maryanne Corder Grant Application:*

- David Saar introduced Linda Knutson who came to explain the process Mitchell Park East followed for their winning grants. She talked about the past standpipe mosaic projects. Then she explained that the grant application process for art in the roundabouts and chicanes was much more complex, involving more rigorous codes and standards. She offered to share her grant information and list of artists. The association encouraged local artists to apply. David suggested that we identify the grant project and form a committee. Penny proposed we vote to apply for both the \$50 M and \$15M Maryanne Corder grants, for art installation in the traffic calming projects. It was unanimously passed. David encouraged volunteers to contact him ASAP. We were reminded that the deadline for the application is May 17.
- Kirby wanted to talk about a possible tree grant, but agreed to defer that discussion to another time. He also asked about the city's policy for a community garden, and how that affected the denial of our 2009 grant application. Shauna stated park policy did not affect the determination of our application, that there were many requests for the \$50 grant, and that the award was made after reviewing the merits of each project.

2. *Update on Improving Communication:*

- Ira stated the website has not been used much, and wondered if creating our own page would not work better. The door-to-door flyers seem to work better at communicating.
- Pat said she had reorganized flyer distribution into districts. She then asked Shauna to clarify the geographical limits of Mitchell Park East and West, because there was a discrepancy between City records and our history of hand-delivered notices. While the west side of Roosevelt is officially in East, it has been considered to belong to West for many years. Shauna said both associations had to agree if the official list was changed. She agreed to pursue that issue.

New Topics

1. *Election of Board Members:* Ira stated the election must be held at the annual meeting. He urged younger residents to get involved and run for the board.
2. *Annual Meeting:* After some discussion, the group determined the next General Meeting be the Annual Meeting, April 10. We will elect a new board then.
3. *Open Discussion:* Kirby stated that since the vacant high-rise buildings downtown affect our neighborhood, we should be more informed about their future. He proposed a possible tour of the building by our members. He said he would check on the feasibility of this idea.

Meeting adjourned.

Calendar of Meetings

Board Meeting: Wednesday, March 10 [post meeting, this changed to March 17]

General /Annual Meeting: Saturday, April 10, Mitchell Park Ramada, 10:30 AM