

NWNA Minutes, July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2007

Armando Vargas, President

John Dahlstrand, acting secretary

At approximately 1:05 PM Armando called the meeting to order. In attendance were: John Dahlstrand, Ray James, Mike Katherina, Tamara Prime, Martha Retallick, Rebecca Ruoppe, Hanna Soreng, Armando Vargas, and a police officer.

Armando began by presenting a draft of the NWNA newsletter for review. A few suggestions for improvements and additions were offered.

Tamara Prime from the Ward 3 office came to provide updates for “Back to Basics.” She noted that RTA funds are an option for projects and that the Grant Road Taskforce will begin meeting this month.

During Tamara’s remarks Ray James noted that there was a manufactured home near the intersection of First Avenue and Grand road that was a visual blight on the neighborhood (El Cortez) and who’s occupants were problematic.

The meeting continued with introductions of attendees.

Armando presented the minutes from the June NWNA meeting. The following corrections were noted; The names of Martha Retallick and Karin Uhlich were misspelled, and in item #8, Earth911.org should be noted as an information resource rather than a recycling help organization. The minutes were accepted with these corrections.

Ray James reported that the playground that replaced a park softball field did not seem to be getting watered. Mansfield Park will be looking into the problem.

The TPD report wasn’t presented because our usual police representative was not in attendance. The attending office did say that shoplifting was still a problem in the Grant/Oracle corridor.

National Night Out activities were described. Any updates can be sent to Karen Uhlich’s website.

Armando passed out a draft of a potential response statement to the NPZ map sessions. The NPZ Map meeting time is 5PM on Monday, July 9<sup>th</sup>. The discussion included concerns about minidorm placement and density of placement and occupation and the resultant parking and traffic problems. Concerns were made about design elements and the quality of construction in relation to the longevity and appearance of the minidorms and how that might affect the rental population and therefore the neighborhood.

It was noted that students creating problems can be reported to University of Arizona authorities.

It was moved and seconded that the NPZ Map response draft be accepted. The “ays” carried it.

Armando passed out copies of the Traffic Calmed Neighborhood master plan cost estimates document as well as the 4<sup>th</sup> working draft of the Mansfield Park NWNNA Description and Needs.

Rebecca Ruopp, City Urban Planning & Design, facilitated the PCNR proposal discussion. Pima County potentially gives \$500,000 grants for neighborhood projects. Given that limit, a prioritizing exercise of the various different parts of the master plan was conducted by Rebecca. The Fourth Avenue portion of the Master plan was taken out of discussion for the exercise because it can be funded from a different source. During the discussion it was requested that the difference between a “greenway” and a “walkway” in the document be defined. In the document, a greenway is landscaped street with pedestrian facilities and a walkway is a landscaped pedestrian path that coincides with a city easement between property lines.

The prioritizing exercise ranked the various parts of the Traffic Calmed Neighborhood master plan as follows:

1. Elm St. chicanes
2. 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue greenway
3. 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue greenway
4. 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue pedestrian walkway
5. 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue pedestrian walkway.

The initial cost projections for the Elm St chicanes and the 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue greenway together added up to a bit more than the \$500,000 potential budget but it was suggested that as the two of them are more thoroughly explored, ways could be found to meet the budget limit.

The result of the exercise was a charge to Katie Gannon, Drachman Institute, that includes both the Elm St. chicanes and the 5<sup>th</sup> Ave greenway as a single project. The two parts of the project should be developed with a view to meet the budget limit.

Armando requested that the items in section IV of the Neighborhood Reinvestment Proposal that were not on the floor for discussion be moved to section VI. The consensus was, yes.

The meeting adjourned at 3:26PM.