

SOUTH PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Meeting Minutes, April 3, 2006

Co-Chair Maggie Gerring called the meeting to order and began introductions and dues. The minutes of the March meeting were read and approved.

Police Report: Gang graffiti and tagging are occurring all over the neighborhood. Drug houses in the neighborhood are still visible and police are keeping an eye on activity. The Arts & Culture Center was vandalized—many windows broken and walls graffitied. The alarm system had not be activated.

David Martinez from Alegra Printing and Imaging introduced his new business at the former location of Electronic City on Park Avenue. He has been in business in Tucson for 25 years, doing high quality copying, banners, cards and the like for Tucson businesses. He will have about 20 full-time employees.

Eliseo Garza, Director of COT Department of Neighborhood Resources, reported on the establishment of five City Teams which consist of employees from different city departments, and which will work on reports of residential code violations. All the City Inspectors have been moved to DNR and will work on violations under the recently-completed Consolidated Code. He reported that graffiti is a city-wide problem and they are working on it through youth education and communication.

Detective Martha Bracamonte from the Gang Unit reported that there have been 75 to 85 gangs identified in Tucson with possibly 2500 to 3000 members. "Active" membership is difficult to track. There are four gangs that operate in our area: Western Hills Posse Bloods, South Park Family Gangsters Bloods, Vista Bloods, and the 36th Street Posse Bloods. Gang members are identified by showing two of seven possible criteria, qualifying them to be listed in the Gang Unit's file.

Adopt-A-Park: There will be a work party at Silverlake Park on Saturday, April 22nd. Coffee, juice and breakfast pastries will be provided at 9 am, courtesy of Ward V.

The meeting was adjourned, the next regular meeting being Monday, May 1, at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia Garcia, Secretary