

# PIERSON PLACE ASSOCIATION

Neighbors Creating A Better Neighborhood

Volume 1 - Edition 2 - Feb 2006

## Committee Chairs:

### President:

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### Light Rail:

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## Mid Quarter Announcement

(see president's message for more details)

At the last general meeting on January 31, 2006:

1. Members voted to delay the annual election of officers and board members until a later date
2. Members voted to form a committee to review the bylaws and the election process, and it is expected to make recommendations to revise both.

To address the election format, community inclusion, timeliness, fairness, and other concerns, the following members volunteered to be on the committee: Steve Bass, Joe Harban, Shirley Perera, Ken Waters, Jo Ann Muench, Brett Bell, Beverly Bodioga, Mary Mitchell, Barbara Mitchell, Susan Benton, Joanne winter, Elaine McLean, Randy Leon, Teryl Sands, Patricia Pace-Anderson, Charles Jones

Everyone in the neighborhood was not present at the general meeting, and this is your invitation to participate.

Rewriting the bylaws is likely to result in profound changes to how the association operates in the future.

If you wish to be involved in this process by becoming a committee member and providing insight regarding the formulation of bylaws, attend the next committee meeting noted below.

This is YOUR chance to provide YOUR input and add YOUR opinions to how you think YOUR neighborhood association should operate.

Attend the next meeting if you wish to be involved in formulating the future of the association.

## Next Meeting:

Sunday, February 26th, 4:00 pm, at The Donor Network of Arizona Office, 201 W. Coolidge St. Come and see what's happening in YOUR neighborhood!

## New Bylaws Committee:

The first bylaws committee meeting was held on 2-9-06, attended by the following members: Teryl Sands, Steve Bass, Travis Benton, Randy Leon, Pete Zorbes, Charles Jones, Joe Harban, Patricia Pace-Anderson, Shirley Peralta, Jo Ann Muench, Joann Winter.

The members present decided to:

- 1.) set a time frame of April-May for completing the project,
- 2.) obtain bylaws from other neighborhoods to research various bylaw formats,
- 3.) contact other historic neighborhoods to learn about the pros and cons of different formats,
- 4.) provide progress reports to the neighborhood at various stages in the process.

**Block Watch is about calling someone  
if you see anything out of the ordinary in your  
surroundings.**

## President's Message:

We've accomplished many great things for the neighborhood over the last few years.

But right now, the association is going through some major changes, and I think you should know about them. Some think the changes are for the better, and some not, and the information below is presented so that everyone can decide for themselves.

In the past, we have operated on a group consensus format, doing whatever the group of members thought was best for their neighborhood at the time. This was the underlying philosophy in all of our endeavors, but during the last few months some members have ignored this concept.

Some members have started doing association business on their own, in their own manner, without telling anyone, and without getting consensus opinion from the residents who are affected. Most all of the members have no idea what these few members are doing until after they have started, or

even finished it. In short, most residents are unaware of what some members are doing to their neighborhood.

This has created divisiveness among members, caused lots of dissention, and wreaked havoc on our normal processes. It has provoked some very negative email campaigns, and caused significant damage to our reputation within city departments and neighboring associations. Some uninformed members torpedoed our last two general meetings, which eliminated the productivity that was expected to occur at those meetings. And even in other venues, the personal agendas of a few members have precluded other members from doing great things for the neighborhood.

This could be viewed as a disaster from a city perspective. It's no secret that neighborhoods in turmoil get very little help (if any) from the city and other groups. No one wants to work with those who can't even agree amongst themselves.

Some examples of what has been happening lately are: some members offered to help with the elections, and then took them over and refused to run them as normal, without telling anyone or getting consensus from the group; some have gathered many of our email addresses and sent broadcast emails to only those members, without telling anyone or getting consensus from the group; some who broadcast emails expose everyone's email address in the cc: line, without telling anyone, getting consent from the addressees, or getting consensus from the group; some don't like a few of our methods, and instead of joining the group and offering to help change things, they attempt to disrupt and destroy what they don't like; some circulated a petition opposing the elections to only two blocks in the neighborhood, without telling the rest of the neighborhood about it; some attempted to disrupt and destroy our last two general meetings in October and January; some have started a committee to rewrite our bylaws and they've met without informing everyone in the neighborhood; some have started a website for the neighborhood, without telling anyone or getting consensus from the group; some are posting our internal emails on

this website, without telling anyone, asking about privacy, or getting consensus from the group; some are going door-to-door to obtain names and addresses of all residents without telling anyone or getting consensus from the group; and the list goes on and on ....

I am sure that some things were done with the very best of intentions, and many of these members have good ideas that should be pursued. This is all about the method they use to advance their ideas. Of course, it's a free country and everyone can do as they wish, but think about what it would be like if this continues: individual members doing whatever they want to the neighborhood, whenever they want, without any notice or consensus opinion from those who are affected. It's likely to be a disaster in terms of productivity, divisiveness, project compatibility, pursuing neighborhood-wide projects, etc., etc., and most importantly, it would leave everyone in the position of having no say in what happens to their neighborhood.

Maybe the majority of members think these things are ok and should be left to unfold as they may, and maybe they don't. Either choice is a fair position to take, but no one will know unless everyone voices their opinion when the bylaws are being revised.

I urge you to step up and throw your opinion into the mix at the next bylaws committee meeting on Sunday, January 26th, at 4:00 pm, at the Donor Network Offices at 201 W. Coolidge St. This is where new ground rules will be formulated for how our association operates, and what comes out of this process will be the foundation of the association in the future. There are many variables that could impact your quality of life. You will have to live with the changes that are adopted in this process, so it's in your best interest to get involved and make sure you are comfortable with the outcome.

As you probably know, neighborhood associations can do many great things for a neighborhood. But, don't underestimate the fact that they are only as good as the input they receive from those who care. One small thing you can do for the future viability of your neighborhood is attend this next meeting and make your opinions known.

Most of you know that I have enjoyed serving this neighborhood for many years. In the last four months, I've spent most of my neighborhood time dealing with the issues mentioned above, and it has been dreadful and inconsistent with my personal goals, to say the least. It seems futile to donate more of my time to dealing with these issues, and running for re-election in this scenario does not appeal to me. I originally started in this to do some great things for the neighborhood, and I've accomplished those things and feel good about them. I've made some great friendships along the way, and I truly hope that everyone is up to the challenges that lie ahead. And, I know you are.

### **CRIME STATS**

(10-05 to 12-05)

Assault 2, Auto Theft 12,  
Burglary 14, Drugs 5, Robbery 1, Sex Crimes 0,  
Theft 5, Property Crimes 31.

How many crimes go unreported?

Don't hesitate to call the police if you see  
anything unusual.

### **THANK YOU - DONOR NETWORK**

Many thanks go to the Donor Network of Arizona for hosting our meetings in their office.

### **IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS**

(area code 602)

Emergency	911
Police (crime stop)	262-6151
Community Action Officer	
David Chambers	534-2637
Neighborhood Specialist	
Lisa Hubbard	266-7682
Neighborhood Services	262-7344
Code Violations	262-7844
Councilman Simplot	262-7447
Mayor Gordon	262-7111
Block Watch (x4056)	534-2424
Graffiti Removal	495-7014
Historic Preservation	261-8699
Neighborhood Clean Ups	262-4820
Sanitation	262-7251
Animal Control	506-7387
Poison Control	253-3334
Southwest Gas (leaks)	271-4277
Arizona Public Service	371-7171
City Water Department	262-6251



**PEIRSON PLACE ASSOCIATION**  
*Neighbors Creating A Better Neighborhood*

198 West Mariposa Street, Ste. 7  
Phoenix, Arizona 85013

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Phoenix, AZ

**Next Meeting: Sunday, February 26th**

You are invited to help reorganize YOUR neighborhood association on February 26th, see inside for details

Email us at:  
**[piersonplace@cox.net](mailto:piersonplace@cox.net)**  
to learn about what's going on in  
**YOUR neighborhood!**

The next meeting is about rewriting our bylaws.

There are variables that could affect your quality of life.

This is YOUR chance to provide YOUR input and YOUR opinions regarding how YOU think YOUR neighborhood association should operate.