

Minutes of the Rincon Heights Neighborhood Association  
March 13, 2017

Present: Deb Dedon, Chris Wilke, Evren Sonmez, Colby Henley, Melody Peters, Mark S. Homan, Alison Miller, Jan Gordley, Vanessa Noonkester, Karen Mihina, Danielle Montick, Don Mac, Jay Vosk, Officer M. Frey, Stacey Plassman, Aarin Marquis, Robert Sproule, Brad Kush

1. Police Report: TPD statistics from the end of January through the end of the previous week noted one burglary, a few property crimes. Overall, crime is down. Tucson Police encourage us to contact them in the event of suspicious persons or suspicious activity. Red Tag enforcement began well in the fall until Nov. 11, when 50 N. Mountain hosted an excessively loud party yet did not receive the coveted Red Tag. UAPD noted that they have a deterrent plan that will include classes. Other than the incident cited above, there has been no obvious increase in loud or disruptive gatherings. TPD and UAPD will focus enforcement during the initial weeks of each semester and after Spring Break. In the event of future vandalism/removal of STOP (or other) street signs in Rincon Heights, we are urged to contact City Streets: Main Transportation 791-4371 or Street Maintenance, 791-3154.
2. Mansfeld Marquee: Karen Mihina described the upcoming change to the Mansfeld Jr. High marquee as similar to that of Tucson High, which will replace the current sign at 6<sup>th</sup> and Highland. She requested that RHNA make her the contact person for our relations with Mansfeld.
3. UA S. Stadium Parking Garage: Five storeys with 918 spaces, to be completed in August; the concrete work should be done by the end of June. The concrete pours will be done at night for safety reasons, as well as to slow the setting of concrete. The re-alignment of Warren will begin in April and should end in July, during which there will be no traffic on Warren. Stacey expressed neighbors' concerns that heavy vehicle construction traffic is damaging pavement on Martin and Mark noted that large electrical pole is obscuring the line of sight on the NW corner of Warren and 7<sup>th</sup>. McCarthy representatives responded that some remediation construction on Martin is anticipated and that some electrical lines will be relocated underground, but the pole would probably stay there.
4. Southwest Gas is replacing old gas pipes in Rincon Heights and will coordinate with the UA's garage construction. Vanessa Noonkester described the project and her contact role. She can be reached at [vanessa@gordleygroup.com](mailto:vanessa@gordleygroup.com) or, after hours, 844-258-7481. Street closures in addition to those described on a circulated postcard will be communicated. She anticipated the project will be completed in the summer. NPL is the actual contractor.
5. Minutes of RHNA Meeting for January 9 were approved.
6. Treasurer's Report: Chris reported a balance of \$111.28 in savings and \$3686.01, less \$500 allocation historic preservation, leaving \$3186.01 available. She also noted that, since we're in a new year, \$10 per person annual membership dues are due and that being paid up is required

for voting privileges. The Treasury report was moved and carried.

7. UA Land Development Project: As reported in the Arizona Daily Star for Sunday, March 12, 2017, the University is planning to establish an Honors College on property north of Speedway, outside of existing 2009 planning boundaries. If they are successful, this project potentially jeopardizes existing agreements and sets a precedent that will be destructive for neighborhoods surrounding the University. It also appears to evade City rezoning requirements as well as removing potential taxes and fees from City coffers. The City of Tucson requests public input on this joint project at a meeting on March 20, details to be announced. Colby Henley presented a statement in response to the proposed project, subject to approval by RHNA. This statement was moved and carried and it will be delivered to Mayor and Council, as well as the University.
8. Broadway Update: The 60% engineering of the Broadway plan presented to the public on March 9 provided some distressing details such as medians blocking northbound left turn access to some streets. At present, most of the structures on the north side of Broadway are doomed unless Rio Nuevo funds can provide a solution. Moving seven historic structures between Cherry and Warren to new foundations north of their present location is possible. The mechanism for this would be the City selling these properties to Rio Nuevo which has greater flexibility. It was noted that the Broadway Coalition is still active.
9. Tile-making Workshop: Tile making has resumed in the Veneklassens' shed. Glazing is in progress and more tiles are needed, both flat and end pieces. New clay is needed and a motion to allot \$200 for more clay was carried. This project will be revisited when things are clearer.
10. The Mark (proposed housing development on SW corner of Park and 10<sup>th</sup> St.): Contract re-negotiation is in progress. RHNA will not approve this project without an attorney working for us.
11. Calendar for 2017: A total of five meetings, three with full agenda and two with smaller agendas were approved. Full agenda meetings will occur in January, March and September, with the light agendas in May and November. The next meeting will be Monday, May 9.
12. New Officers: Colby Henley was nominated for president, Amanda Smith for Vice President, Chris Wilke for Treasurer and Deb Dedon for Secretary. All nominations were moved and carried.
13. Report on Mortarboard: Melody issued thanks for two group's services: tile glazing and wash cleaning. A third group, not associated with Mortar Board, picked up trash on 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>.
14. Community Garden: Nitrogen fixing cover crops are due to be turned over. Fruit trees were pruned in early February by volunteers instructed by Rich Johnson, a longtime member of Tucson Organic Gardeners. It was noted that the University doesn't allow wildflowers to be planted out front. RHCG will have a booth at the Tucson Organic Gardeners' Fair on March 18.

15. New Signage: YIELD signs have been replaced with STOP signs on 10<sup>th</sup> at Martin and Warren. In addition, the City sent a crew from the Dept. of Corrections to clean up bump outs on 9<sup>th</sup>. We need to meet with the supervisor as the personnel were not landscapers.
16. CCRC: Colby and Evren will attend the March 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.
17. Parkwise: We have received an estimate from the City for either bike boxes or sharrows and have submitted them to Parkwise. No response as yet.
18. Speedhump sign on Martin: It's in the pedestrian walkway. Allison Miller might have access to the solution.