

Minutes of the  
Rincon Heights Neighborhood Association Meeting  
September 12, 2016

Attending: Deb Dedon, Carol Jo Soblaovick, Laura Tabili, Richard Mayers, Judith Schneider, Jay Vosk, Melody Peters, Officer Barber, Supervisor Richard Elias, Caitlin Jensen, Alison Miller, Steve Kozachik, Mark S. Homan, Joe Reale, Colby Henley, Diego Ureta, Officer Jaime Burnett, Officer Jesse Pardo, Bernie Crouteau, Christine Wilke.

1. Future Meetings: The next regular RHNA meeting will occur Monday, Nov. 14, at 6 PM.
2. Introductions: Attendees introduced themselves, including guests, Supervisor Richard Elias and his assistant, Caitlin Jensen, Council Member Steve Kozachik, his assistant Allison Miller, and Officer Barber from UAPD. We were later joined by Officers Burnett and Pardo from TPD.
3. Minutes: The minutes of May 9, 2016, incorporating Laura Tabili's Resolution on the Broadway Project, were approved.
4. Treasury: RHNA treasury reports a balance of \$3653.13, including \$500 allocated for Historic Broadway and/or Tucson Historic Preservation fund.
5. A. Red Tag Enforcement: Beginning this month of September, the project is fundamentally a city-wide project of the Tucson Police Department, with assistance from the University of Arizona Police Department. When U of A students are identified as participants in unruly gatherings, that information is forwarded to the Dean of Students. Once applied, a Red Tag cannot be removed from a residence for 180 days, unless the person cited moves, or is evicted, or successfully contests the citation in court. If the Tag is otherwise removed, it will be re-instated and the person responsible cited.  
  
Tucson Police Officers Burnett and Pardo identified four criteria for the Red Tag citation:
  1. The gathering must be on private property.
  2. The police must receive a complaint from the public, whether by telephone or by contact with a patrol officer.
  3. The gathering must involve 5 or more people.
  4. There must be at least one activity that disturbs the peace, including noise, obstructive parking, underage drinking, prohibited substances, persons obstructing the right of way.  
B. General Crime Patterns: Spikes in bicycle thefts and similar incidents mirrors the seasonal influx of students. Thefts generally decrease once students understand their risks. A list of Police Incidents was left with the Secretary.
6. District 5 Supervisor Richard Elias: Mr. Elias introduced himself and described his tenure in office, having replaced Raul Grijalva in 2002. District 5 extends from Broadway north to Grant, east to Wilmot and west/southwest as far as Tucson Mountain Park and

Pasqua Yaqui, holding approximately 250,000 largely urban Tucsonans. He cited long-term problems of housing preservation in the face of encroachment and the aging utility systems in those houses, as well as the aging infrastructure in older neighborhoods.

He noted the success of Pima County's wastewater treatment facility, which has been rated among the top nationally. On the subject of transportation, he noted that current revenue streams are not sufficient to support maintenance and improvement of main arterials, citing gas tax rates that have not changed since 1992, and increased vehicular fuel efficiency that decreased consumption. The funds raised are distributed between city, county and state, with most of the funds going to the Arizona Highway Patrol. Bus pullouts planned for the Broadway Project between Campbell and Euclid could be eliminated as they are not bus transfer points and require demolition of historic properties. The Zika virus has been identified in Pima County residents, all of whom acquired the virus outside of Arizona. Strategies for control focus primarily on mosquito control, which rests largely on land and home owners removing standing water where mosquitoes breed. Spraying is not considered a good option, as evidenced by Florida's spraying, which killed millions of bees. Mr. Elias noted that Pima County's biggest asset is the Sonoran Desert. The Multi-Species Habitat Protection Plan passed by the Supervisors was submitted to the Federal government to obtain Section 10 support for maintaining wildlife corridors. Tucson Mountain Park was sentinel to the preservation of open space. He gave his phone number 520-247-5660.

7. Bump-Out Safety and Signage: City of Tucson Environmental Services can be contacted to help control and maintain the bump-outs. Property/Home owners are responsible for maintaining the right of way on sidewalks, but not the bump-outs. When safety is an issue, contact Environmental Services. In terms of signage, we need accident data to identify problem intersections.
8. Signage Changes: Traffic analysis is needed for any sign or traffic pattern changes. This data will be supplied by the City. We also would need cost estimated for any changes; a traffic circle costs approximately \$10,000.
9. Uniform Development Code (UDC) Changes: Mark Homan read Ruth Beeker's response to proposed changes to the UDC which effectively streamlines development, which could potentially have the negative result of limiting public input, and requested a response from RHNA: Support the changes, Beeker's response or oppose both. Steve Kozachik made a case for adopting the changes, saying that it would give developers an opportunity to provide specifics of their plans, while at the same time applying for an amendment to the area plan. This was followed by a discussion of the option of not objecting to the changes, but asking Mayor and Council to insert language that would provide for adequate public input. No consensus was reached, but Mark Homan will follow up with others who are more familiar with the pros and cons of the case. Mark believed he was directed to talk with the person to whom Ruth Beeker sent her message, Dan Bursuk, and inform him of our strong intent that neighborhoods be clearly included in the process with sufficient time to review proposals and prepare positions. A response from RHNA should be made by September 24.

10. Hazards of Now Vacant Property at 1409 E. Broadway. Melody issued four proposals:
- A. A moratorium on further demolition,
  - B. Elimination of bus pullouts added in May, 2015.
  - C. Identifying risks to Rincon Heights home and property owners from City-owned vacant properties on Broadway, and the need to replace front and rear fences at 1409 E. Broadway which were removed during demolition of the structures at that address. We also request that the Ward VI office work with RHNA to find a suitable interim use of the site.
  - D. Requesting that the City of Tucson meet with home owners in a manner similar to their meetings with business and other property owners to address the impact of the Broadway Project.

All of the foregoing proposals of Item 10 were moved, seconded and carried. These motions will be addressed to the City Clerk, Mayor and Council, RTA, Rio Nuevo, The Broadway Coalition, and the Pima County Board of Supervisors, as well as others recommended by Laura Tabili.