

Rincon Heights Neighborhood Association
Meeting Minutes
March 12, 2018

Present: Deb Dedon, Barbara Homan, Mark Homan, Nancy Regens, Pat Smith, Amanda Smith, Steve Holmes, Melody Peters, Penelope Metz, Jay Vosk, Chris Ortiz, Matt Landon, Officer Jacob Walker, Laura Tabili, Evren Sonmez

Introduction. We were all asked what we looked forward to with the coming of spring.

TPD Update, Officer Jacob Walker. The biggest issue has been DUI-related night time car accidents. He noted that loud parties are a lower priority (level 4), partly because TPD is short-staffed. Optimal staffing is 1200 officers; presently there are less than 800. He encouraged neighborhood members to take pictures or videos of problem parties, noting that they must have 5 or more people and be an active disturbance. They also need an exact address. Unfortunately for us, many offenders continue loud parties until they receive their second Red Tag, which carries a higher (\$1000) fine, and which gives their landlord(s) a basis for eviction. If you suspect underage drinking at a party, report it as this raises the priority level. Further, if you know who owns the property, convey that information in your call to TPD. On other notes, break-ins are expected during winter and spring school breaks. Vacancies are down and there's a lower rate of narcotic use. Pima and Maricopa Counties are the only Arizona counties into which Arizona Parolees may be released.

Matt Landon from the Pima County Main Library passed around some surveys to gather data about library use. The library is interested in linking up with neighborhood associations, with a gathering planned for fall, to better determine how the library system can serve neighborhoods.

The Rincon Heights Neighborhood Association officer candidates are the current office holders – Colby Henley, president, Amanda Smith, vice president, Chris Wilke, treasurer, and Deb Dedon, secretary (who resigned later during the meeting.)

Verizon Cell Tower. Verizon proposes to build a cell tower in Rincon Heights; both the design of the tower and any compensation are presently unknown. Research indicates that cell towers typically denigrate the value of nearby properties. At present, the proposed location is on TUSD property which gives RHNA limited leverage, although earlier information indicated the location would be at 9th and Cherry. Verizon will be hosting a meeting at Miles on March 38 at 6:30 PM. Laura Tabili noted that Verizon's planned tower for Dunbar-Spring was halted by the Zoning Examiner.

Proposed Mansfeld Pick-up/Drop-off Zone. The proposed closure of Mountain between 7th and 6th to create the zone would require the demolition of two houses owned by the University which contribute to Rincon Heights' historic designation. Mark Homan will contact the Drachman Institute. Chris Ortiz from the City of Tucson, subbing for Alison,

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doesn't have any more information.

Increased Traffic on Park. Pie Allen Neighborhood and Rincon Heights, both of which will be negatively impacted by traffic resulting from the construction of "The Mark" on Park and 10th, might want to meet to coordinate traffic mitigation strategies.

Increased Property Valuations from Pima County Assessor. The appeals deadline is April 24. For comparable properties, google Tucson property research online.

Wildlife Management/Removal. There was a discussion on whether RHNA could financially support efforts to remove potentially hazardous wildlife in the neighborhood. No motion was made on the issue but there was agreement on not spending neighborhood money on removal before exploring other options. If the animal is showing signs of rabies, neighbors can call Pima Animal Care Center.

Approval of Minutes. Minutes from the January meeting were approved with the correction of a couple of minor typos. (Moved-Seconded-Approved)

Updates:

- Cyclovia: Cyclovia will be going through Rincon Heights again on April 8th. Evren is coordinating putting together a neighborhood hub at 9th & Martin with music, activities, Monty Python-inspired "silly walk" crosswalk, pop-up lounge, bike decorating, Isabella's Ice-Cream, Presta Coffee, etc. Several neighbors were enthusiastic about doing the "silly walk" crosswalk again and Linda, Amanda, Laura, and Mark are available to help. Up to \$350 from neighborhood funds were allocated towards Cyclovia to activate the neighborhood hub. (Moved-Seconded-Approved)
- Mortar Board: Melody will lead a team for cleanup at the Community Garden on March 17.
- Broadway Art Committee: The same artist who did the neon sign on Miracle Mile was selected. Ideas include circular motifs to hang from street lamps and an oversized unit that you can sit on, take pictures, etc. He'll have a table at the Broadway public meeting on April 5th.
- Tile project: Melody passed on the design of the tile. It's been coming along slowly because they have been doing one 2-hour session per month with conflicting schedules, people being out of town, etc. Melody is finishing the glazing herself at home.
- Community Garden: The garden is doing well. There are only four unoccupied plots with more gardeners we've ever had. The garden committee purchased compost and paid for its delivery this spring. It made a difference in the health of the garden. Pollinator garden is also doing well.

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- Historic building online survey reminder: UA student asked; please fill it out by March 14.
- Parking lot lighting: Evren had a site visit with Dave Heineking (UA Parking & Transportation services) a few months ago to determine the source of the light spillage problem. To mitigate the problem, UA staff custom-ordered shields for the lights on top of the garage. They were manufactured and installed recently, which made a big difference. There were additional lights visible from Mark's house so he had a second meeting with 8 people from the UA. They will manufacture some more to shield additional lights. They have been very pleasant to work with.
- Dirty Money: Mark Homan noted that petitions for a ballot measure to control/prohibit dirty money in Arizona politics are being circulated. Pima County and the State of Arizona are scrutinizing every petition for the slightest aberration which could be grounds to dismiss the petitions. Be neat, be legible, write only in the spaces between the lines; do not let your handwriting stray into the space above or below or outside your space.