

DRAFT Minutes of RHNA Meeting, January 9, 2017

Present: Deb Dedon, Jay Vosk, Melody Peters, Colby Henley, Joe Plassmann, Stacey Plassmann, Ron Sparks, Mark S. Homan, Barbara Homan, Alison Miller, Amanda Smith, Daniel Mendez, Evren Sonmez, Tom Veneklasen

- I. Introduction of all participants
- II. Minutes of November 14, 2016, approved with the following change on item number 5: RHNA must ask Jesse Torres if it is okay to use Department of Corrections/Pima County Detention personnel, rather than RHNA contacting the Department of Corrections/Pima County Detention. Stacey provided index cards for those who wish to compose resolutions or complex motions so that we might have concrete wording prior to a vote.
- III. Treasurer's Report was approved, citing \$111.28 in savings and \$3,685.94 in checking, \$500 of which is allocated to Historic Broadway/Tucson Historic Preservation Foundation, leaving a net of \$3,185.94 available.
- IV. Mayor's new Home Buyers Program. Ron Sparks presented this approach to re-balance the proportion of home owners versus renters in the neighborhood. RHNA was surveyed for properties which could be candidates for ownership, some of which were presented at a University of Arizona program designed to entice University personnel. This program presently has an inventory of 340 vacant or neglected properties which could be available pending contact with their owners. Home buyer fairs are being created for major employers. In addition, Ron Sparks suggested an inventory of realtor signs and he will approach the brokers. This program presently has 28 lenders for 30-year low-interest mortgages and requires home owner education prior to successful mortgage application. The loan programs are on the City website. Applicants will receive some support. While the rental market for University-area properties is expected to remain soft for about 2 years, this Home Buyers Program is not limited in time. Ron Sparks can be reached at rpsparkmd@cox.net.
- V. Southwest Fair Housing Council: Daniel Mendez is soliciting applicants for a new program. Low income home owners can qualify for financial assistance to remove lead paint from homes built prior to 1978. This program commenced October 1, 2016 (?), as part of a state-wide program addressing an expected uptick in illegal discrimination, pending the incoming federal administration. This program hires 'secret shoppers' to check on all tangents (realtors, sellers, mortgage bankers, etc.). Homes must be pre-1978 and small children must regularly visit the property, which could make low-income care-givers or grandparents eligible. The goal for the program is remediating approximately 180 homes, and the work is done by local contractors hired for abatement of interior/exterior walls and soil. This program is focused on owner-occupied homes and only home owners can apply; renters must go through the property owner. The program receives funds from the State of Arizona, which received \$277,000,000 to deal

with foreclosures, much of which is unused. The City of Tucson will cover the cost of temporarily relocating families. Daniel Mendez can be reached at daniel@swfhc.com pr (520) 798-1568 X 14.

- VI. Bike/Pedestrian Subcommittee: Colby presented the results of the RHNA Parking Funds discussion, a bike box to be installed on the south side of Highland and 6th, similar to the box on the north side of 6th. Mark pointed out that the block facing 6th is within the UA expansion area (per the MOU of 1995), where Rincon Heights had to cede the territory, and a bike box on the south side of 6th may be a UA responsibility. Melody noted that the UA is not too responsive on similar projects on the north side of 6th. Colby suggested we start with UA Parking and Transportation Services. Evren noted that bike sharrows were in second place on the list of possible improvements that could be funded.
- VII. A. Traffic and Pedestrian Access Concerns: The intersection of Martin and 10th, controlled only by YIELD signs, has the most accidents. Santa Rita and 10th is close behind. Recent accident data shows that accident increases on 10th and Martin are possibly due to Starbucks customers ignoring the traffic controls and turning north into Rincon Heights instead of exiting south onto Broadway. Other candidates for sign changes include 10th and Warren and 8th and Warren. Exchanging YIELD signs for STOP signs requires City of Tucson observation and assessment; costs are not known as of this meeting.
B. Pedestrian Access/Walkway Obstruction: 4 feet of pedestrian access on sidewalks must be maintained; blocking a sidewalk with vehicles or other obstructions is subject to a fine. Abandoned Safeway shopping carts can be addressed by calling Bob Taylor of Safeway at (520)206-9047. Any other abandoned, obstructing property can be addressed by the City of Tucson Environmental Services at 791-3171.
C. Red Curbs in Rincon Heights were last painted by RHNA members. We need them repainted before the next UA football season (August 2017). Alison Miller will contact the City of Tucson.
- VIII. The Mark: Documents for this proposed development at 10th and Park are on their (Landmark's?) website. The first PAD draft has been submitted to the City of Tucson. The next meeting is January 31. RHNA needs an attorney to review the document's language as the project progresses. Without that legal support, RHNA should not support the project.
- IX. The Tile Project will move out of the Plassman's apartment and into space provided by Tom and Rose. Any upcoming activity will be announced.
- X. Other Reports:
 - A. CCRC: Seeking financial support form the Arizona Legislature for_____
 - B. Broadway Coalition is running way behind. The Citizen Task Force has the right to be included. The design is at 60%. Rio Nuevo has put forth the importance of the area. The demolition clock starts at acquisition and can run to 180 days, however no one is

talking to RHNA about projected or scheduled demolitions.

C. The Red Tag program seems to be working, with only one major disturbance in November at 50 N. Mountain, which somehow escaped a Red Tag.

- XI. The next full agenda meeting will be Monday, March 13, at Ha:San, which will include nomination and election of officers for the next year. Colby, Evren and Melody volunteered to form an initial nominating committee. Mark volunteered to contact TPD and UAPD to ensure their participation. It is critical for us to be aware of active situations. Further meetings may occur in private homes as long as our attendance remains below 20 people. May is likely to be in a private home, location to be determined.