

Minutes of the Rincon Heights Neighborhood Association
May 8, 2017

Present: Amanda Smith, Laura Tabili, Stacey Plassmann, Melody Peters, Jay Vosk, Joe Plassmann, Colby Henley, Mike Wilke, Evren Sonmez, Mark S. Homan, Chris Wilke, Barb Homan, Bernie Croteau, Deb Dedon

1. Police Activity: A conversation with a Pie Allen resident regarding meth houses and theft prompted discussion on obtaining current crime patterns. The Tucson Police Department website on neighborhood crime is updated weekly, which is more frequent than our meetings. Joe described a recent experience with a long wait time following a break-in. Related topics of a vacant house on 10th and the presence of 25 feral/abandoned cats were also discussed. Melody and Jay admit to feeding 6 and Amanda has 2.
2. RHNA Tile Project for Feld-Davis Park: The tile project has moved from the Plassmanns (where it lay for 5 years) to the Veneklassen's shed. Help in rolling and glazing is needed Saturday morning, May 13. Difficulties with reconstituting glazes, using dry glazes and buying new glazes were discussed. Additional clay is presently on order. More wooden trays sized to the benches are also needed.
3. Broadway Update: Rio Nuevo is now involved as they have greater flexibility dealing with remnant parcels. They have brought in Projects for Public Spaces from New York. A tour of _____, planned for May 22, is limited to 100 RSVP participants. Additional participants may also station themselves along the route. Our zone is RHNA. Highland to Euclid is one zone; Highland to Campbell is another. Apparently, the brick church on Broadway is now for sale.
4. Neighborhood Parking Funds: The many-years-old promise that funds generated through Parkwise would come back to RHNA is funding a Bike Box on Highland on the south side of 6th, now in progress. Additional funding is being provided by the City.
5. Southwest Gas Project and UA Parking Garage Update: Southwest Gas line replacement is slowly moving west on 8th Street. We are not clear on how far west this disruption of 8th Street will go. Further, there are no promises from Southwest Gas or the City of Tucson to fix pavement damage caused by both the replacement work and by heavy vehicles on 8th as well adjacent streets. Construction of the UA parking garage is expected to be completed by the beginning of the coming academic year (August, 2017). Warren (south of 6th) is being realigned with Championship Drive (north of 6th); this intersection will include a signal, and the HAWK on Cherry will be removed. The dirt path between 7th and 6th by the edge of the Rec Center will be paved for pedestrians; it might also be landscaped. The north face of the parking structure was not addressed.
6. The Mark: The proposed PAD was withdrawn due to time required for zoning changes. The new project reduces the beds from 900 to 600, with proportional reductions in parking. However, vehicular traffic for the new design enters/exits from 10th instead of Park, with no obvious way to mitigate traffic consequences for 10th Street. We see no leverage for Rincon Heights at this point.
7. Minutes of March 9: The Minutes from March 9th were moved and seconded for approval. Motion carried.