

BBVNA Neighborhood Meeting -- Meeting Minutes September 14, 2017 Robison Elementary School Cafeteria

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm, with Board President Barbara Becker presiding.
Attendance: Approximately 40.

- 1) Welcome messages. Barbara opened the meeting and welcomed the group. Dr. Julie Laird, principal of Robison Elementary School, also welcomed the group to the school.
- 2) Minutes from our last neighborhood meeting on March 15, 2017, were brought for consideration, and were approved by a vote of those in attendance.
- 3) Proposed Change to BBVNA By-Laws. Margaret Johnson reviewed a proposal to change the Neighborhood Association's By-Laws to establish 2 additional Board positions. These would be "At Large" positions, designed to expand the level of neighborhood participation in the Board's activities. (Attachment 1 to these notes is a page showing the sections in the current By-Laws where the language would be affected by this change.) These positions would enable other residents to get involved in Board projects, would allow them to increase their familiarity with the Board's operations, and would potentially create more people interested in running for one of the elected Board positions sometime in the future. This agenda item was shared for information only at this point. An official vote on this change will occur in our March, 2018 meeting. But in the meantime, any resident who may be interested in filling such a role is invited to contact Margaret now, and to begin working with the Board in an unofficial role to see if such a position is indeed of interest to them.
- 4) Neighborhood Watch Programs: Margaret Johnson introduced special guest Kara Curtis, Tucson Police Department's Community Service Officer for Midtown Tucson. Officer Curtis explained the City's Neighborhood Watch program, and some revisions that will make it easier for neighborhoods to create and maintain Neighborhood Watch teams. The basic objective of these teams is to encourage neighbors to get to know one another, and to feel comfortable in communicating with each other and taking action if someone observes anything suspicious. Officer Curtis reiterated the advice that all crimes should be reported, even if just online, to ensure TPD has full data on the issues in the community. And of course, if a crime is in the process of being committed, or if a suspicious person is currently present, one should call 911 immediately.

A signup sheet was circulated for people interested in volunteering to be block leaders for neighborhood watch teams. Officer Curtis also offered herself as a contact for any questions, or discussion about crime issues or trends in our neighborhood. (But NO Emergency Calls, please! Always use 911 for those!) A copy of her business card, along with her contact information, is attached to these notes as Attachment 2.

Use of NextDoor: Officer Curtis regularly posts messages through NextDoor, which all residents on NextDoor can see. She can also be contacted via a Private Message in NextDoor. However, she reminded us that her role in NextDoor does not include seeing neighbor-to-neighbor communications. So don't assume that she is aware of topics being discussed -- she will only see them if they are sent to her directly as a private NextDoor message.

5) Halloween / Traffic & Pedestrian Safety Issues: This agenda item was designed to be an open discussion of these issues and possible action steps, and it resulted in an excellent, open, and very participative forum. Officer Curtis stayed and participated in the discussion. Barbara introduced the topic with some brief background -- that the Board began discussing this several months ago, based on numerous statements of concern for trick-or-treaters' safety by neighbors; and that significant data has been sought and collected by the Board around City procedures for controlling traffic and possible temporary street closures, associated costs, responsibilities, liabilities, etc.

A list of all comments as captured on the chart pad at the meeting is included as Attachment 3 to these notes. Top level results of the discussion were as follows:

a) Safety concerns are legitimate, and are accentuated by the volume of people, the lack of sidewalks, the use of the full breadth of the streets on Devon, Exeter, and Croyden by walkers, parked cars along the streets, and cars driven by parents following their children down the crowded streets.

b) Seeking a special event permit from the City to physically close the affected streets to traffic is possible, but does not seem appropriate for us at this time, primarily due to the costs for managing the barricades (about \$1000), questions about where the diverted traffic and parking would go, and likely liability insurance costs that would be required of the neighborhood. (Since the meeting, we have also heard from the Tucson Fire Department, which has expressed concerns about any plans that would seek extensive street closures in the area.)

c) We brainstormed a number of other options for managing the crowds and safety issues, short of formally closing streets. Several involved placing volunteers in the streets to assist or to direct traffic. However, as a result of the legal liability that those individuals would be assuming in such roles, we chose to avoid those options.

d) The following suggested ideas and action steps are ones that the group concluded have merit and are within our control to execute:

- I. Soliciting volunteers to help manage pedestrian flow around the larger "haunted house" attractions, as a means of reducing lines and pedestrian backups in the streets;
- II. Publicizing the issue and encouraging all residents on Devon, Exeter, and Croyden to avoid parking their cars on the street during Halloween hours. This would also include requesting those individuals having parties or visitors during those hours to make arrangements for off-street parking for their guests, perhaps negotiating with neighbors for the use of their driveways, etc.
- III. Using passive (i.e. unattended) flashing lights at street and walkway intersections to get the attention of drivers and encourage them to use caution.
- IV. Use of temporary City signs stating "Resident Parking Only" or "Local Traffic Only" at the entrances to Devon, Exeter, and Croyden during the affected hours. Officer Curtis agreed to investigate the feasibility of this.
- V. Officer Curtis reported that her supervisors have already approved the assignment of two bicycle patrol officers in our neighborhood during the trick-or-treating hours this year.

Neighbors were uniformly appreciative of this information! We agreed that we would meet with those officers and/or Officer Curtis after the event this year to debrief, and to get their input on our approach for next year.

- VI. Form a committee of residents representing the affected streets to work with the other residents on those streets to publicize, gather additional input, and execute the action steps above. More will be communicated to the neighborhood about this and volunteers will be solicited to help in advance of this year's Halloween event.

6) Historic Designation Fundraising Project: Janice Welchert presented the Historic Designation Committee's plans for a catalogue sales fund raising project, focused on high quality gift wrapping paper and other gift items that historically have been a good sellers and money makers in similar fundraising efforts. Janice has volunteered to coordinate this project, and is looking for other volunteers who would be willing to work with her on taking purchase orders from others. Participation could take the form of soliciting other neighbors on your street for orders, or taking, and encouraging others to take, the order forms to their places of work or to other groups to broaden the potential customer base.

The fundraising effort will last for only a very limited duration, and so the time demands on the volunteers is relatively limited. Sales will be done only during a two week period in early October. All orders will be submitted to the company on about October 17, which allows for a 6-week delivery to occur in November, in good time for the approaching holiday season.

If you are interested in helping out, please contact Janice by email at janice_wel@yahoo.com.

7) Upcoming Events: Joan reviewed the list of upcoming events in the neighborhood, encouraging people to take advantage of these unique and fun opportunities to learn and to socialize with their neighbors. The list of events currently scheduled is included as Attachment 4 to these notes. Events can also always be found on the BBVNA website (www.broadmoorbroadwayvillage.com), under the tab "Calendar of Events".

8) Other Business: Dick Basye reported that the MCRC (Military/Community Relations Committee) is about to restart its regular meetings, and neighbors are encouraged to attend and voice their opinions. Meetings are on the 2nd Wednesday of every month, at the Ward 6 office on 1st Street. Discussions about altering flight paths to follow the rail line easements continues to be on the agenda.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Weingarten, BBVNA Secretary

Bylaws Amendment

Article II. Board of Directors

1. Composition

The Board shall be composed of eight (8) elected officers (President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Immediate Past President, Two Members at Large and the appointed chairpersons of the five(5) standing committees.....

Article III.

1. Elected Officers and Duties:

a.

b.

c.

d.

e.

f.

g. The Members at Large shall provide assistance to the Board for different functions of the Board, for example, social events or other activities. Their duties may be specified or unspecified by the Board. These two positions will allow for greater neighborhood involvement and provide a training pathway for future positions on the board.



Ready to Protect, Proud to Serve

Kara Curtis

*Community Service Officer
Badge #37969*

*Operations Division Midtown
(520) 837-7428, Office
Kara.Curtis@tucsonaz.gov
1100 S. Alvernon Way
Tucson, AZ 85711
www.tucsonaz.gov/police
(520) 791-2639, TTY/TDD*

Operations Division South	791-4949
Operations Division West/Downtown	791-4467
Operations Division Midtown.....	791-4253
Operations Division East	791-5700
Investigations Division	791-4800
Impounds.....	791-4440
Records Section	791-4461
Professional Standards	791-4426
Case # _____	

HALLOWEEN TRAFFIC SAFETY DISCUSSION -- NEIGHBORHOOD INPUT FROM 9/14/2017

-Problems managing line of people in front of some of the more popular attractions.

**** Idea: Volunteers to help manage lines, keep flow of people moving more efficiently**

-Most Traffic is on Devon, Exeter, Croyden, Stratford, and at the Treat Walkway intersections.

-Dilemma: How to provide structure to manage safety, while still preserving informality of the experience?

-Idea: Close the streets, permit only walking? Provide parking elsewhere in neighborhood?

-Parked cars along the street add to the congestion and confusion, encourage others to drive down the street and park.

**** -Idea: Keep parked resident's cars off the streets (and the cars of their guests, in the case of visitors & parties)**

-Wall-to-wall people in the streets -- all ages, no sidewalks; people mixed with cars.

-Numbers of trick-or-treaters. Counts range from 1000 to 2000, and it seems to be getting bigger each year.

-Peak hours: 6 pm - 8:30 pm

-Idea: Have volunteers with flashlights, safety vests, etc. in the streets at entrance to neighborhood to encourage drivers to slow down, avoid driving down congested streets.

**** -Idea: Use passive signaling. e.g., Have signs with flashing lights at intersections; and/or Bright flashing dog collars posted at intersections.**

**** -ATTENTION: There are liability issues for anyone who is out in traffic, trying to instruct or direct traffic, etc.**

- Problem: cars following kids down the streets

- Idea: Direct traffic flow to be just one way through the streets?

**** -Idea: Have temporary signs at Devon, Exeter, Croyden intersections stating "Residential Parking Only". Kara will check on feasibility.**

**** -Planned: Kara has obtained agreement with TPD to have 2 bicycle patrol officers assigned to our neighborhood during Trick-or-Treating hours this year. Uniform appreciation from neighbors on this!**
- Agree to do "debrief session" with them and/or with Kara after the event to discuss thoughts and suggestions for next year.

**** -Establish a "Halloween Committee" of neighbors to work out the specific plans for this year.**

August 2017 - July 2018 BBVN Malvern Plaza Events (as of 9/18/17)

Edible Plant Walk and Talk (Justine Hernandez & Suzie Husband) Sun. 8/6/17; 7:30 - 9:30 am

Coffee & Conversation (Mary Wolfe & Joan Thomas) Thur. 9/21/17; 9 am 3rd Thur off every month. Bring your beverage of choice and a sweet treat will be provided. Meet in Malvern Plaza

Oktoberfest; fun social time as a neighborhood. The association supplies brats and hotdogs and neighbors bring side dishes. NEED A VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR to help determine date, location, make sure that we have enough plates, plasticware, etc, arrange set up and tear down, and send out notices to the neighborhood (Rita Toland will provide support)

Yoga in the Park (Linda Alley-Sarnack) Sat. 11/4; 9 - 10:30 am

Sonoran Desert Insects for Kids (& Adults) (Kathryn Busby; entimology PhD student) Sat. 11/18; 10 till noon

Group Bike Ride to the Downtown Art Murals (Mike Weingarten) Date & Time TBA

Halloween Eve Walk (Joan Thomas) Mon 10/30/17

Holiday Decorations Exchange (Mary Wolfe & Barbara O'Brien) Sat 12/2/17; 1-3 pm

3rd Annual Craft & Art Fair (Norma Galindo) Sat 12/9/17; 9am till 1 pm

Citrus Share; January?? Volunteer coordinator still needed; date & time to be announced

Meet Your Neighbor; Volunteer coordinator needed

Attachment 4 (cont.)

Plant Share (Suzie, Justine, Mary....Frank, Richard?) Date and time TBA

Edible Plants Part II (Justine & Suzie) Date and time TBA

Movie in Malvern (Judd & Heather) Date & Time TBA

Dinner Under the Stars: We assume that the past coordinators of this event (Oscar, Justine, Elizabeth, Carina, etc) will organize another dinner given its popularity. Date & Time TBA

Memorial Day Commemoration in the Plaza (Janice Welchert) Mon 5/28/18

Other ideas: Volunteer Days; Field Trips, Family Potluck at Reid Park rented pavillion; Children's activities.