

BBVNA BOARD MEETING NOTES – 10/8/2018

The Board convened at 6:30 pm at the home of Barbara Becker, and the meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm. Barbara led the meeting.

1) Welcome & Introductions. In attendance were:

Board members:

Barbara Becker (President)
Mike Weingarten (Secretary),
Rita Toland (Treasurer),
Richard Roati (Urban Forestry & Wildlife Committee)
Joan Thomas (Malvern Plaza Committee)
Margaret Johnson (Neighborhood Watch Committee)
Suzie Husband (Welcoming Committee)
Mary Wolfe (Member At Large)

Neighbor attending:

Frank Sagona (Stratford)
Jim Wolfe (Devon)
Justine Hernandez (Stratford)

2) Approval of Past Minutes (Mike):

The Board approved the minutes from the September 10, 2018 meeting.

3) Treasurer's Report (Rita):

Rita presented the current balance figures for our accounts:

Checking account: \$10,777.23

Savings account: 9,334.73

Total: \$ 20,111.96

4) Historic Designation Project (Mike & Rita):

Since we sent out the mailing to contributing properties, published the newsletter, and had the neighborhood meeting with Chris Evans, we have received numerous additional neighbor donations to the project, and have now received enough to meet our matching fund requirements for the grant. The message announcing that fact was sent to the neighborhood via the Listserve and Nextdoor on Saturday. Still more donations have been received since, and a quick calculation today shows that we have about \$5K remaining to raise. (This figure needs to be verified – Rita will do that.)

We also discussed participation level. We received an email from a neighbor asking about the percentage of contributing property owners who have donated to the project. A quick calculation

showed that just under 50% of the owner-resident contributing property owners have donated. Many of the new donations have come from people who have not donated before, so this percentage is increasing. Plus, over 50 people who are NOT resident contributing property owners (i.e. not eligible for the tax reduction) have also donated out of support for the effort. Over 140 households total have donated something so far. We agreed that the final push for funds should focus on contributing property owners, and emphasize participation in the project.

We discussed the role of the retainer that we paid at the beginning of the project, and which does not count toward the \$76K contract. We still need to clarify the mechanics of this with Chris, but the contract states that the retainer, if not used for additional services, will be credited back to us at the end of the project. Assuming that we do get this money back, it is recommended that it be used for 2 purposes:

- a) Post-approval expenses, such as the purchase of “historic District” signs for the entry points to the neighborhood.
- b) Remaining money to be returned to the BBVNA general fund. (The retainer came from the general fund, before any neighbor contributions were received. In addition, our general fund absorbed \$3500 in other project-related costs over the past 3 years. Therefore, it seems right that whatever is left over from the retainer be returned to that fund.)

5) Review of General Meeting (Barbara):

We recapped the general meeting. General reactions: Better than usual attendance and participation. Chris Evans attendance was helpful and well-received. Other items on agenda were positive.

6) New Halloween Event Idea:

Suzie discussed an idea to invite neighborhood children to Malvern Plaza an hour before the start of Halloween for some treats and a “costume review”. Would make for a fun and calmer experience for the littler ones, and might encourage more trick or treating on the South side of the arroyo. Suzie and Joan agreed to plan and organize this.

7) Committee Reports:

- a) Urban Forestry (Richard): Cleanup days have gone well on the Treat Walkway and the Eastbourne/Manchester median. The 3rd day is scheduled for Sun Oct 14 at Stratford and Arroyo Chico, and along the Arroyo Chico walkway.

Regarding the Winsett plan for creating 1-ways auto traffic and a multiuse trail, Richard and the Country Club Manor residents have successfully gotten the necessary signatures from residents on both sides of Winsett agreeing to the change. It now goes to the Tucson Transportation Department for signature verification and the development of a timeline.

The Treat Extension project (extending to Robison School) has received letters of support from the neighborhood associations and the school, and those have been submitted with the grant proposal to Tucson Clean & Beautiful and Tucson Water.

Joan noted two dead trees along the arroyo near Country Club, and Richard agreed to look at them and determine appropriate next steps.

- b) Malvern Plaza (Joan): As announced in her email to the Board, Joan intends to step down as Malvern Plaza Committee Chair at the end of the year. She has talked to Justine Hernandez, and Justine has agreed to take on the role. Justine was in attendance at this meeting, and talked about using the role to encourage broader community engagement and spontaneous, organic uses for the plaza, and beyond. The Board is very supportive of her in this role.

Upcoming events Dinner Under the Stars (4th annual) will be held on October 21st, again in the plaza. Oscar, Justine, Corina, and Elizabeth will again be coordinating it. Movie in the plaza returns on October 18, thanks to Judd Ruggill and Heather Free, the movie selection once again being kept a surprise until closer to the date. And on November 3, we will have a seminar on the City's recycling service changes and the new Brush and Bulky program. Board member attendance is specifically requested. Regarding recent events: The trial use of Ombre Coffee as the meeting place for Coffee and Conversation was very successful this past month. Mary indicated that the weather will now allow these meetings to resume in the Plaza, but Ombre Coffee remains an excellent option for times when meeting in the Plaza is not appropriate. The Math and Physics event by Bruce Bayly was an outstanding success for young and old alike.

- c) Welcome Committee (Suzie): The Fall Meet & Greet for new neighbors will be held on October 21. People from 14 households are being invited. We agreed that Suzie purchase small pumpkins and decorative markers for the children attending the brunch. Suzie is still looking for neighbors from the North side of the neighborhood to volunteer on the committee, to make sure new neighbors in those areas are not inadvertently missed.

- d) Neighborhood Watch (Margaret): Margaret continues to work to generate interest in signups for the Neighborhood Watch and the Dog Watch programs. She will set up a meeting with Officer Kara Curtis once the Neighborhood Watch group is defined.

Margaret is still awaiting confirmation from TPD regarding the details of the bike officers who will be here on Halloween night. We agreed that we would publish Margaret's cell phone number via Listserve and Nextdoor as the "Emergency Contact Number" for Halloween night, to be sent out a day or two before Halloween.

- e) Air Force Issues (Frank Sagona): Frank met with Gary Hunter in Blenman-Elm to discuss Gary's organizational plans and next steps for expressing community opposition to the basing of F35s at Davis Monthan. Gary will be receiving and reviewing the new draft of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), will flag the points of issues, and then will forward that on to other neighborhood contacts. Frank will receive a copy for us. In the new draft, it is apparently noted that there is community resistance to the F35s here in Tucson. The fact that we have been heard to that level is positive, but reactions to the new EIS will be important. Gary envisions 3 levels of concern statements that can/should be generated for the Air Force's next EIS comment period: a) Individual letters from neighbors; b) A formal letter from individual neighborhood associations and c) an organized, collective response signed by ALL neighborhood associations in the DM flight path. The Board agreed that we would support all 3 approaches when the time comes. Thanks to Frank for staying in touch on this effort, and for keeping us updated.

7) New Business:

Barbara attended the latest TRRG (Tucson Residents for Responsive Government) meeting regarding the updating process for neighborhood plans, and was vocal about the need to progress on individual plan updates. She is prepared to lead the process for us (a great fit, given her planning background), but other neighborhoods expressed concerns about not having the resources to do theirs, nor the money to hire consultants. Barbara has offered to help other neighborhoods once she has ours done. To begin, our Board action is needed to formally request Tucson Mayor & Council to initiate the Plan update process for BBVN. The Board gave approval for that request.

8) Next Board Meeting:

Monday November 12, 2018 (2nd Monday), 6:30 pm

The meeting adjourned at 8:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Weingarten, BBVNA Secretary