

Urban Forestry Meeting Minutes, 12/6/11, home of Rita Toland with a lovely fire blazing in the fireplace.
Attendees: Laura Ayen, Jim Martin, Fred Montes, Richard Roati, Rita Toland

Old Business:

Richard followed up with TEP which required many, many attempts. Irene Ogata then connected him specifically with two contacts- Larry Robinson and Harold Hummer. A formal letter has now gone out to those two contacts requesting that we be allowed to go forward on Treat Walkway beautification and security improvements. Update: we have an initial reply email from Larry Robinson.

Devon- Exeter quadrant of the Treat Walkway: Laura met with Tamara, one of the quadrant homeowners and reviewed the walkway and alley involved in this quadrant. Following that meeting, it appears the four homeowners are in agreement about security/motion lighting to alleviate concerns about the darkness in the alley along the sidewalk. It was agreed that one light appeared to be needed in the middle of each block - where the walkway meets an alley. Solar appears to be the central option for lighting. Paul A. will reach out for commercial solar options to suggest to the group.

Rita followed up with Oscar who continues to state his availability and willingness to help start the landscaping of the Devon-Exeter quadrant once approved.

Jim agreed to discuss our landscaping plans with Rocky, who lives across the walkway from him.

Rita will send Shirley P. the graphic design video that Oscar has made for this quadrant so it may be placed on the website.

Rita followed up with Irene who is willing to chair the Arroyo Chico cleanup in March. A pruning demonstration is also a possibility for that day.

New Business:

Update on the Plaza- Paul A. connected with Gayle Hawker who has volunteered his crew to trim the Plaza with the purpose of encouraging growth and shade.

Spring email planned to go out to neighborhood when the timing is right to harvest fruit off neighborhood citrus trees. Neighbors will be asked to respond if they need assistance picking the fruit. Everyone will bring their harvested fruit to Malvern Plaza on a certain Saturday morning. Fruit will be shared and enjoyed. Laura will arrange to take anything left over out to the Community Food Bank later that day.

New graffiti at the bridge. The My Tucson app seems to be down or gone. If anyone can find it or its replacement, please let the Committee know. There is also graffiti in several locations on the sidewalk and electrical poles. A graffiti removal party will be planned as soon as weather and holidays allow.

The group visited the Treat Walkway designated demonstration area between Devon and Exeter and agreed that there appeared to be room for trees along the west edge of the walkway area from the alley to Exeter. From the alley to Devon, low plants such as Octopus Agave might fit nicely along the west side.

Next meeting to be held on Tuesday, January 3, 2012. Location TBD.

Three updates to the meeting minutes:

1. Paul Anzalone, somehow I forgot to include you with the other attendees. Sorry about that! Thanks for your efforts on pruning and solar lighting.
2. Mary Wolfe has agreed to host the next meeting, set for Tuesday, January 3 at 7 pm. Thanks, Mary! For those of you who have never been, Mary is at 2910 E. Exeter.
3. Good progress with TEP and the city concerning the Treat Walkway. Details at the next meeting.