

**Palo Verde Neighborhood Board Meeting
December 15, 2022, 6:30 to 8:00pm**

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Contact Us

Paloverdeneighborhood.org
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Today's Roles:

Facilitator: Val
Zoom Chat: Brian
Minutes: Maribeth

Minutes approved by voice vote at the January 2023 PVNA Board meeting

Board members present: Val Timin, Brian Gill, Rachel Dacquisto, Maribeth Slebodnik, Paula Chronister, Dianne Teegarden, Vicki France

Agenda + notes

- 6:30 **Welcome** & Speed Intros: Name/Quadrant/One Thing U Like About PVN
The meeting was called to order at 6:30.
- 6:45 **Guest Updates**
 - **Ward 6**

Dora Maldonado, Council Aide reports that the pilot project to collect plastics for recycling is seeing robust contributions, and is expected to continue.
The Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) program is set to sunset on June 30, 2023. The City Council will be voting December 20 on whether to extend the program, which has funded infrastructure projects like the Treat Avenue bike path and landscaping at Ward 6. Literature on the Storm to Shade component of GSI was distributed.
 - **District 5**

Nicholas McCullough, special assistant to Supervisor Adelita Grijalva, shared information about current rates of COVID, RSV and flu transmission from Dr. Theresa Cullen, director of the Pima County Health Department. Infection rates are still high and climbing, free tests are available throughout the county, and it's still prudent to avoid large indoor gatherings, to mask and self-test if you've been exposed or have symptoms.
There is a national shortage of children's medication like acetaminophen and other pain relievers as the influenza season has started early and ramped up quickly.
The Mission Library (PCPL) is being renamed the Richard Elias Mission Library and the dedication ceremony is being held on December 16. All invited!
 - **YOTO**

Brittany Smith from Youth on Their Own thanked the neighborhood for the recent food drive donations. YOTO serves students who need support to graduate from high school, and worked with over 1700 students this year to provide a safe, quiet place to study and gather, as well as food and toiletries. YOTO students have an 82% graduation rate. YOTO is moving their physical location to part of the old SW University of Visual Arts property on Country Club between Grant and Glenn. Current location is at Pima and

Alvernon. The move is projected for April 2023, and they may contact us with particular needs. They will have more space, an on-site laundry and other necessities that they can't provide now.

YOTO is also partnering with the Family Food Project to provide food and teach kids how to cook.

- **7:10 Neighbors Q&A**

- Hydrant at Camilla and Elida

Dora Maldonado reported that Ward 6 is working with the developer to have this repaired. It has been out of service for several months.

- 3429 East Willard

Neighbors asked about this multi-unit property which has been under renovation. Dora Maldonado reports that it is public housing being managed by the City and is not yet ready for residents to move in, with no timeline yet for completion.

- Trash container at bus stop on Pima

The trash container at the westbound stop near Catalina High School was damaged and removed but not replaced. Neighbors report that bus riders drop their trash in the street since there is not a container. Dora will contact SunTran to resolve this issue.

- Traffic on Camilla

Neighbors report that traffic on Camilla is unchecked from Speedway to Fairmount and Fairmount to Pima. Chicanes have been proposed for this stretch particularly as the development at Pima & Camilla is anticipated to increase traffic. Speed bumps and stop sign warning signs were also suggested to help with traffic calming. Dora reported that there are ongoing discussions with the developer about contributions to anticipated traffic congestion. Lex Gjurasic (neighbor) reported success by contacting the Tucson Department of Transportation (TDOT) for help with another hazardous intersection. They were very responsive after being contacted by multiple neighbors. Candy Filipek also reportedly used this tactic to successfully request speed humps on Linden (with some cost to the neighborhood.) Organizing multiple neighbors to contact TDOT with a flood of emails may result in surveys and changes.

You can submit a form at the TDOT website: <https://www.tucsonaz.gov/transportation>.

Lex also suggested contacting Diana Alarcon directly at diana.alarcon@tucsonaz.gov.

- Mattresses at Willard & Jones (not discussed in the meeting)

Neighbors contacted the Board about the ongoing presence of heavy trash on the curb. A See Click Fix form was submitted and the mattresses were removed within 2 days.

- **7:25 Board & Committee Updates**

- Treasurer (Rachel)

Rachel D'Aquisto reports that we have access to the PVNA accounts and our current balance is approximately \$11,800. Dianne Teegarden volunteered to help Rachel with some outstanding questions about financial records. We are not currently using bookkeeping software so that may be implemented in the future.

- Magar Family (Rachel)

Rachel has been in contact with the Magar family since the murder of Ravi Magar. It's not easy to determine what would be helpful because communication is unclear. The family

has raised some money for funeral and medical expenses. They may also need help with legal costs in the future.

- Grant Alvernon Area Plan (Vicki France)
 - Vicki shared the first draft of a report that the seven neighborhoods in the GAAP area have been working for several years to update to reflect changes and current realities. She gave a brief update and will have more to share at the next meeting after the draft has been discussed. The original plan can be found here:
 - https://www.tucsonaz.gov/files/pdsd/plans/GrantAlvernon_12.19.2017rev.pdf.
 - Traffic Circle Team (See written updates below)
 - Alvernon Grant Initiative (Paula Chronister)
 - Female subject, possibly with mental health issues, reported going to driveways, entering gates and buildings
 - Reminder to lock gates and doors
 - Follow Up
 - Camilla Development: Q&A with the developer's team at our PVNA January Board Meeting. Please bring your questions.
 - First edition of the board meeting recap blog is available online (<https://www.paloverdeneighborhood.org/blog/pvna-november-board-meeting-summary>)
 - AirBnB Plans
 - Willard Rental (see Q&A above - 3429 East Willard)
 - Fire Hydrant (see Q&A above)
 - **New Items**
 - Approve November Minutes
 - Dianne and Paula reported their successful block watch party - added to November minutes
 - Brian Gill moved to approve, Rachel D'Aquisto seconded, **approved by voice vote**
 - Board Recruitment Plan (see below)
 - 2023 Event Calendar (see list on next page); Starting with January gathering at Catalina High playground ramada. Other ideas?
A motion was made and approved to plan an event on January 21 at the ramada at Catalina High School Park with a budget of \$100 for food and drink.(See also draft Event Calendar below.)
 - [Demo: Homeless Encampment Tool](#)
 - [Demo: SeeClickFix](#)
- 7:50 Final questions, feedback & ideas for next time
 - Floor open for comments and suggestions - We discussed the Board recruitment plan and proposed calendar of events, both below and edited to reflect new ideas and comments.
 - 8:05 Moved to adjourn; motion carried

Written Updates

- **Elected Board:**

- The elected board continues to meet almost every Tuesday and Thursday evening to touch base on our projects and progress.
- Maribeth and Val continue preparing and sending the weekly e-news. Mostly business as normal here. We have featured a few community requests, and are doing our best to make it useful and informative. Please let us know if you have any feedback or ideas for improvement.
- Brian and Val met with Mari Vasquez to go over the new Homeless Encampment Tool, their team's methods and tactics, and some tips and best practices for using the tool.
 - View our recorded demo under New Items above.
- Tree quotes in progress; meeting with various arborists to get quotes for having some areas of PVN maintained. Note: We have a contact, Brooke, at the City of Tucson who is responsible for park upkeep, and we're working to determine that maintenance schedule.
- The elected board met this month to go through tangible items given to us by former PVNA board. Documents, signage, event and office supplies, etc. We downsized / donated certain items to reduce storage needs. The elected board was considering whether we continue to store at our homes, or at a central, more accessible location like a nearby storage locker. Possible board discussion coming soon.
- Brian, Val, Maribeth, and a neighborhood volunteer met on 12/10 to clean up a home bound neighbor's alley on Linden Street. We noted in the latest e-news that other residents may reach out if they need assistance with projects so we can try to gather volunteers to assist.
- We collected and delivered over 600 lbs of food to Youth on Their Own (YOTO).
- Other projects in progress or on the horizon: Use-of-Facebook Discussion & Set policies, Full review and division of PVNA responsibilities (leverage all team members), board welcome packet, Q1 2023 event planning...

- **Traffic Circle Team:**

- Artwalk in the Gardens
- meeting of team, artists, gardeners 1/8/23 to discuss
- 16 people have responded to form
- tentative plan for April 2023
- Spring Clean up (traffic circles) scheduled for Sunday 2/5/23 prior to bulky trash (get input from arborists on pruning?)
- Val will schedule meeting with City (January?) to find out the status of street upgrade at Palo Verde & Dodge and how it will affect the traffic circles. Will also discuss option of removing barrels and placing vertical markers (bollards).

Draft Board Recruitment Plan for Discussion/Development

- Create a “Join the PVNA Board” webpage by January 30
 - i.e. paloverdeneighborhood.org/join-the-board
 - Add a list of open seats
 - Add web form for residents to apply
 - When no seats are open, the page can be updated to say that
- Web form application can ask for:
 - Name, Phone, Email, Brief Intro, ‘Which role(s) are you interested in?’, Resume Attachment
- Create an attractive graphic with perks of joining / how to apply /expectations and responsibilities
- Announce recruitment in e-news, Facebook
- Put up poster in Pocket Park announcement boards
- Accept applications until January 30? Early February? Rolling acceptance?
- All board members encouraged to invite neighbors to apply
- Host an ‘info’ or ‘meet the current board’ event in January? Or preceding January Board meeting?
- Follow bylaws / work with nominations committee as indicated
- Investigate possible board training opportunities and schedule for early in 2023, or as soon as we have assembled a full board. Letting folks know that training is available may be an incentive.
- **What else?**
 - People will have clear understanding of the responsibilities
 - More 1:1 recruitment
 - We like meet & greet idea
 - Val will publish by January 2
 - Special edition e-news

2023 Draft Event Calendar

- January: New Year Meet Your Neighbor Party at the Park (at Catalina High School)
 - Saturday, January 21 10am -12pm
 - Vicki moved to budget \$100 for food (Supplies for s'mores, beverages)
 - Brian seconded
 - Approved by voice vote
- Spring Art Walk
- Bird Walk
- Dog Festival - Peggy M idea - invite local pet businesses
- Spring Plant Swap
- Gardening Info event
- Food Drives
- 4th of July
- Yard Sale
- Annual Meeting (October)
- Hallo-Verde (Halloween)
- Palo Verde winter lights
- Pot Luck Picnic: Coordinate with *National Night Out?*
- Regular litter pick-ups
- Clean Ups / Traffic Circle - **Monthly?**
- Quarterly / Monthly / Annual Events
- Easy-for-PVNA Walk around the H/S **Monthly?**
- Fundraisers; PVNA
- Business Sponsorship Drives

- **What else?**
- Neighborhood Pride Event
- Plant swaps

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- Female subject, possibly with mental health issues, reported going to driveways, entering gates and buildings
- Reminder to lock gates and doors