

Palo Verde Neighborhood Board Meeting

August 17, 2023, 6:30 to 8:00pm

Contact Us - info@paloverdeneighborhood.org

Board members present: Val Timin, Maribeth Slebodnik, Vicki France, Steve Poe, Val Schaefer, Patricia Perry, Micah Samuelsen, Nancy Stromp, Paula Chronister, Rachel D'Acquisto, Patrick Hart. (Meeting held over Zoom.)

Agenda

Meeting called to order at 6:34 p.m.

6:30-6:40 PM Welcome & Quick Intros (10 minutes)

● 6:40-7:05 PM Guest Updates (10 min)

Mayor's Office (Eryck Garcia, Community Engagement Advisor to Mayor Romero). His responsibilities include interacting with Tucson neighborhoods to bring concerns to the Mayor's office (eryck.garcia@tucsonaz.gov) He joined us to introduce himself and listen.

○ **Ward 6** (5 min) Dora Maldonado - The Ward 6 office was severely damaged in a recent storm and will be closed for repair until mid to late October. All communication should be carried on by email or phone. Volunteer Mark Frum will be at the Yellow Brick Coffee Shop at the Benedictine Apartments to provide supplies for the Plastics Program and public interaction every Thursday from 10-11:30 a.m.

○ **District 5** (5 min) Nicholas McCullough - District 5 is deeply engaged in the process of revising and updating their strategic plan, will be looking for community feedback. Priorities include education, healthy and safe communities, the environment, and affordable housing. Email with details Board of Supervisors Monday 8/21, agenda published at pima.gov.

● 7:05-7:35 PM Board & Committee Reports & Business (30 minutes)

○ Brief Reports (~60 sec updates) (See also written reports below)

■ President

Wrote annual mailer draft; initial approval from PDSD

Compiled annual meeting location information and options

Reached out to Circle K for a follow up meeting. Was able to contact Amanda by phone, waiting to hear back from Troy.

■ Vice President

501(c)3 status - application and documentation is in the mail!!

Food Insecurity Project, waiting to hear from TMM, Borderlands has one more Produce on Wheels event on 8/26.

Loft MeetUp - proposing 9/7 as our pilot event.

■ Secretary passed

■ Treasurer

Hosting a Build Your Own Basin with WMG on 8/26

Treasurer's report shared with the attendees

- Communications

Contacting all current advertisers, drafted a letter that has been modified, will be seeking help tracking down business email addresses.

- Quad Reps

SW Quad - Christopher O, potential secondary Quadrant rep - Talked to Circle K clerks, they report constant theft. Walgreens is allowing TPD to use their parking lot for officers' down times (which was suggested to Circle K in an earlier discussion.)

Property at Camilla & Lee - one window no longer boarded, reported to TMM, repaired. Proposed use for that property is as a senior assisted living community. Neighbors at Camilla and Fairmount reported a stolen package.

- Graffiti - Our Graffiti coordinator is under the weather - we can all help by submitting SeeClickFix reports online.

- Clean Up (Vicki) - GAAP update which has been going on for several years - neighborhood plans are done and sent to the city for inspection and approval!! She submitted a written report about liquor licensing below.

- Old Business

- Ace Hardware Letter: action deferred from the July meeting

Sponsorship Trade for Discount

If an ongoing discount can be put back into place for , we would like to offer a sponsorship for advertisement in our weekly e-news letter as well as a one time public expression of thanks on our Facebook Page and Group. This discount would pertain to Board members doing Board business. Vicki F moved and Steve P seconded, passed by unanimous show of hands.

- Commercial Real Estate Department: Camilla Blvd (formerly known as Pima Commons)

Steve K connected Val with the real estate broker to find out the name of the new owner, Val is working to make that connection and will continue to pursue. A special meeting will be called if that seems advisable. What about fines levied to the former owner who illegally razed the property? Val will ask Steve K about how to proceed with identifying who is responsible for restoring the vegetation and paying any fines that would be assessed. Picor is the real estate broker. Vicki volunteered to follow up on the damages for property damage, as did Christopher. When more information is available, the Board will notify neighbors what is happening.

- Standing Business (New)

- Reimbursements

- Arlene D - Graffiti Supplies

Documentation pending so deferred for now.

- Val - 4th of July Supplies

Val T submitted two receipts for printing for the Fourth of July event with a total reimbursement of \$199.57. Paula C moved to reimburse

Val, Maribeth S seconded the motion, passed by unanimous show of hands.

■ Calendar Outlook:

- Saturday, August 26: WMG Basin Workshop - Watershed Management will lead this workshop at Rachel D's house.
- Saturday, August 26: Fourth Saturday Event: Dodge Blvd at Seneca Park & Adjacent Right of Ways? Maribeth and Patrick will be leads for this event. Rachel and Micah have weed whackers that we can borrow.
- Thursday, September 7: Inaugural Loft Meetup (Nancy will be lead for this event)
- Thursday, September 21: Monthly Board Meeting (Zoom)
 - Saturday, September 30: Fourth Saturday Gathering
 - Val Out of Town: September 9-23 (Working Remote)
 - Nancy Out of Town: October 6-23

○ New Business

■ Monthly meeting location; Continue Zoom for the sake of audio/video quality? Another option to consider for the future - Catalina High School Library is available. For September, stick with Zoom - if no objection - none voiced. October is our annual meeting. We will need to keep alternate sites in mind if we need another location for November.

■ Annual Meeting Planning; location, food, entertainment, fundraising - ideas! Agreed to have this event on October 19, the third Thursday. Proposed locations - WMG, Tucson Botanical Gardens, Catalina HS, Casablanca Events. Val reached out to each potential location:

Catalina High School: Cafeteria and theater are available, free to use for us. Food trucks are okay.

Tucson Botanical Gardens: Food must be catered by them, no food trucks, we would probably want to provide hors d'oeuvres only because of cost. They would waive their \$1400 fee for us.

Watershed Management Group: Parking lot for Discount Tire can be used. Space, tables, chairs and projector set up, new Learning Lab is ready to see. No cost, food trucks okay and could be in the parking lot, long standing relationship, they would make a brief presentation about their work.

Casablanca Events: Food trucks okay, no presentation equipment, \$350 for three hours.

Question about the necessity of food - pros and cons discussed. It would be nice to have the ability to make presentations at the chosen venue.

Zoom poll of Board overwhelmingly positive for **Watershed Management Group**. Val T will confirm with WMG and add details to the annual mailer.

■ Get feedback on written notice draft letter re: neighbors code issue and our typical response to potential code issues. Issue with cars parked in the right of

way, making safe passage to the bus stop on Pima difficult for neighbors with visual disabilities.

Discussion about leaving a copy of the drafted letter at the house, possibly knocking on the door to talk to the neighbors or directly report this to code enforcement. More discussion about the potential danger of approaching the house, whether the letter should come from the Board or be anonymous, whether to include a date by which we request a response, if we should mail a letter, whether the offending neighbors might not know they are causing a problem. Val S volunteered to approach the household as the first point of contact, with Christopher as back up, if that is acceptable. Val T suggested that we move this to a Board discussion and e-vote.

- Annual survey - Deferred.

- Feedback on Hallo-Verde: & Call for Planners/Volunteers

Val T and Nancy proposed that we organize a Halloween themed event, either hosted at volunteer homes that are mapped (map sent out in advance) or a Trunk or Treat event where there is a centralized location? Other ideas? Paula reported that NW Quadrant has had better turnouts recently. Some other parts of the neighborhood have seen much lower turnout.

Informal Board poll: Determined to greenlight Halloween map approach for the next two years as a pilot. We will review and finalize the process at the September meeting, and communicate a save the date message for 2024.

Due to time constraints, we determined to gather feedback by email about:

- Bylaws: Proposed changes to Board structure

- Policies & Procedures:

- Confirm video files process

- Get feedback on reimbursement process as written

- **7:35 Neighbors Q&A (10 min)**

- SW corner of Camilla and Lee Casita Lot. Totally vacant and boarded up.

- Christopher Osen reports the property will be assisted living for seniors, according to TMM personnel he approached.

- Discuss speeding cars and find out if we can have more patrols. (Deferred due to lack of time)

- Question about SunTran Bus Route 5 being considered for deletion - directed to COA website and recent PVNA e-news for more information.

- **7:45 to 8:00 PM (10 min)**

- Reflection & Next Agenda Setting

- **8:23 PM Adjourn**

Written Reports and Status Updates

- President (Val)
 - Promotions for, and attended July Fourth Sat event
 - Participated in 3300 E Fairmount St. broken tree cleanup alongside Maribeth, as well as my boyfriend Steve and his chainsaw. Ran tree plans by Randall (Urban Forestry) and Aleck (Pedaling Arborist). Thank you to them for input!
 - Worked on bylaws & policies and procedures documents
 - Hefty and rewarding project: Annual mailer drafting; thanks all for input so far
 - Working to get in touch with new owners of Easterly properties. Got broker's contact info from Steve K.
 - Paid open Skyline Printing invoice (w PVNA cash)
 - Drafted and sent email to PV Neighborhood Advocate RK Re: Circle K Update in June e-news
 - Drafted ["Be a Neat Neighbor" door hanger content](#)
 - Finetuned bylaws project and annual mailer deadlines with Bylaws / Monday evening team
 - Followed up with Circle K by email and phone. Awaiting response.
 - Toured Catalina High School for facility rental options.
- Vice President (Nancy)
 - Application for 501(c)3 Status
 - Articles of Incorporation Application are drafted and have been reviewed by Darin Guthrie.
 - Awaiting information from Elected Board Directors.
 - Planned submission date to State of AZ is Friday, August 11
 - Food Security Project
 - Research phase: Reached out to TMM and Borderlands Produce on Wheels (twice) and awaiting responses. Now that school has resumed, will contact schools before our Aug. 17th Board meeting. Hope to have more to report at Board Meeting.
 - The Loft – Meet Ups
 - We want to provide opportunities for the community to come together and get to know each other. We are recommending the first Thursdays of each month since we have Walk&Talk Cleanups on the last Saturdays of each month now. It may be the second Thursday based on other events in the month. The Loft has been contacted and agree with this concept. We would select a movie time approximately at 6PM obviously depending on the Loft screening times.
 - Dates - we are proposing for the rest of 2023.
 - Sept 7 (or maybe Sept 14 because of Labor Day???)
 - Oct 5 (want it early because of Annual Meeting)
 - Nov 9 (Because of Halloween so not Nov 2)

Dec 7

Next steps: Discussion at the August 17th Board Meeting if needed. The concept of The Loft Meet Ups and the first date of Sept 7 will be included in the Sunday, August 21st eNewsletter. If The Loft has the movie schedule, we will include the movie selection and a summary of the movie content, director, actors, etc. We hope that some of the meet ups may include a speaker on the movie or related subject. We would follow up this initial announcement with weekly eNewletter info as to date, movie, etc. We would also include announcements on Facebook

Page. ● Secretary (Maribeth)

- Drafted weekly e-news and monthly Board meeting minutes
- Participated in clean up on the border of the Pocket Park with Val and Steven ○ Daily trash pickup while dog walking
- Responded to and copyedited various documents the Board is developing (bylaws, policies, door hanger, Dear Neighbor letter, etc.)
- NE Quad (Patrick)
 - Cleaned up Seneca a bit after the hail storm; out meeting new neighbors; looking forward to the clean up project- will be happy to inform and discuss with neighbors
- Liquor Licenses (Vicki) - There was a meeting with Steve K and several neighborhoods about the lack of notification or spotty notifications. It is not just Palo Verde. The City Clerk's office has really mishandled this process. He directed her to clean it up and get it right. I am personally corresponding with them too. The most recent one on Country Club at the old Catalina Mart is the same family. Just a new member.