

Palo Verde Neighborhood Board Meeting

January 19, 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

Board members in attendance: Val Timin, Brian Gill, Rachel Dacquisto, Paula Chronister, Dianne Teegarden, Steve Poe, Vicki France, Maribeth Slebodnik

Agenda

Meeting called to order: 6:33 p.m.

- **Welcome & Speed Introductions**

- Attendees shared their name, cross streets, and their profession or passion.

- **Guest Updates**

- **Ward 6** (Dora Maldonado)

Dora announced an open house at Ward 6, 1/25 at 6:00 p.m., for ByFusion, the vendor for the Plastics Project. The CEO of ByFusion will be in attendance, and will speak to the Tucson City Council the next day.

The route of the next Cyclovia (March) will be from the Lost Barrio to Himmel Park.

The new mental health crisis/suicide number (988) is now operational. Flyers were shared.

The westbound bus stop on Pima by Catalina HS that has been accumulating trash has been brought to SunTran's attention by Dora. They plan to install a trash can and make more frequent maintenance and cleaning stops at that location.

- **District 5** (Nicholas McCullough)

Supervisor Adelita Grijalva's office is conducting a Youth Art Contest, with submissions accepted through February 14. The theme is "Why I Love District 5." See the e-news for details.

- **Neighbors Q&A**

- People experiencing homelessness

Concerns reported about an intermittent encampment near Winstel and Fairmount - situated where it is not easily seen from the street. The site is currently vacant but garbage remains, and when inhabited, neighbors observe open containers, fire hazards and other illegal activity. Neighbors are proactive about contacting the City for help. The City's new online site for reporting was recommended, and the Board will follow up to help with this situation.

- Development at Camilla and Pima
Neighbors asked for updates. We are working with Dora in Ward 6 to schedule an open meeting solely for talking to the developer - hoping for February 9, and will communicate with neighbors. There is a list of questions being developed on this [page](#) which the Board will use to guide the conversation.
Questions arose about the planned traffic calming on Camilla and how that might change if this development is smaller than initially planned. Another development is moving forward on the 3100 block of Bellevue which may also impact traffic. Can the original plan be changed in light of this? Dora Maldonado encouraged us to re-envision our priorities after meeting with the developers, and to set up a meeting with Nicole at Tucson Clean and Beautiful to update her so she can propose changes. This TCB meeting would involve the Traffic Circle Committee, PVNA Board and interested neighbors. TCB will collect neighbor concerns and conduct analysis of traffic flow and resulting traffic mitigation needs. Grant money that PVNA received is still in play and we will also ask the developer to help defray costs when those are determined.
- Large RV parked near Camilla site
Neighbors report that a large RV with a generator and work truck was parked on Camilla for several days; others noted that the same vehicle has been parked elsewhere in the neighborhood, including the apartment complex on Pima near Country Club. Nothing illegal to date but we will keep an eye on this.
- Good news - the hydrant on Camilla south of Pima has been repaired!

● Board & Committee Updates

- Approval of December minutes - Paula moved, Brian seconded, unanimously passed.
- **Board member updates**
 - Val** - Work continues to set up administrative workflows for the Board. Full bank access has been gained and Rachel added to the bank account. Saturday Party in the Park in two days. She attended the recent Art Walk planning meeting - great work, Peggy and committee members!
 - Steve** - Tori Bacal has agreed to be the Catalina HS liaison to the Board. She is on the CHS site committee, which meets on the third Thursdays. She is aware of the trash issue near Pima & Palo Verde, and offered to put a trash receptacle inside the fence where it can be reached from the street side. She will help coordinate the clean up of Dodge along the school property, where limbs and trash have accumulated. Steve noted that the school marquee has been out of commission and efforts are underway to try to repair it.
 - Paula** - In response to a recent home invasion, Paula reported that Neighborhood atch will reach out to the homeowners and will work to reinvigorate the nearby neighborhood watch.
 - Rachel** - New digital platform for bookkeeping (Wave) has been obtained and is being

used. Current balance (checking + savings) is \$11848.73. There was discussion about keeping so much money in checking rather than savings. One goal of the Board is to approve an annual budget as a way to manage finances more effectively.

Peggy - The Art Walk will take place on Saturday, April 1 from 11-4.

Vicki - Vicki requested a more timely agenda for the Board and the public. Val responded with a plan from the Board's last working meeting to a) finalize agenda topics the Thursday before the monthly meeting (one week prior) and b) distribute them to the neighborhood through the e-news and social media within 3 days of each monthly meeting. Vicki suggested that this cadence be added to the revised bylaws.

- **Discussion Items**

- **Preparation for meeting with Easterly and team**

See list of questions [here](#) - comments welcome!

- **Val's Board Proposal discussion & voting**

Four proposed actions were distributed to the Board and discussed at the work meeting prior to the 1/19/23 meeting. One action item was deferred due to lack of time. The action items below were discussed and voted on:

1. **Motion:** The Board requests that former Board president Ronni Kotwica download all PVNA records (e.g. correspondence) she received at the Board email address paloverdena@gmail.com to a portable drive and make it available to the Board for their use within two weeks from today. Paula moved, Steve seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

A subcommittee of Paula, Steve and Vicki volunteered to contact Ronni Kotwica to discuss this.

2. **Motion:** Create an official Palo Verde Neighborhood Association Facebook Page. Brian moved, Paula seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

There was discussion about the difference between a Facebook Page and a Facebook Group. A Page is a conduit for information, while a Group allows interaction. Val will make PVNA a page.

3. **Motion:** Approach current Facebook administrators to request possession of the PVNA Facebook Group and proceed with the proposed reset. Moved Brian, seconded Diane.

After discussion, the motion was revised to read: Approach Candi Filipek to ask her to relinquish administration of the PVNA Facebook Group. Moved Brian, seconded Vicki, the motion passed unanimously.

Paula, Vicki, Diane and Steve will approach Candi to discuss this.

- **Final Comments and Questions**

Steve asked about the current status of tree trimming bids for Christmas Wash. There are several bids outstanding and the Board will discuss them and make a decision.

- **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Suggested agenda items for the February meeting:

- Discussion of best distribution of funds for traffic mitigation & beautification; chicanes, traffic circles, stop signs, etc.
- Discuss applications for PVNA Board positions
- Tree trimming contracts - Randall Port has provided a bid and Aleck MacKinnon has been approached for a bid.
- Vicki France will report on developments from the latest GAAP meeting
- Discussion of current PVNA advertising rates and options
- Calendaring next events

Written Updates (distributed prior to the meeting)

- **Board Pima/Camilla Development:** The elected board decided that in order to have a productive and effective meeting with the developer, and to not take up today's entire meeting with the developer meeting, we would rather take today to prepare our questions as a board and neighborhood, and have a special separate meeting dedicated to developer discussion. They have been offered January 26 and February 2 as dates so far.
- **Weekly Elected Board Meeting:** Val would like to offer the full board the opportunity to join us for weekly Thursday evening work sessions. Attendance optional. These meetings are for us to stay in sync, manage priorities, assign tasks, discuss new items that come up, and prepare for formal meetings and events.
- **Elected Board Recent Activities:** A major focus has been planning, coordinating, and getting the word out about this Saturday's neighborhood event. **We are at roughly 30 attendees right now. (Woohoo!)** Ward 6, District 5, Ready Set Rec are joining us. Coffee Times generously donating beverages. We will put out a tip jar for them as an extra thank you.
 - A special email campaign will be sent that morning to invite people to join us.
 - [See event planning document here.](#)
- **Board Recruitment In Progress:** Following last month's meeting, Val created a webpage, application form, and poster for board recruitment. Please invite great candidates in your network to apply. We seek to recruit a diverse group of board members.
- **Graffiti:** Elected board has been on the lookout for and reporting graffiti (and other issues) along Grant Rd and in neighborhood
- **PVNA Finance:**
 - After several meetings and phone calls with Wells Fargo, Val has signing power and online access to the PVNA Wells Fargo bank account. Debit card is on the way.

- Treasurer Rachel will also be added as signer, appointment scheduled for Wed 01/25.
- Rachel and Val are working to begin formal PVNA bookkeeping using free software called Wave.
- Val hopes we can work on an official annual budget as an upcoming project.
- **Admin:**
 - Val & the elected Board members have developed a “PVNA dashboard” to track status of action items and help with event planning
 - Val & Elected Board are adding important admin deadlines to the info@pvna google calendar and sending invites to keep us all on track and in sync.
 - Val has booked the Ward 6 meeting room through October.

Traffic Circle Update

The Traffic Circle Team met with neighbors (artists, gardeners, volunteers) on 1/08/22 at Rich Knutson's house to discuss the Art Walk in the Gardens fundraiser for the traffic circles/chicane project. There were 20+ people there and we had a great discussion on how to organize the event. Event will be 4/1/23 11-4pm. Each quadrant will have 2-4 gardens with 2-4 artists in each garden with artwork for sale. We are discussing a raffle of donated artwork, cost to artists to cover advertising costs (\$20 or a donated item for raffle). We have a follow up meeting on 1/22/23 at Nancy Stropm's house.

No new information on Camilla Project. We need to get a meeting scheduled with Steve K. and Tucson Clean and Beautiful to discuss.

We have a new volunteer for the Traffic Circle Committee. Jason Hayman - he lives on Camilla.

We had previously discussed having a Traffic Circle Clean up prior to Bulky Trash Pickup. But a very kind neighbor (unknown) has weeded and lightly pruned the two medians on Palo Verde. The others are in pretty good shape, just need a light trash pick up and pull a few weeds. So we will leave that up to the Traffic Circle Stewards and send an email out to them. The Palo Verde tree in Palo Verde/Bellevue Traffic Circle could use a few branches pruned so we will try to get to that prior to bulky trash pick up with a few volunteers.

Traffic Circle Committee

Peggy Marlatt
Rich Knutson
Val Timin
Marissa Johnson
Dianne Teegarden

Jason Hayman

Questions for Developer Kevin Easterly & Team

- How many modular homes / units are planned to go in?
- When will building resume on the property?
- What was determined for where trash & recycling will be placed, and how will it be hidden from view?
- Is rent still expected to be between \$1600 and \$1800/mo?
- Is Novak Environmental still the landscaping team you will work with?
- What engineering firm are you working with?
- At our last meeting, neighbors were concerned about the items below. How have you changed your plans to address this?
 - lack of shade on the property
 - Incorporation of flood mitigation and water harvesting
- At the last meeting, we were assured that materials would be made available to view online. Can you send PVNA the latest plans to share online?
- A boundary tree was graded incorrectly. How has this been made right with the owner?
- What are your plans for mitigating the increased traffic that will result in the neighborhood?
- Can you email PVNA as new plans are solidified or significant changes are made?

See the updated list of questions and submit your suggestions and comments at https://docs.google.com/document/d/1WwMFaNKUJnUZ9TAG_Qbs_kbrRo3Zk6jvL4NaOUebwXs/edit?usp=sharing.