

Palo Verde Neighborhood Board Meeting

March 16, 2023, 6:30 to 8:00pm

Contact Us - info@paloverdeneighborhood.org

Board members in attendance: Val Timin, Brian Gill, Rachel Dacquisto, Vicki France, Paula

Chronister, Nancy Stromp, Steve Poe, Maribeth Slebodnik

Meeting called to order at 6:32 p.m., adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Agenda

6:30 PM Welcome & Quick Intros (10 min)

In addition to quick introductions, we discussed the recent fall of our fellow Board member Dianne, and it was determined to send her flowers and a small gift of appreciation. Rachel will coordinate this effort.

● **6:40 PM Board & Committee Reports & Business (45 min)**

- Amendment to January minutes - A request was received to remove names of former officers from the January minutes. Paula Chronister made a **motion** to revise the January 2023 minutes to remove the names of the former president and vice president of PVNA. In the future, only the full names of current Board members, public figures and attendees who give permission will be included in the minutes. Steve Poe seconded the motion, and it passed by show of hands, 8-0.

Following the motion, Val shared the following points:

- While we will always consider input and feedback from PVNA members, we should expect a certain amount of respect for the organization and professionalism in communications. We should not allow any one individual to make demands of us or dictate our actions, or speak to our group in a demanding, disrespectful, or hostile way. We want to move forward positively and peacefully with former board members, and PVNA business in general. Questions and comments for the PVNA board should be sent using the PV website, or sent directly to the [info@ PV](mailto:info@PV) email. Communication to the board should *not* have to be forwarded, edited versions of emails.
- Approve February minutes
Brian **moved** to approve the minutes pending name changes as described in the motion above. Nancy seconded the motion, and it passed by show of hands, 8-0.

● **Brief Reports**

- President - see written below
- Vice President - see written below
- Secretary - see written below
- Treasurer - Rachel provided a bank statement from Wells Fargo. The current PVNA balance in the checking and saving accounts is \$11,694.22.
- Communications - Steve has been working with Tori Bacal, liaison to Catalina High School. He told Tori about an exposed post on the SE corner of the perimeter (Dodge & Pima) which is in need of repair, and need for weed pulling along the Seneca border of the school property.

- Traffic Circle Team (TCT) - There was an extended discussion of traffic calming plans in the Southwest quadrant. Peggy Marlatt, TCT chair was unable to attend so Val presented the TCT update. The team and neighbors would like to see additional stop signs and added traffic humps to slow down traffic, particularly on Camilla, but throughout the SW quadrant. TCT's current thinking is to prioritize 2 chicanes on Camilla between Willard and Lee, and if finances permit, a third chicane north of Lee. Tucson Clean & Beautiful (TCB) will help communicate and manage this process as it progresses. TCT will coordinate a meeting with the quadrant to share information and gather feedback. SW quadrant neighbors are also working with the Department of Transportation to request additional stop signs at locations throughout the quadrant. The GSI grant funds are being held by (Ward 6?) and Steve Kozachik has final authority on how they will be distributed. The estimate for two chicanes is \$30,000, and Steve currently supports adding three chicanes on Camilla between Pima and Willard.

One neighbor described frequent stop sign violations at the Waverly and Camilla intersection - stop signs in place but not so that is noted and will be discussed for possible action. Paula will follow up as quad representative.

- AGI Meeting - Paula and Steve attended. An armed robbery recently occurred at the Harvest Dispensary after which the perpetrator took cover at Benny's Restaurant.

A second PVNA robbery/home invasion recently occurred on the 3200 block of Lester (NW quadrant). Paula will work to reactivate the Neighborhood Watch on this block, both on the Pima and the Lester sides.

Recently a man taking pictures of local backyards was approached. He stated that he is a bird watcher and that several people had approached him asking what he was doing. TPD encourages us to approach and make it known that folks are being observed when they are not recognized.

How many Neighborhood Watches (NW) do we have? TPD runs the program and can share the names of leaders but it's not clear which watches are active. Val suggested a meeting with our Community Safety Officer, who will attend the April Board meeting, just for NW contact and invigoration.

- **Old Business**

- Core calendar; e-vote on minutes

We are still working to get the minutes out more quickly. It was proposed to complete the first draft by the Tuesday after each monthly meeting. Board members will add comments and a "living" version will be available from Tuesday to Thursday for additional comments. A final version will be available until the following Thursday, when an electronic vote will be taken for approval. The March minutes will be our trial run for this schedule and for electronic voting for approval of the minutes.

Concerns were expressed about using Google Docs as it is a different process for many Board members. It was decided that the final version for approval would be posted as a PDF which are less easy to edit.

- Board recruitment; review new flyer for print
Val shared print copies of the draft recruitment flyer. She will email to the Board after the meeting - please send comments to Val asap.
Val asked Avery Howayeck, who has applied for the Board position of volunteer coordinator, to introduce herself and tell us why she is interested in being on the Board. Val also gave her an overview of Board responsibilities. Steve Poe made a **motion** to approve the appointment of Avery Howayeck to the PVNA Board as volunteer coordinator. Paula seconded the motion, which passed by a show of hands, 8-0.
Rachel suggested that we start compiling services that neighbors are willing to help other neighbors with. The Fort Lowell neighborhood has an active outreach and assistance program that we might want to consider as a model.
- Stormwater infrastructure and traffic mitigation on Camilla - see Traffic Circle Team discussion above.

- **New Business**

- Board onboarding packet; discuss what to include
Val shared a draft packet of materials. What else should be included and how should it be formatted? Please let Val know your thoughts. One suggestion - Board commitment form. Paula and Nancy volunteered to work on finalizing the packet.
- Bylaws project
Vicki and Val volunteered to work on drafting revised bylaws, with the prospect of a Board retreat to work on these intensively. Vicki has already started to work on this and gather information.
- Nonprofit restoration project
Brian and Rachel will gather information on restoring PVNA nonprofit status. Several neighbors with expertise have volunteered to contribute to this effort. Discussion of pros and cons of restoring this status; mostly pros such as being able to accept donations. Minimal paperwork once established.
- Budget (and advertising rates) team
Rachel and Nancy will work to draft an operating budget including professional tax support as needed. Combine this with an examination and revision of advertising rates - we can use space both in the e-news and on the PVNA website to help generate income. We will make sure to loop in Dianne since she is the fundraising coordinator and that is closely connected.
- Facebook guidelines and procedures
Val shared a draft set of Facebook administration guidelines - new description, group rules and guidelines for administrators. She will share them online with the Board for comments and suggestions. The current administrators of the Facebook Group are Steve, Val and Maribeth.
Val suggested that we discourage advertising on the Facebook Group on a regular basis but have something like "Small Business Saturday" during which neighbors can advertise and promote their own business, or "Free Stuff Friday" when neighbors can post items they would like to recycle or redistribute.
- TRRG Forum - March 18
Val and Paula will attend and report back to the Board.

- Unified Development Code Amendments - Hearing March 21
The Mayor and Council have been working on code amendments that will increase neighborhood density in the City of Tucson. We have been sharing information in the weekly e-news and encouraging neighbors to read the documentation and share their concerns and comments with City leadership.
 - PVNA events outlook
PVNA Art Walk on April 1st. Flyers were distributed, plans are solidifying! There will be a food truck (Under Pressure) and the event will be headquartered at the Loft parking lot.
 - Rachel suggested that we start thinking about how neighbors can be coordinated to help neighbors. For example, her husband would like to volunteer to paint house numbers on curbs. The Fort Lowell neighborhood has an active program to coordinate volunteers for seniors, so we can look to them for an example.
- **Guest Updates (10 min)**
 - Ward 6 - Dora - nothing at this time.
 - District 5 - Nicholas was not able to join us.
- **Neighbors Q&A (10 min)**
 - Neighbor requested help with graffiti removal. We have had prior discussion about crafting a form for the website to request this help, gather details and clarify what is being requested. Paula noted that there is a City form for this purpose, and we discussed the utility of that form. City has limited help available, mostly for graffiti that is very visible. Our form could be for folks whose graffiti is not that visible. We also discussed setting a budget for graffiti removal supplies. Recommended that an estimate of supplies and money needed be brought to the Board in April. Encourage neighbors to report graffiti. Rerun SeeClickFix story in the next e-news.
 - Thank you from a neighbor for the humorous encouragement in the e-news to pick up dog waste.
- **Next Steps**
 - Reflection & Next Agenda Setting
 - Next Agenda:
 - CSO Silva to join our April meeting
 - Overview of responsibilities discussion
- **Adjourn**
Call to adjourn at 8:12 p.m.

Written Reports/Updates

- President
 - Created January meeting blog post
 - Created 'Pima Commons' development blog post
 - Invited Avery to this meeting
 - Withdrew cash for Brian for arborist payment
 - Ran weekly Thursday evening meetings
 - Volunteering some time with Art Walk; webpage, Facebook event
 - Drafted new Facebook management/procedure materials

- Vice President
 - Carried out order for tree work at Christmas Wash and traffic circle at Palo Verde and Bellevue
 - Requested and obtained updates for PVNA on City of Tucson website:
<https://associations-and-neighborhood-maps.tucsonaz.gov/neighborhoods/palo-verde/NBH92>
- Secretary
 - Drafted e-news each week
 - Minutes at monthly Board meeting and notes at meeting with developer
 - Responded to emails sent to info@paloverdeneighborhood.org

Focus Projects

- Pima Commons 30/60/90 Day Follow Up
- Board Packet/Binder
- Bylaws
- Annual Budget
- Advertising Rates
- Nonprofit Restoration

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.