

**MINUTES
WILLO NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
MEETING, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2010**

Present members: Don Vallejo, Patrice Wappell, Phil Fleming, Gene Nance, Brad Brauer, Jason Bliss, Andrea Meary and Lauren Zell.

I. BOARD INTRODUCTIONS

The members of the board introduced themselves by name and street.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Secretary Charlene Gum was not present; therefore, the approval of minutes from the November 2010 meeting was tabled until next meeting.)

III. TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Leslie Stackpole was not present; therefore, the approval of the treasurer's report was tabled until the next meeting.

IV. COMMUNITY ACTION OFFICER

Community action officer Julie Smith was not present. In her place Officer Bruce gave a brief report indicating no particular concerns over significant criminal activity in Willo in the last month. Officer Bruce discussed a burglary in Encanto Palmercroft, where burglars pulled up to a house in a U-Haul, spoke to neighbors and represented themselves as new owners/tenants, and apparently stayed in the house for the weekend while they committed the burglary.

V. WES GULLETT, PHOENIX MAYORAL CANDIDATE

Mr. Gullett will be running for Phoenix mayor in November of 2011 and gave a brief discussion regarding his reasons for running for mayor and his experience and priorities.

VI. BLOCK WATCH

Jon Witcomb gave a brief update on block watch activities. Blocktoberfest was a big success and almost every street participated. Block watch is involved in other neighborhood activities, including seeking a grant for alley signs and discussions about obtaining a radar gun to clock people going through the neighborhood.

VII. LUMINARIAS

Sand will be delivered to Walton Park on December 18, and luminarias street captains can pick up sand between 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. that day. Discussed that many streets still need captains for luminarias.

VIII. ALLEYS

The City of Phoenix has made it a priority to close approximately 3,000 alleys in this calendar year. Among other criteria, the city requires "neighborhood support" before it will act to close alleys within a neighborhood. At this time, it is unclear whether Willo would support such an effort. Discussion ensued regarding potential problems with alley closures in Willo, including neighbors whose garage access is only through alleys.

IX. CVS LIQUOR LICENSE

The CVS on the corner of McDowell and Central is applying for a liquor license, and the Phoenix Council has recommended approval of the application. The surrounding neighborhoods are generally opposed, as are councilmembers Nowakowski and Simplot. Council's decision is a recommendation only, and the liquor board makes the final determination. Those wishing to submit written opposition or support must do so by December 22. Discussion ensued regarding problems with the CVS property, including lack of enforcement of loitering and transient control measures, as well as lack of site upkeep and maintenance. A proposed plan prior to council approval called for CVS to demonstrate improvements in these areas and to reapply for a liquor license in a year. CVS has apparently taken some measures in furtherance of this proposed plan, but has now obtained council-recommended approval, and the concern is that CVS will abandon any further improvement efforts once it receives the liquor license that it requested. CVS has agreed to certain limitations on its liquor license, including no malt liquor, no singles and nothing small than 750 ml.

Brad Brauer discussed that the Speedy Fuel Mart on McDowell between Central and 3rd Street is also applying for a liquor license. This business has apparently been denied prior liquor license applications, based on its ownership and history related to its ownership, and there is some concern that in its present liquor license effort it is currently attempting to disguise the true identity of its ownership group.

X. COMMITTEE UPDATES

Sidewalk committee met. Andrea Meury will knock on doors along 5th Avenue to informally attempt to gauge neighborhood support for a "sidewalk" project. There are two different possible approaches to such a project. One would be simply extending sidewalks north along the current alignment on 5th Avenue, and the second would involve

moving the existing parking lane and turning same into a walkway divided from the roadway with a strip of planting or other buffer zone. Extending the sidewalks north based on their current alignment is problematic, because the same would disturb existing plantings, trees, etc. Don Vallejo discussed that before the committee further discusses specifics of any proposed plan, the committee wants to get a sense of neighborhood support and/or opposition.

Clean streets: Patrice Wappell reported that she completed clean streets earlier this month, and that there will be no clean streets in January, because same falls on New Years Eve Day.

Street scape: Brad Brauer reported that changes to the plans have been approved by Historic Preservation and are now in the hands of Streets and Transportation. Richard Gayer claimed he had a November 16 conversation with Barbara Stocklin at Historic Preservation, in which she indicated she had not seen the plans yet. Brauer indicated this isn't correct and that Historic Preservation has seen the plans and has approved changes in the same. Brad Brauer reported that our goal is to break ground in January 2011.

Adjournment: Andrea Meury moved, Lauren Zell seconded to adjourn.