

WNA March 2012 Mtg.

Mar 8, 2012

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Present: Don Vallejo, Jon Witcomb, Patrice Wappel, Jason Bliss, Brad Brauer, Andrea Meury, Gene Nance, Colin Vogel, Andrea Meury.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

January and February 2012 meeting minutes were circulated to the Board for review and approval. Don Vallejo moved to approve the minutes, Andrea Meury seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT/APPROVAL

Colin Vogel presented the treasurer's report through March 8, 2012. Colin reported that April will be a better month to report on the results of home tour and Streetscape, the latter of which will be fully paid (and performance bonds refunded) before the next meeting. Don Vallejo asked whether budget figures can be made available at monthly meetings to compare with the treasurer's report. Colin advised that Quick Books does not allow modification of the form that is used as the treasurer's report, and suggested that the budget be made available as a separate document at each meeting. The Board agreed this is a good idea. Jason Bliss moved to accept the Treasurer's report as presented, Patrice Wappel seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNITY ACTION OFFICER

CAO Ben Harris reported an ongoing spike in property crimes in Willo and F.Q. Story has resulted in deployment of a Neighborhood Enforcement Team (N.E.T.) team in Willo and Story. The NET team identified a number of suspects, many of whom go through alleys, that it decided to monitor and follow. These efforts were focused in F.Q. Story but there was some spillover into Willo. Since February 13, 2012, PD arrested four people in the act of burglary/attempted burglary. Since February 18, 2012 there have been no reported property crimes in F.Q. Story. In January, 2012 Willo had 20 property crimes, the NET team has resulted in a substantial decrease in Willo as well. Discussion ensued about vacant houses and problems with burglaries at vacant houses. Don Vallejo advised neighbors of burglarized vacant homes to request a police report be taken notwithstanding any claim by the reporting officer that the identity of the vacant home's owner is not known.

Jon Witcomb and CAO Harris advised the neighborhood that Phoenix PD will do a Crime Prevention Analysis of any house in the neighborhood. It takes an hour at the most. PD will give the homeowner a report with the results.

Jon Witcomb also advised that copper theft is an issue, and that the pipes are often located underneath the house accessible through crawl spaces.

THIRD AND FIFTH AVENUE CONSTRUCTION

Construction at 3rd and 5th Avenue is completed, final payment will be made in March. Don Vallejo discussed the possibility of a committee to create some signage at the Third and Fifth Avenue Streetscape locations.

REPLACEMENT SECRETARY

Brad Brauer reported that secretary Lauren Zell has resigned to focus on her family. Brad Brauer nominated Don Vallejo to serve as secretary. The Board enthusiastically supported Don Vallejo's nomination as secretary. Jason Bliss moved to accept the appointment and Andrea Meury seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

EDGEMONT TRAFFIC

Neighbor Gerald Adams reported on efforts to reduce cut through traffic through the neighborhood especially on perimeter streets like Edgemont and Almeria. The City has done traffic counts but the counts (550 cars a day) do not meet City parameters for City assistance. Neighbors have looked into other options such as speed bumps, but neighbor Richard Gayer advised the City requires 100% approval of all property owners within one-hundred feet (100 feet) of the proposed speed bump. Neighbors have also looked into no left hand turn or similar signs. Mr. Adams inquired whether the Board can assist in implementing no turn signs. Don Vallejo felt that the Board can facilitate the installation of these signs. In general, the Board voiced support for appropriate measures, but agreed that the neighborhood needs to have a further discussion about the available options. One concern is that placing signs on Edgemont only, for example, would simply move the traffic to Windsor. The discussion ended by Gerald Adams agreeing that he would check with all of Edgemont about a possible agreement to speed bumps.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Andrea Meury asked about the status of the sidewalk committee. Don Vallejo plans to distribute flyers to affected areas by next meeting.

There were no other committee updates.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

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NEW BUSINESS

Feliciano Vera, partner at Habit Metro LLC, discussed a proposed zoning change and project adjacent to Willo. Vera has been very actively involved in the Roosevelt District in developing projects. His company has worked on Portland Place, Oasis on Grand, and the Lexington Hotel. He represents one of the principals of the owner of the property at 14 W. Vernon. It is a two-story structure that the owner wants to convert from R-5 to C-2 zoning to accommodate a proposed restaurant use. Both proposed restaurant operators (whose names can't be disclosed and who are not yet committed) are local restaurant operators. This is an adaptive reuse project. The zoning process has several proposed stages, beginning with the zoning re-classification, continuing to a special use permit for outdoor dining and alcohol, and continuing to other proposed developments such as office or residential upstairs.

Jon Witcomb asked for an update informational report, similar to that provided by Vera, from Jeff Geysler from Lawrence and Geysler regarding the status of the project on 7th Avenue and McDowell.

Andrea Meury asked whether someone from the pipeline project can come speak to the neighborhood at the next meeting about the project. Andrea voiced concerns about the scope of the current pipeline project, and in particular yard access issues and possible theft related to workers.

Marla from Lewis reported that all of the improvements to the Lewis park are great. She also reported that they would like to get on the agenda for next meeting to discuss the purchase of some park furniture for the park. She mentioned a rough budget of \$2,000 to purchase the furniture.

Brad discussed forming a committee to monitor the storage unit contents. Gene Nance agreed to accept the committee chair responsibility of inventorying the contents and monitoring the inventory and access.

Don Vallejo moved to adjourn, Patrice Wappel seconded. Meeting adjourned.