

Willo Neighborhood Association

March 9, 2017

Minutes

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. without quorum. There were other Board members attending, but serving in another capacity for the Willo Election. It was decided to conduct the meeting and attend to issues that did not require a vote until quorum could be met.

Those present at 6:40 were: Marilyn Rendon, Paul Benjamin, Charlene Gum, Gene Nance, Rebecca Nevedale and Patrice Wappel.

Those present at 8:05 p.m. were: Marilyn Rendon, Paul Benjamin, Linda Doescher, Charlene Gum, Gene Nance, Theresa LoCoco, Rebecca Nevedale and Opal Wagner.

Guest Presentation: Roxanne Favors, City of Phoenix and Sgt. Joe Hallums Phoenix Police.

2017 NCAA Final Four Downtown Events: Roxanne Favors, City of Phoenix and Sgt. Joe Hallums, Phoenix Police were present to explain what to expect during the event.

The events will take place from March 31-April 3, 2017. There will be three major events held in the Downtown Phoenix area: The Final Four Fan Fest, the March Madness Music Festival and the Final Four Dribble.

Please expect street closures and impacts to on-street and meter parking near Hance Park. There will be access to residences and businesses will be maintained during the events.

Sgt. Joe Hallums reminded everyone to report any suspicious activity in the neighborhood or while you're attending any events...always use the "See Something, Say Something" policy. **You may email/text azactic.gov (Arizona Counter Terrorist Info Center) or call 1-877-272-8329 (Save AZ).**

Approval of February Minutes: A motion was made by Rebecca Nevedale and seconded by Theresa LoCoco to approve the February 2017 minutes. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Linda Doescher reported that we did well on the Home Tour and it was a good month; earlier Marilyn presented the final figures of \$ 73,903.45 in income, 37,621. 00 in expenses, with a resulting profit of \$36,282.00. The Willo Affair and Speakeasy netted an additional \$2,133.00 in income.

Home Tour Report: The Home Tour was a success thanks to the Home Tour Committee and volunteers.

BMO Sign: At the last meeting Harvey Schulman, resident of Tapestry and member of the Stop Bright Signs organization, presented information to the Board regarding the detrimental effects of the brightness of the sign on the neighborhood. The purpose of his visit was to ask the Board to join this effort by showing support in the form of a resolution. Since that time several other neighborhood associations have resolved to oppose this signage. These include Regency House, Tapestry, and the Midtown Neighborhood Association. The Phoenix Towers Board will vote March 13th and they are expected to pass a resolution in support of the Stop Bright Signs effort.

It was proposed at the last meeting that any action by Willo should be delayed until the March meeting.

Marilyn has composed a sample statement of support for the effort that can be provided to Harvey Schulman to include in his presentation to present to the powers that be.

Discussion:

Gene Nance canvassed several neighbors that live closer to the building (including himself) as to how strongly they felt about the sign. The result yielded that no one was bothered or hindered by the sign.

We had visitors in the audience who reported the BMO has been very uncooperative. Many efforts to contact the general manager of BMO have resulted in no contact. The management company for the building has also appeared apathetic to resolving the problem.

Willo member Glenn Hammond offered information he acquired from June Evans, VP/Senior Manager Global Facilities Management with the City of Phoenix. Ms. Evans stated that the sign installation meets local requirements and is fully approved and permitted. It was suggested that the requirements for the sign would have to be changed before BMO would be required or agree to make changes or adjustments to the signs. Glenn suggested that it may be wise to first work with the city staff to change certain sign requirements (LED lighting) rather than to try to compel BMO to comply with neighborhood complaints.

A motion was made by Paul Benjamin to use the statement Marilyn has presented beginning with "The Willo Neighborhood Board of Directors... and ending with "It is for all these reasons..." and present it to the Stop Bright Signs organization. Rebecca Nevedale seconded the motion and the motion passed with one no and one abstention.

City of Phoenix Water and Solid Waste Procedures:

Marilyn was contacted by a neighbor who had noticed that she was getting charged double for water sewer and trash. This was due to the existence of a guest house She brought this to the attention of the City as the guest house is not a rental and it is not occupied. She has since received a 3-year credit. However, she wishes to bring this to the attention of the Board and neighborhood. This issue was addressed by the Board in 2009 which resulted in a program wherein anyone in Willo with a guest house that is unoccupied may submit an "Application for Unoccupied Second Living Quarters". This will prevent the additional charges for trash, water and sewer. The application must be verified and signed by a Willo board member.

Committee Reports:

Blockwatch/Street Safety: Jon Whitcomb was not able to attend.

Officer Ben Harris supported Sgt Hallum's instructions to report suspicious activity. There is new commander for the precinct, Commander Anthony Vasquez.

There has been an increase in bicycle and residential yard burglaries. There are two suspects that have been seen in in the neighborhood at the time of the thefts. Their names are Bobby Ellis, Black Male age is estimated in the 60's and Jamie Sabori, White male, age is estimated in the 20's. If you see these two suspects, call Crime Stop.

What can we do about alley traffic? It was reported from a guest in the audience that the alley traffic is increasing around 3:00p.m. In addition, contractors are parking in the alleys. What can be done to prevent this? Officer Harris responded explaining that this type of violation is difficult to enforce given the priority of more serious offenses. The police force has been reduced making it even more difficult to respond in a timely manner.

Kids Club/Social Committee: There are many Spring events planned for April. The next happy hour will be Friday, April 7th, Bob and Don's house from 5 – 7:00 pm.

Kleanstreets: Gene Nance reported for Patrice Wappel that the following areas have been groomed: the corner of 5th Avenue and Lewis, 7th Avenue and Lewis, and 7th Avenue and Palm Lane. The consensus of the Board is that more volunteers are needed to help Patrice. (contact info?) Thank you, Patrice for all you do.

Zoning: Paul Benjamin reported that the Rubios Bar & Grill will be going forward with the construction. The limit for this area is three businesses. Their project will make four. The City has granted construction despite the stipulation. They are now applying for an allowance of the service of alcohol on the patio. The home at 71 W. Cypress received approval for their addition. The owners of 38 W. Wilshire have changed their original plans for the addition from two-story to one-story.

APS Sub-Committee: Tom Doescher related that we still haven't heard that the lot on Virginia/Cambridge at First Avenues has been officially sold. When the lot is sold, the committee will meet with the new owner(s) to offer their suggestions, concerns and desires for design.

FAA Sub-Committee: The status remains the same. Oral argument for the City of Phoenix and neighborhoods' lawsuits against the FAA will take place on March 17th in the U.S. Court of Appeals, D.C. Circuit. (please refer to the February minutes for further explanation).

New Business: There was no new business to discuss.

Old Business: The Khalsa school is looking for a site for a classroom in Willo.

Action Item: Joe Kanefield, Elections Committee Chair announced the results of the 2017 Willo Board Election.

The new board is as follows:

Officers:

Dr. Robert Cannon, President

Bradley Brauer, Vice President

Linda Doescher, Treasurer

Charlene Gum, Recording Secretary

Directors at Large:

Nicole Armstrong

Paul Benjamin

Marcus Ferrell

Gene Nance

Allison Powers

Anthony Sumner

Opal Wagner

Patrice Wappel

Jon Whitcomb

Certification of the Vote: A motion was made by Opal Wagner and seconded by Linda Doescher to certify the vote. The motion passed.

Installation of the 2017-2019 Governing Board: Marilyn Rendon motioned to approve the certification, the motion was seconded by Theresa LoCoCo, the motion passed.

Adjournment: Theresa LoCoCo motioned to adjourn the meeting, Rebecca Nevedale seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.