

Willo Board Meeting Minutes
Feb. 11, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Willo President, Dr. Robert Cannon, at 6:30 p.m.

Board Members present: Bob Cannon, Brad Brauer, Ann Bommersbach, Sandra Lefcovich, Gene Nance, Kush Govani, James Varela, Jeremy Schachter, Patrice Wappel, Lisa Helm, Opal Wagner

Absent: Linda Doescher, Charlene Gum

A motion to approve the January 14, 2021 minutes was made by Brad Brauer, seconded by Jeremy Schachter and passed unanimously.

Approval of the January Treasurer's Report was deferred until the March meeting, when the Treasurer will be present.

Zoning Committee Update – Tom Doescher reported on overheight walls (waiting for more information). 2816 N. 7th Ave – a proposed drive-through, "Raising Cane's" is planning to move into the former Duke's Photography building. Concerns have been raised about the drive-through's incompatibility with traffic on 7th Ave. Willo Residences (1st Ave. and Virginia/Central) - first 6 homes will be built on NE corner of 1st Ave. and Cambridge soon. Pres. Cannon confirmed more information will be presented on the wall issue and Raising Cane's at the March meeting.

Inside Willo Update – Sandra Lefcovich reported we have a full issue for March, 2021 with election candidate information, featured home, Kids' Club, etc.

Election Committee Update – Ann Bommersbach reported the deadline to opt-in is Feb. 15th. By Feb. 26th, she will send out the link to vote and voting will close on the 9th of March. Results will be announced on March 11th.

Social Media – Jeremy Schachter reported participant numbers are growing. He discussed further vandalism at home on Windsor and the neighborhood's response, including helping out the neighbors who were vandalized in cleaning up

the graffiti, and making sure everyone knows Willo has zero tolerance for hate crimes and vandalism. The neighbors were supported with painting, gift cards and other support. Thanks to everyone who came together as a community.

Block Watch – Brad Brauer reported he is working on expanding Block Watch captains to block captains who will be involved in overall neighborhood communication, luminarias, etc. He will try to increase participation. We've been fortunate that crimes have gone down during the pandemic, largely because people have been staying home. He introduced Officer Harris, CAO.

Officer Ben Harris thanked Jeremy and Brad for their lead on the vandalism issue on Windsor. Officer Harris introduced Sgt. Kane Kimball the new CAO Sgt. And a 21-year veteran of Phoenix P.D. Sgt. Kimball introduced himself to the neighborhood. Officer Harris said last year the busy months for Willo were April and June when crimes spiked for residential burglaries and vehicle break-ins. Crime went down and stabilized for the rest of the year. The only issue reported in Jan. was the graffiti and bias crimes on Windsor and fireworks at 120 W. McDowell. Crime abatement may be pursued on the 120 W. McDowell property. The bias crime graffiti incidents on Windsor are still under investigation. Brad Brauer asked about speed abatement on 3rd and 5th Aves. Officer Harris said quite a bit of enforcement was being done along McDowell between 7th and 15th Aves. in the evenings and that he had asked the motor officer to surveil 5th Avenue also.

3.5 Streets and Traffic Safety Committee – Opal Wagner reminded the neighborhood of the 60% design meeting for the 3rd and 5th Avenues re-design/update project and encouraged everyone to attend the city's Zoom meeting on February 24th at 6:00 p.m.

Willo Website – Kush Govani reported some of his preliminary analysis of website statistics. Willophx.com normally has 30-60 views per day. During Home Tour 2020 it had 3400 views. Website traffic during home tours in 2018-2020 garnered 10,000-15,000 views. While the webpage gets between 10-30 new users on a normal day, it got 170 new users on Christmas Eve (during luminarias). During Home Tour 2020 there were 1100 first-time users on Home Tour day. This information will be used to optimize website use moving forward and will perhaps factor into future advertising efforts.

Bob Cannon introduced Board candidates Erika Gagnon and Aaron Montano Searles.

Old Business:

James Varela and Diana Herman reported the Willo photo book is moving forward with research and photographing interiors.

Carl Schurtz reported the Welcome Committee is planning an ad in Inside Willo and preparing to deliver more welcome tote bags.

Patrice Wappel reported she did some Kleen Streets volunteer work along 7th Ave. and reminded everyone weeds are starting to proliferate with the warmer weather.

Nikki Armstrong reported Happy Hours will resume when Covid guidelines permit.

Brad Brauer reported that preparations will soon be underway for Home Tour 2022.

Sandra Lefcovich asked if Inside Willo could take off June and July instead of July and August. No objections were raised.

Bob Cannon reported on cooperation between the “4-corners” neighborhood leaders and their intent to pursue collaboration on issues affecting our neighboring historic districts.

New Business:

Jeremy Schacter introduced Alba Rodriguez.

Alba Rodriguez spoke about the impacts of the bias crime graffiti to her home and also expressed how much she appreciated the neighborhood’s support during these incidents.

Brad Brauer spoke about the Willo NA’s past efforts on the Trap, Neuter, Release (TNR) program for feral cats in the neighborhood and explained the process for

the Animal Welfare League's TNR program. Brad offered suggestions for the Willo NA to once again provide reimbursement of spaying fees for neighbors who are willing to oversee the TNR program in Willo. Dr. Cannon said he would put the item on the March agenda.

Motion to Adjourn was made by Brad Brauer, seconded by Jeremy Schachter and passed unanimously.