

Willo Neighborhood Association Monthly Meeting Minutes  
October 12, 2023, 6:30 p.m.  
BMO Harris Building, 1850 N. Central Ave., Sedona Room, Phoenix, AZ 85004

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by Aaron Searles, Vice President.

Board members present in person: Linda Doescher, Treasurer; Wylie Carhartt; Eric Gilmore; Jonathan Roberts; Lara Sands; Jim Smith; Patrice Wappel

Board members present via Zoom: Nicole Armstrong, Secretary; Dan Childers; Jeremy Schachter

Board members absent: Brad Brauer, President; Sandra Lefcovich

Other attendees: Keith Aldridge; Tom Doescher; Zak Holman; Reid Mertens; Courtney Sutherland; and via Zoom: Barry Sparkman; Scott Ferreira; Brian [no last name]; Sarah W.; Jim Gabler; Addison Dent

Approval of Minutes: Searles made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting as presented; Doescher seconded; motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: The Association's total assets as of September 30, 2023 are \$143,176.48. Searles made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented; Roberts seconded; motion passed.

Committee Reports:

3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Avenues/Traffic and Safety: Searles reported on behalf of Committee Chair Cannon. Work on updates to 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Avenues continues, with summer 2024 as the estimated completion date. The Committee is working with the City regarding the upcoming home tour and the street improvement project.

Block Watch: Searles presented Community Action Officer Ben Harris' report, which stated that burglaries in the area have dwindled. There were two DUI crashes recently. Residents have reported that reaching a live person has been challenging when calling to report problems.

Communications Strategy: Committee Co-Chairs Schachter and Searles reported that Schachter, Searles, and Lefcovich met to discuss neighborhood text messaging. They would like to try a trial period of 90 days with a service costing less than one cent per text message. Text messages will be one-sided; i.e., without replies. Participants must opt-in. Distribution will be done only by Lefcovich, Schachter, and/or Searles. Cost to the Association is estimated at \$1-20 per month. Searles made a motion to allow purchase of this plan for a 90-day trial period; seconded by Wappel; motion passed.

Home Tour: Co-Chair Courtney Sutherland reported that planning meetings are underway, plus email communication with volunteers. Five homes are confirmed for the tour. The committee is in need of more volunteers and homes to participate on the tour.

Inside Willa: Doescher reported on behalf of Lefcovich. Next month's issue is on the way to the printer.

Social: Committee Chair Roberts reported that monthly happy hours continue on the second Friday of each month.

Zoning: Committee member Tom Doescher reported that new home construction in the vacant lot at Holly and 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue will begin soon.

At 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue and Virginia, workers have repacked the ground, dug out where the pads will go for new homes, and the developer/builder plans to start within 1-2 months on the 3-story homes that will be central to the development in that space. The outer-edge homes facing Virginia and Cambridge are still going through design approval with the City. The developer would like a letter from the Association supporting the lowering of the outer-edge houses from 3 stories to 2. Tom Doescher read the draft letter. Roberts moved that the letter be approved and sent; Carhartt seconded; motion passed.

The lawsuit concerning the vacant lot at the NW corner of Central and Thomas has been dropped. The developer for that site is ready to build, but office space is not as needed with so many vacancies, so nothing is happening there yet.

Old Business: Meeting space move to Oven + Vine for future Association meetings: Searles reported that a screen and microphone will be provided for Zoom. Doescher stated that if a move to Oven + Vine does not work in the long run, another option for meeting space is Burton Barr Library. Armstrong made a motion that the Association meet next month and all future months as long as it is feasible at Oven + Vine; Gilmore seconded; motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m. following a motion by Doescher and seconded by Roberts.

The next meeting of the Association will be on Thursday, November 9, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. at Oven + Vine, 14 W. Vernon Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85003.

Nicole Armstrong, Secretary