

Willo Neighborhood Association Monthly Meeting Minutes
November 9, 2023, 6:30 p.m.
Oven + Vine, 14 W. Vernon Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85003

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m. by Brad Brauer, President.

Board members present in person: Brad Brauer, President; Aaron Searles, Vice President; Nicole Armstrong, Secretary; Linda Doescher, Treasurer; Wylie Carhartt; Dan Childers; Sandra Lefcovich; Jonathan Roberts; Lara Sands; Jeremy Schachter; Jim Smith; Patrice Wappel

Board members absent: Eric Gilmore

Other attendees:

In person: James R. Gough, Keith Aldridge, Gene Nance, Lawrence and JoAnne Andrews, Joyce E. Kanlan, Decker Williams, Zak Holman, Courtney Sutherland, Reid Mertens, Ken and Sandy Sands, Chris Norton, Crawford Breedlove, Kevin and Jan O'Rourke, Craig [no last name], and James Rex Nelson

via Zoom: Jim Gabler, Ed Buckel, Robert Lawrence Cannon, Danielle and Matt [no last name], Scott Ferreira, Addison Dent, and Mary Montano

Approval of Minutes: Armstrong reviewed the draft minutes from last month's meeting. Lefcovich made a motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Wappel, motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Doescher presented the Treasurer's Report, including a recommendation to wait and do nothing with the Association's bonds until interest rates change. Work is in progress on the next Block Watch grant. The Association's total assets as of October 31, 2023 are \$143,602.57. Lefcovich made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as written, seconded by Schachter, motion passed.

Committee Reports:

3rd and 5th Avenues/Traffic and Safety: Committee Chair Cannon reported that construction is in progress on the divider on the north end of 5th Avenue. Reflectors were added to the divider on the south end of 3rd Avenue. Stop signs are in place at the intersections of 3rd and 5th Avenues and Encanto Blvd. The temporary drain covers in the neighborhood are a federal requirement that the City will remove, if necessary, in severe weather.

Social Media: Committee Chair Schachter reported that a Home Tour page on Facebook is in development. Home Tour Committee Chairs suggested that Instagram and Tik Tok should also be considered for development and Schachter agreed.

Communications Strategy: Committee Member Searles reported that Brauer had additional questions regarding the neighborhood-wide texting capability following last

month's meeting. Setting up group texting functionality is in progress and is expected to be offered to residents soon, for a 90-day trial period.

Home Tour: Committee Co-Chairs Sutherland and Breedlove reported that meetings are underway, including an upcoming Homeowner Appreciation event as well as the regular monthly organizational meetings (November 17 and December 15, at 6:00 p.m. at 70 W. Encanto, Breedlove's home). As of their report, 7 homes, including the fire station, are committed to participating. The Co-Chairs are working on a partnership with local realtor James Judge in an effort to increase the number of homes on tour. They are open to partnering with other local realtors who work in the neighborhood. Vendor applications for the street fair have gone out. Other street fair updates for this year include relocating the classic cars to 3rd Avenue, south of Holly, to offer more space for vendor booths, plus the possible addition of a second beer tent sponsored by Roses By the Stairs, at the west end of Monte Vista.

December 1 will be a neighborhood movie night sponsored by the Home Tour Committee. The event will include a film screening, doughnuts, and hot cocoa at Broadmoor Park, at the W. Lewis Ave. roundabout from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. The event is free of charge, and all residents are invited to attend.

Contact the Home Tour Committee at willohometours@gmail.com to get involved.

Inside Willo: Committee Chair Lefcovich reported that the deadline for material for the December issue is tomorrow. The QR code appearing on the cover of the November issue generated over 300 hits.

Social: Committee Chair Roberts reported that neighborhood happy hours continue on the second Friday of each month. Hosts are needed for January and February. Roberts also reported that the "Welcome to Willo" arm of the Social Committee works with the Block Captains each month to create welcome packets for new residents. Block Captains are still needed for some blocks in the neighborhood.

Zoning: Doescher reported that construction is underway in the vacant lot at 1st Avenue between Virginia and Cambridge. The developers are still waiting on the City's approval for the modification of the outer-edge homes facing Virginia and Cambridge (lowering of the outer-edge houses from 3 stories to 2), which the Association supported via a letter to the City last month. The construction will include additional gates on the Cambridge side of the development.

There is an online petition to remove the reverse lanes ("suicide lanes") along 7th Street and 7th Avenue.

Luminaria: Committee Chair Norton distributed handouts and reported that there are enough of the reusable lights for this year, but that battery costs have risen, so the committee's budget is short \$209.00 with respect to the need to purchase batteries. This shortfall will be addressed at next month's meeting.

Luminaria will be placed on Saturday, December 23 and be collected on December 26. Online sign-up to volunteer to help with this year's luminaria project is now live at <https://bit.ly/2023-luminaria>.

New Business: Brauer reported that the landscaping on the north side of the 500 block of Edgemont is problematic, with grease traps from the businesses along Thomas Road, dead vegetation, etc. He is working with the City's Planning and Development department to discuss requirements for maintaining the area, which is currently not a responsibility of the Association. Current infrastructure in the area includes a water line with a watering system run by solar power, but no other power source.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m. following a motion by Doescher and seconded by Carhartt.

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

Nicole Armstrong, Secretary