

Willo Neighborhood Association Board Meeting Minutes  
October 10, 2024, 6:30 p.m.  
Arizona Opera Company, 1636 N. Central Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85004

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by President Brauer.

Board members present in person: Brad Brauer, President; Aaron Montaña Searles, Vice President; Scott Ferreira, Treasurer; Wylie Carhartt; Dan Childers; Eric Gilmore; Jonathan Roberts; Lara Sands; Jeremy Schachter; Jim Smith; Patrice Wappel

Board members present via Zoom: Nicole Armstrong, Secretary; Sandra Lefcovich

Other attendees:

In person: Courtney Sutherland; Reid Mertens; Jan and Kevin O'Rourke; Sandy Sands; Ed Buckel; Tricia Amato; Bobbi Ryals; Gene Nance

Via Zoom: Barry Sparkman; Valerie Gentz

Approval of Minutes: Secretary Armstrong presented the minutes from the September board meeting. Searles made a motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Wappel, motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Ferreira presented the Treasurer's Report. The Association's total current assets as of September 30, 2024 are \$172,867.35. Expenses increase at this time of year due to the impending home tour. Childers made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as written, seconded by Schachter, motion passed.

Committee Reports:

3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Avenues/Traffic and Safety: President Brauer reported on behalf of Chair Bob Cannon. Turnover in the City's Street Transportation Department has led to frustration with the project. No news on 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue is still in progress. Cannon asked for a letter to the City Manager, Mayor, and Pastor to voice our frustration with the timeline. Searles made a motion that the Association send a letter, Ferreira seconded, motion passed.

Social: Committee Chair Roberts reported that the October happy hour will be at a home on Granada.

Social Media/Communications Strategy: Committee Chair Schachter reported that there are over 200 people signed up for the neighborhood text service. The neighborhood Instagram account is also active.

Inside Willo: Committee Chair Lefcovich reported that the deadline for the next *Inside Willo* is tomorrow.

Kids' Club: Committee Chair Valerie Lane Gentz reported that the Halloween Parade will be October 26.

Zoning: President Brauer announced that Board Member Gilmore will take over the role played by Tom Doescher on this committee. Brauer discussed that the Central Business District (CBD) ends at McDowell Road, but that recent state laws affecting zoning in Willo still apply within one mile of the CBD. The committee is trying to get the City to work with our local representatives to adjust the laws. Gilmore spoke at most recent City Council meeting regarding these issues.

Home Tour: Committee Co-Chair Courtney Sutherland reported that there are seven homes plus the fire station participating in the 2025 tour so far, with three additional homes pending. Ticket sales will begin this month, via Eventeny. It is anticipated that music and the street party portion of the Twilight Tour will start earlier in 2025. The committee is working with a vendor to have Willo merchandise available for purchase all year long. The Winter Movie Night will be Friday, December 6. A food truck is needed for that event.

Block Watch: Committee Chair Bobbi Ryals reviewed incidents since the past meeting, including graffiti, unhoused individuals, one break-in at a business and a home (the perpetrators were apprehended and arrested), suspicious individuals, and illegal dumping in the alley. Ryals reminded everyone to lock doors, gates, cars, etc. The GAIN (Getting Arizona Involved in Neighborhoods) event will be the same day as the Yard Sale, Saturday, October 19, at Walton Park. There will be a food truck, Phoenix Police with bicycle registration, a dunk tank, giveaways, the City's Historic Preservation Officer, and other information.

#### New Business:

- President Brauer spoke about the new housing development on First Avenue between Virginia and Cambridge. He spoke with one of the developers regarding the homes being rentals, which is not what was in the original agreement with the neighborhood. This is not illegal, just disappointing.
- Sands discussed the Bylaws Committee's work revising the Association's bylaws, anticipating that revisions will be presented at the November board meeting. The goal is to vote on amending the bylaws in December at the regularly scheduled Board Meeting, followed by a Special Membership Meeting. Additionally, it is anticipated that a Rules and Procedures Committee will be formed, building on the findings of the Bylaws Committee.
- President Brauer reminded everyone that frequent scam emails get sent spoofing his name, asking for money, gift cards, etc. Please do not fall for these scams.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m. following a motion by Childers, seconded by Roberts, motion passed.

The next board meeting will be Thursday, November 14, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. at Arizona Opera Company, 1636 N. Central Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85004.

Nicole Armstrong, Secretary