

**Armory Park Neighborhood Association  
Monthly Board Meeting - Zoom  
February 8, 2022, 6:30pm – 8:00pm**

**Board Members Present:** Maurice Roberts, Jean McLain, Janet Koller, John Burr, David Bachman, Danielle Beaudry, Debra Oslik,

**Board Members Unavailable:** Megan Noli

**Guests:** Ken Taylor, Bill Bradway, Preston Hould, Ginny Beal, , Chis Olson, Etoile Wichnevetzki, Martha McClements, Sgt Peters (TPD), Jack McLain, Kriso, Benjamin Johnson, Betsy, Paula Bachman-Williams (cameo)

**To-Do Items Identified from Meeting:**

- Mailing by City – need to finalize with comments from Board
- Request volunteers for committee to establish first draft of Listserv policies/guidelines
- Letter to Steve K regarding Safford sidewalk concerns
- Reaffirm support for Cyclovia

**6:30pm Call to Order, Roll Call Introductions & Welcome of New Board Members**

**Minutes from December APNA Meeting:**

Approved with corrections.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Janet reported. Membership dues and donations, not many yet, but a lot expected soon. David noted that we has a net income of \$1628, which is about one years budget. Due to covid, we had few expenses last year, but still came out ahead. Maurice questioned about the \$924 paid by APNA in legal fees in relation to the Children's Museum fencing issue last year in which APNA won the case and asked if there is a refund due. David stated the City declined to refund this money. Martha and John confirmed that the process allowed for the City to choose not to refund this money to APNA. David briefly went over the budget numbers presented, and it shows revenues are doing pretty good so far this year. Budgeted expenses are slightly increased to adjust for annual increases anticipated. Post office expense was slightly lower than actual expense and needs to be increased. Sidewalk repair budgets were discussed. Per Ken Taylor, there should be an estimated \$15,000 toward future sidewalk repairs being held by Park Tucson, not by APNA. There is a smaller amount available to APNA for sidewalk repairs as well of approx. \$2000. The north part of the neighborhood was primarily focused on previously for repairs. The south part of the neighborhood still needs improvements that allow for ADA access, etc. Cost for repairs may be increased since the last time of completion. Maurice asked if there should be a point of action to get this project restarted, and John mentioned that the City is pretty taxed at this time due to Covid-19, lack of parking collection fees, etc. Janet moved to accept the budget at presented with the change of actual expense for the post office box. Motion seconded by John and passed unanimously.

**Green Infrastructure Committee Update:**

Deborah reported, nothing new to report. Jean noted that the vegetation along near the Peach Property building was cleaned up drastically and seemed much improved. John noted that it was a result of a code violation and they had to clean it up. John asked about a second tree pruning class. Deborah said future planning is ongoing. Committee has also made a ½ sheet flyer that can be dropped off to neighbors who need a courtesy reminder regarding overgrowth and it offers volunteer service for pruning by neighbors. Call made for

anyone out regularly walking who would like to distribute flyers as necessary to those who would be willing to spread the information/opportunity.

### **Membership Committee Update:**

Jean reported. An email went out to much of the membership early last week with some minor issues. Some residents received membership requests who had specifically previously requested to not be included in the database. Those individuals were removed quickly and apologies were sent out. Overall there was a tremendous amount of renewals and a lot of positive feedback about the ease of use. Members of the committee met to review and become more familiar with the system and how it tracks emails that went out and revenues. Jean noted that it was a very smooth and user-friendly software to work with. Another mailing will be going out to another subset of neighbors, and to those who have not joined previously. This last group will also include residents of AP who had been members in past years but had not been members recently. Ken said he believes this will help to reach those members lost previously. He also noted that the work spread across the group makes it all possible. It is also important for neighbors to ensure APNA has their most current and accurate email address. Janet mentioned that this system is going to be a huge time saver, and will hopefully lead to a lot more memberships for 2022.

### **Communication - Mailing by City:**

A draft mailing was sent to Board Members today by David and needs review. Please send comments as soon as possible. Expect to receive the mailing early to mid-March.

### **Development Issues/ Peach Proposal:**

John reported. Project is ongoing and nothing is clear regarding 375 S Stone. A rezoning proposal has gone to City but will not be available for 8-10 days. Possible changes to historic districts and IIAD map. Current proposal suggests that it is heavily weighted toward development community instead of stakeholders. New overlay for Stone Ave and South 6<sup>th</sup> Ave is affected – new density and heights in regard to transportation with ongoing discussions. Tucson Pima County Historical Commission is considered being split into 2 between City and County, and those promoting this change are looking at communities that don't have Historic Preservation zones as models for this structure. The Historic Commission has a meeting tomorrow afternoon to discuss. Martha added that if neighbors are interested in attending the link to the meeting is available under the City webpage for Development and Planning. Martha encouraged participation and said it will be interesting to see what will happen – it could mean the end of Advisory Boards – and could greatly affect the historic preservation of Tucson neighborhoods such as Armory Park. Maurice mentioned a demolition project going on off of 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue seems to be active and John will look into it.

### **Liserv:**

David reported and requested follow up status of the creation of guidelines/listserv policies. The committee included Tod, who was participating in this group working on policies/guidelines, has had some medical emergencies. Norm reported that there was some draft language for policies and for legal review a few months ago, but the project has since become stuck and the committee is no longer functioning. David and Norm noted a need for more people to be involved, more participation. Ken noted that the most contentious issue of the listserv has been political speech/topics, and hopes that the guidelines provide clarification on such topics and would be in favor of more discussion, more debate of issues and not less, while drawing the line on any personal attacks and emphasizing free speech. There was emphasis by multiple neighbors about the importance of remaining civil in discussions. Deborah made a motion to see if there are one or two more volunteers to help move this project forward. Jean questioned if committee members need to be APNA members. David stated that this is something that needs clarified from the bi-laws, as a separate issue. Motion by Deborah: APNA will ask for volunteers that have history with APNA, that David establish a process and orientation to new volunteers and to put a request on the listserv, and in the event there are no additional

volunteers, Norm would be empowered to submit the policies/guideline to Board himself. John seconded the motion and motion passed unanimously.

**Alternate members** – David made the Motion to approve Ken Taylor and Ginny Beal as Alternate Directors for the Board. John Seconded. Passed unanimously.

### **Safford Middle School updates:**

David reported on behalf of Fred Ronstadt.

- Safford sidewalk issues are being reviewed by Steve K for possible funding.
- Safford is also working with Ward 6 office on a memorandum for community use of the Safford facility. Clarification needed on what “community use” means.
- Safford is a designated transportation hub, Safford has no say on this – district level. John requested that the question be clarified to ask why the buses are running their engines non-stop.
- There will be 16 raised garden beds by February.
- Safford committee, Paula has agreed to chair a committee to be interactive from APNA . Suggestion to create an APNA-Safford committee chaired by Paula; would be to
  - 1. Recruit volunteers for community garden,
  - 2. Recruit volunteers to support elementary teachers and
  - 3. Help with needs assessment to become a community school. And David added
  - 4. APNA main point of contact/communication liaison with school.

Motion for the creation of a APNA-Safford committee, chaired by Paula Bachman-Williams that would work on doing all these things. Maurice seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Jack McLain raised concerns on the sidewalks of the school and that he fell twice last year on the Safford sidewalk and that it is egregious that they have not dealt with this issue yet. Jack would like to know what, if anything, the board is prepared to do as he feels the issue needs elevated. David clarified the area along 4<sup>th</sup> avenue is the worst, which was agreed, but other areas are also very poor condition. Jack is not satisfied with the lack of action from the school. John noted that the sidewalk around the school is a TUSD responsibility and that the response from APNA would be to also contact Steve K in support of taking care of this issue on behalf of APNA residents since TUSD will not pay for the repairs. Ken commented that he approached the superintendent when working on the APNA sidewalk repairs 2 years ago and they agreed at that time it needed repair. Ken said we need to put some pressure and remind TUSD that this needs to be done. Jack noted that property owners are cited for sidewalk issues regularly. David offered to write a letter on behalf of APNA to Steve K.'s office regarding the sidewalk issues. Letter will be shared to APNA.

**Cyclovia** – Being proposed for March, requesting APNA support. Would affect traffic, but has been approved and supported in the past. John made a motion to reaffirm our support of Cyclovia. Maurice seconded. Jean noted that this is a win-win as they tend to fill many potholes prior to the event. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Future Agenda Items:**

- Charity Support
- Homelessness

### **Reminders/Comments:**

David reminded members to please send in agenda items ahead of future meetings so appropriate time can be allocated.

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:04pm**

**Next Meeting: March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022**