

Miramonte Neighborhood Association (MNA)
Board Of Directors' Meeting

November 10, 2021

- I. Call To Order: The ZOOM/In-person meeting at the Ward 6 office was called to order at 6:00 pm.
- II. Roll Call:
 - a. Board Members Present: Ellen Wheeler, president; Joanna Dinan, vice president; Ann Baldwin, treasurer; Jan Howard, secretary; Adam Lucia; Sam Behrend; Linda Dobbyn, Alecs Sakta.
 - b. Board Members Absent: Greg Gibson, Brenda Kazen, Richard Webster, Anne-Marie Laurian.
 - c. Guests: Steve Kozachik, and Ariel Fry, Ward 6; Merrill Evans, St. Mark's; Nichole Casebeer and Alizabeth Potucek, Tucson Clean & Beautiful; Luis Salgado and Catlow Shipek, Watershed Management Group; Simmons Buntin, Lois Shears, Sandee Reynolds.
- III. Ward 6 Update from Steve Kozachik:
 - a. Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) -The Tucson City Council has voted to reconsider the ADU ordinance to consider Steve K's proposal to reduce the allowable size of ADU's to 650 square feet for lots smaller than 8,500 square feet, and 850 square feet for lots larger than 8,500 square feet. The reconsideration is in response to neighborhoods around campuses concerned that developers will take advantage of the ADU guidelines and crowd in student housing. Ellen Wheeler and others spoke at the Call to the Audience at the Council regarding the ADU's. Steve K said he has urged the Council to think about what areas are most impacted and give some deference to their concerns. He said it would be helpful if residents call in to the Council meeting when this is considered again, which will be Dec. 7.
 - b. Afghan Refugees -- The Ward 6 office continues to offer storage for items donated to support Aghan refugees relocating to Tucson. There are currently 600 to 700 refugees in Tucson and 3,000 to 4,000 in Arizona. Refugees are facing challenges as many left Afghanistan without all the paperwork needed for relocation. Many of the refugees are professionals with backgrounds in such fields as engineering and medicine and ready to work, but they don't have the required documentation. The International Refugee Committee and Pima Community College will be starting English as a second language courses to support the refugee resettlement.
 - c. Miramonte Pocket Park –Steve said Parks and Recreation staff can assist with park clean-up, and he will coordinate a meeting between the staff and MNA membership.
 - d. Vaccine Update – As of Nov. 10, there are still 102 full-time city workers who have not been vaccinated and 77 more who are only partially vaccinated December 1 is the deadline to show employees have received at least one vaccine. The Fire and Police departments reported the highest nonvaccinated numbers – Fire had 36 staff still unvaccinated/partially vaccinated, police 49 in those categories The City will be hosting a Johnson & Johnson vaccine clinic at the end of November.
- IV. Tucson Clean & Beautiful (TCB) – Nichole and Alizabeth gave an overview (to be included with the minutes) of the opportunities for groups such as MNA to apply for GSI mini grants supporting plantings, water harvesting and other neighborhood landscape enhancements. Adam volunteered to

lead the effort with MNA's grant application and send photos of potential projects to Nichole for feedback on best use of grant funds. The next round of applications is due March 1.

- V. Watershed Management Group (WVG) – Luis and Catlow gave a presentation (to be included with minutes) on the ways and resources for individuals and neighborhoods to salvage and use/store water. One of the focuses was to combine the use of chicanes to slow traffic and address and redirect street flooding. The proposed chicane at Third and Richey, is a good example that would benefit from water capture with the addition of tree and pollinator planting. In addition, Dodge between Third and Fourth streets could be another opportunity for curb cuts and the creation of a water harvest basin, as well as several parking lots and vacant lots in the neighborhood. WVG would be a good resource for the neighborhood as it identifies resources, plans as MNA develops the grant request with TCB.
- VI. Updates:
 - a. Pocket Park Committee: Ruth Beeker, who is chairing this committee, described the need to remove invasive species and dead plants and trim other plants, especially the trees. One goal is to improve the sightlines through the park. Ruth and Ellen walked the park with landscape architect Margaret West, who provided a list of prioritized clean-up items. Ruth will follow up with SteveK and the City to see how much the City can do. Alecs suggested that we try to bring in an arborist from Urban Forestry of Tucson to make sure the trees are trimmed properly.
 - b. Third Street Chicanes: Ellen said the committee would be meeting on Nov. 12 with City staff about the proposed chicanes at the Pocket Park and in front of St. Mark's Church.
 - c. Newsletter: Topics have been assigned and the goal is to have the newsletter shared on MNA Googlegroup and posted on the bulletin board in November. Sam and Linda are appointed to a committee with Jan to develop a newsletter plan for future editions.
 - d. Halloween Party: Smaller than usual turnout due to lack of newsletter publicity.
- VII. Treasurer's Report: The treasury has \$11,008.45. The only payment was \$146 for the post office box.
- VIII. Other items:
 - a. Simmons Buntin invited MNA Board members to a presentation by TPD on neighborhood safety. He said that there has been an increase in thefts in the El Con neighborhood.
 - b. Toby Kyte, the new owner of the Bashful Bandit property, said he and his brother are renovating the building and will be opening a Texas-style barbeque restaurant in March/April. They plan to have a patio and anticipate planting trees on the lot.
- IX. Ellen adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.
- X. There will be no board meeting in December. The next MNA Board meeting will be held at 6 p.m., Wednesday, January 12, via Zoom and at the Ward 6 office.

XI. Respectfully submitted by Jan Howard, Secretary