

MIRAMONTE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 10, 2024
Ward 6 office, 3202 East 1st Street

Ellen Wheeler, President, called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

MNA Board members present: Ellen Wheeler, Ann Baldwin, Jan Howard, Sam Behrend, Anne-Marie Laurian, Richard Webster, Theresa Webster, Brenda Kazen

absent: Linda Dobbyn, Morris Palter, Betsy Lubis, Ravi Bewtra, William Kuitert

Guests: Approximately 3 additional Miramonte neighbors in-person and online; Nicholas McCullough from the Pima County Board of Supervisors District 5 office (online); Dora Maldonado, from the Ward 6 office; Visitors Collin Chesston, City of Tucson Dept of Transportation and Mobility and intern, Lydia.

Miramonte Newsletter

- Ellen reported that the neighborhood newsletter was distributed to all Miramonte residents in April, and the additional cost to print in color (per previous Board approval) totaled \$588.11. Sam made a motion that MNA authorize payment to vendor, Arizona Jet Mail, for \$588.11. Brenda seconded the motion; Board members voted all in favor.

Proposition 407 – Camino Miramonte/Palo Verde Bike Boulevard - update

- Collin shared a slide presentation that covered a brief history of the project and the more recent steps taken to address Colonia Solana and El Encanto residents' request to alter/circumvent the route through their neighborhoods. His presentation reviewed the six alternative routes contemplated by the city and examined feasibility, directness, safety, user comfort, neighborhood support, and costs of each.
- The City's overall findings substantiate the original voter-approved route. The MNA Board is also in agreement that the original, voter-approved route is best suited for users and Miramonte residents. The City's Bond Oversight Commission will be meeting on Monday, April 29 to make a final decision on the route.

Importantly, Collin will be presenting these findings at the Miramonte Neighborhood Association annual meeting on Saturday, April 27. He will also be providing updates on the 5th/6th street improvements, including the road diet, lighting, sidewalks, HAWK light street crossings, etc.

Ward 6 Update

- Steve Kozachick's last day was March 31; current Ward staff remains in place until further notice and is operating in 'business as usual' mode. The office is open 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Monday-Friday.
- Candidate applications for Steve's vacant seat will be accepted until April 15.
- The League of Women Voters is holding a Ward 6 Candidate Forum on Tuesday, April 23 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, 1200 N Campbell Avenue, Tucson. Ward 6 citizens are encouraged to attend and meet the 10+ candidates vying for the seat.
- Grant Road Phases 3 and 4 are coming up, which target road construction on Grant between Edith St. and Venice St. (roughly from Country Club to Swan). There's a pre-construction, public open house on April 13 from 11:00 a.m.-12:30 at 4010 E Grant Road where the community can

find out more information about the project, construction timeline, assistance to small businesses impacted by the construction, and more.

- The Board discussed the email from Halsey Taylor, Miramonte neighbor, suggesting the neighborhood install a bench honoring Steve. There was discussion of using By Fusion materials with an estimated cost of \$1,200 to have it made, or purchase ~dozen bricks at \$3 each if someone from the neighborhood volunteers to construct it (including creating a concrete top) Additional discussion involved deciding where the bench would go. If it goes in Miramonte Park, the City parks department will have to approve it.

Other Updates:

Treasurer's Report

- Ann reported no change to treasurer's report: a beginning balance of \$6,154.33 in the account, with no deposits or expenses. The ending balance, as of April 10, 2024, remains \$6,154.33.

Upcoming Annual Meeting

- The MNA annual meeting will be held on April 27, 2024, from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. at the Ward 6 office.
- Agenda includes updates from Larsen Baker (Rancho Center upgrades/new tenants), Collin Chesston (City of Tucson – Camino Miramonte bicycle boulevard and chicanes/5th Street improvements), Tucson Police update, Ward 6 update, Board nominations, and more. All neighbors are encouraged to attend.

Old Pueblo Community Services (OPCS) individual parking plan waiver update (3701 E. Third St.)

- Ellen reported that OPCS's parking variance was approved by the city, despite concerns expressed by some neighbors regarding on-street parking. The good news is that the property will be spiffed up, including angled off-street parking, landscaping, sidewalks, moving and enclosing the dumpster, existing wall repaired. Now that the parking plan is approved, they are hoping for a June construction start and anticipating a 9- or 10-month construction timeline.

Miramonte Park Events

- Theresa reported that recent events have not been well attended. There was discussion about possibly doing fewer events with more varied themes and better promotion/communication for each. More discussion will follow in meetings to come.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

The annual MNA Board meeting is set for Saturday, April 27, 2024, from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at the Ward 6 office, 3202 E. First St. The meeting will be in-person only (no Zoom available).