

MIRAMONTE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 8, 2024
Ward 6 office, 3202 East 1st Street

Theresa Webster, President, called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

MNA Board members present: Ravi Bewtra, Brenda Kazen, Ann-Marie Laurian, Betsy Lubis, Dave Meko, Marc Salerno, Richard Webster, Theresa Webster

absent: Ann Baldwin, Jan Howard, William Kuitert, Morris Palter, Ellen Wheeler

Guests: TPD Lt. Brian Corcoran and Cpt. John Carlson; La Rosa Arts Center representative David Slutes; Ward 6 Council Aide Dora Maldonado; Pima County Board of Supervisors District 5 Aide Nicholas McCullough; and about 7 additional Miramonte neighbors

TPD update on E 5th St. house party and shooting

- Officers Corcoran and Carlson described the investigation of the April 27 incident as ongoing and being worked on by a large team of detectives and staff.
- Shooting after large house party at the address (now red-tagged) resulted in 1 death and three injuries
- Lt. Corcoran described reorganization efforts in TPD to allow more effective response to loud parties, street racing, and other issues plaguing neighborhoods.
- In the Q&A, the officers stressed the importance of calling 911 to report disturbances: TPD is understaffed, and the number of calls on an incident is important in prioritizing responses. They advised callers to be specific in reporting complaints, e.g., underage drinking, unlawful activities, # of participants, etc.

La Rosa Arts Center (Benedictine Chapel)

- David Slutes introduced the plan for a performance center and restaurant in leased space at the Benedictine Chapel. He showed site photos, described the wide variety of events (concerts, dance, comedy, etc.) envisioned at the center, and addressed concerns about noise and options for accommodating parking.
- A 10-year lease has been signed, and the opening is expected in about a year.
- A Q&A followed, with a discussion that included ways the center could enhance MNA and ways of minimizing any negative impacts on neighbors.
- A flyer on the pending application for a liquor license was attached to the meeting agenda. The hearing before the Mayor and Council is scheduled for 5:30 pm on June 4, 2024, at the Mayor and Council Chambers, City Hall, 255 W. Alameda, Tucson, Arizona.
- David and the Board agreed that the dialogue on the planned center will continue in future MNA board meetings.

Ward 6 update

- Karin Uhlich has been appointed as the new Ward 6 council member and officially starts at the end of May.
- The current staff will be retained.

Treasurer's report

- In Ellen's absence, Theresa reported an unchanged balance of \$5,580.59.

Announcements and other updates

- Miramonte Park
 - Marc Salerno volunteered as event-lead for the park. A full park event committee will be formed later.
 - The irrigation system is not working, which has been an ongoing issue. Theresa mentioned that Ellen has been in communication with the Parks department and has asked that repairs be made by the time the summer heat hits.
 - Theresa reported that Kim Fernandez has proposed another mural for the park. The Board needs to look at the design, determine a location, and go through the City's permitting process before beginning. The Board will be updated as progress continues.
- Facebook items: Send items to azsteff@gmail.com
- Upcoming
 - ***Alvernon-Fifth Crime Coalition – Wednesday, May 22, Ward 6 office***

There being no further business, Theresa adjourned the meeting at 7:14 p.m.

The next MNA Board meeting is set for 6 p.m., Wednesday, June 12, at the Ward 6 office, 3202 E. First St. The meeting will also be available via Zoom.