

MIRAMONTE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Monthly Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 14, 2025

Ward 6 Office, 3202 E. First Street

Marc Salerno, President, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

MNA Board members present: Ann Baldwin, Eric Bergman, Ravi Bewtra, Charles Casey, Anne-Marie Laurian, Dave Meko, Morris Palter, Marc Salerno, Joel Smith, Ellen Wheeler

absent: Jan William Kuitert, Betsy Lubis

Guests: Three additional Miramonte residents in person and one online.

Call to Order, 2025 Purpose and Vision (Marc Salerno)

Marc opened the meeting, gave the roll call, and briefly summarized his vision for MNA, which includes wider participation of Miramonte residents in meetings and wider engagement in activities.

Treasurer's Report (Ellen Wheeler)

Ellen handed out a printed summary of the budget for the MNA fiscal year, which ends May 31, 2025. There were no expenses since the April 12 Annual Meeting. The current balance is \$3,942.50. ☐

Ward 6 Update & Board of Supervisors – District 5 Announcements (Ellen Wheeler)

- 1) Plan Tucson 2025. A Mayor and Council public hearing giving the community an opportunity for engagement on the 3rd draft of the plan will be held virtually and in person on May 20 (<https://www.plantucson.org/>). See Upcoming for time and place.
- 2) Ward 6 Recycling. The recycling lot is proposed to be moved to Reid Park near Hi Corbett Field by the end of the summer. An informational meeting on this subject will be held June 10 at the Ward 6 Office (see Upcoming)
- 3) Parks and Rec pools will open June 1 (<https://www.tucsonaz.gov/Departments/Parks-and-Recreation>)

Neighborhood Communication & Engagement (Marc Salerno)

Marc led a discussion about ways of enhancing communication in MNA through social media and communication and collaboration platforms. The discussion touched on various tools for communication, including Facebook, Google Groups and Slack. Morris described how “boosting” might, for a small fee, more effectively get information on MNA events out to Facebook users. Marc described Slack as a communication tool and handed out a mock-up example of how Slack could facilitate communication between groups of people (e.g., in an MNA committee). There was general agreement that Slack would be a tool worth exploring. Marc will explore this. Marc also led a discussion on introducing MNA to new residents and passed around a pamphlet as an example of how this has been done. No decision was made on resurrecting such a pamphlet.

Neighborhood Safety / Crime Prevention (Charles Casey)

Charles gave some background on the Neighborhood Watch program and explained what is involved in setting up a Neighborhood Watch group. He handed out information on that and on steps TPD recommends for reducing the likelihood of your home becoming a crime scene. After a discussion, the Board agreed it would be a good idea for TPD to hold a special meeting on Neighborhood Watch at Ward 6. Casey will investigate.

Administrative & Governance Items (Marc Salerno & Ellen Wheeler)

Marc and Ellen reported that they had begun looking into how MNA could obtain 501C(3) status, which is basically becoming a tax-exempt non-profit organization with a dedicated mission. There are costs involved in terms of filing fees and attorney services. Advantages include the possibility of attracting funds to MNA as donations and grants. After group discussion Ellen moved that MNA authorize up to \$1000 expenditure for her and Marc to take initial steps in pursuing 501C(3) status. The motion was seconded by Morris and passed by acclamation.

Infrastructure & Traffic (Marc Salerno)

The roundabout at Miramonte and 3rd St has been repaired. A discussion took place about the welcoming sign that had been displaced from its anchor in the chicane at Camino Miramonte and Terra Alta. Suggestions included restoring the sign to its former location and moving it elsewhere, such as further south, at the entrance to the neighborhood at 5th and Miramonte. No decision was made (ongoing question).

Open Floor & Community Concerns (all members)

In response to questions on setting the agenda for the monthly meetings, Marc asked that any suggestions for topics be submitted at least a week before the meeting.

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

Upcoming:

- **Mayor and Council (M&C) public hearing on Plan Tucson 2025, May 20, 5:30 pm, M&C Chambers, 255 W. Alameda St.**
- **Recycling lot meeting, June 10, 5:30 pm, Ward 6 office**
- **June Miramonte Neighborhood Monthly Meeting – Wednesday, June 11, 6:00 pm, Ward 6 office**