

**Oracle Foothills Neighborhood Association
and
Neighborhood Watch #1300**

**Annual Meeting
Via Zoom**

Tucson, AZ 85704
September 18, 2021

Minutes

Due to the COVID pandemic, the Annual Meeting was held virtually via Zoom this year.

Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by President Robert Bolton.

Officers Reports

Minutes Jay DeAngeli, Secretary, read the minutes of the 2020 Annual Meeting. There were no additions or corrections. It was moved, seconded and unanimously voted that the minutes be accepted as read.

Treasurer's & Membership Report - Jay, Treasurer and Membership Chairman, reported income of \$5855, expenditures of \$5172 and cash on hand as of 8/31/21 is \$14302. We concluded the fiscal year with 143 members. To date we have received over 100 memberships for the '22 fiscal year. Jay has put out a call for a couple of board members to go over our books and bookkeeping methods. Bente Jensen and Maria Brandauer will get together with Jay to do this.

President's Report – Robert summed up OFNA's ongoing efforts, such as HHW collection, the book club, recommendations list, website, weekly newsletter and Neighborhood Watch. The Little Free Library was repaired and replaced by Jay DeAngeli and Barbara Bolton. The homeless camp at Oracle/Genematas was cleaned up, but homeless there are an ongoing problem. There are several developments we are monitoring – Agave/1st Ave., W. Yvon Dr., Genematas east of the Salon, and the Promontory Apartments expansion. After installation of reflectors, the island at Nina/Yvon has only been hit one time. The monument on Genematas near Oracle was moved to the corner of Genematas/Yvon, and new artwork was installed at Oracle/Genematas, designed and installed by Ed Muren and purchased by Chris Davison of Circa 79 Salon. The Triangle Park was rededicated in honor of Angelo Dellacona and a new sign installed. OFNA fought against the Tucson Water differential water rates, but it was a losing cause.

Guest Speakers

Carole DeAngeli introduced Bill Broyles, neighbor and author, and former neighbor Liz Bernays, an entomologist and author. Bill talked about the newly published book, Walker's Guide to the Architecture and History of Our Neighborhood. Bill was inspired by his daily walks around Oracle Foothills. The book began as a small pamphlet but grew to 230 pages with many photos and interesting anecdotes. A number of people in the neighborhood collaborated with Bill, including Sandy Elder's input on our water systems and history, and Steve Kuhn and Mary Stiner who contributed a section on

the first people living in this area – the Hohokam. He also thanked his wife, Joan Scott for all her design and manuscript work.

Liz Bernays has written several books that are based in Oracle Foothills – Three Miles, A Walk for All Seasons and the 3-book Pocket series of children’s book about a tiny baby desert cottontail. Her latest book is a memoir about her life around the world as an entomologist – Six Legs Walking. Coming originally from Australia and having worked in the African deserts, she was totally enthralled with the diversity of the Sonoran Desert and loved the openness of Oracle Foothills.

Committee Reports

Website, Weekly Update – Carole asked for input for either the website or the weekly update. Our website was recently hacked by a ‘pharmacy’ selling Viagra. After a security update, the problem is now fixed.

Hospitality – Carole paid tribute to those neighbors that have died this year: Jim Hudson, Fred Neasham, Larry McMurtry, John Crow, Betty Yaeger, Angelo Dellacona. A number of neighbors have left the neighborhood this year: Roslyn Mauer, John Sanders, George Crow, Jeff & Tammara Wambolt, Ed & Nancy Parker. We have quite few new neighbors, and we extend a warm welcome to all of them.

Neighborhood Watch – The Neighborhood Watch Area Leader reported on the criminal activity for the year. The worst incident was a breaking and entering with the use of a firearm. One house was ransacked as the thief looked for car keys, then he broke into another house where there were children home alone. Finally, he stole a bike and left. He was apprehended after committing another crime. A travel trailer was broken into, and someone was apparently living there. We also had instances of vandalism, mail theft, illegal dumping, and suspicious persons.

Streets – Jay discussed the state of our streets. We have had better care of our streets than many other foothills neighborhoods. Chris Reynolds commented on 1st Ave. and how noisy it has gotten. He asked if there is a possibility of getting the cracks sealed and the road coated to make it quieter. Dean and Lee Marvin who live on Williams talked about the problems with speeding on Rudasill. The county did a traffic study but has never made the data available. Kurt said there is no safe place for a deputy to watch for speeders. With no shoulders, Rudasill is particularly dangerous for walkers and bikers.

Old Business

Household Hazardous Waste – Barbara Peck updated us on this service, which takes place quarterly and tries to keep hazardous waste out of the landfill. There have been some problems with people bringing unidentified products, which cannot be accepted by the City. Clark Arnold and David Brown have been delivering all the HHW to the city collection area.

Homeless Camps – This is an ongoing problem all along Oracle in the desert areas, and especially on the lot at Oracle and Genematas. We have worked with the city to have the mess cleaned up by the owner.

Picnic – Due to the ongoing pandemic, we are undecided about having the picnic this fall. Scott Ruth said we are monitoring the COVID statistics and will hold the picnic if we can do it safely. There was a lengthy discussion about concerns, possible changes we could make, etc. The discussion was tabled and will be continued at the Board Meeting immediately following this meeting.

Yvon Dr. Development – Lisa Meder brought us up to date on what is happening with the Fairfield development. They have asked the county to allow them to use the easement on W. Yvon Dr. without the permission and agreement of the adjacent property owners. Fairfield would be limited to a 20-foot roadway and would not be allowed to make any improvements. They are still in negotiation with Pima County.

Gas Line Replacement – This project was completed, and the streets patched. They did a nice job of patching the streets.

New Business

Development on Genematas – Sterling Home Builders and a partner own a large parcel on Genematas just east of the salon and will probably be developing it before long. They can put about 7 houses on the 11 acres.

Election of the Board – Maria Brandauer read the slate of candidates for the board of directors and asked if there were any nominations from the floor. Jay nominated Chris Reynolds and he accepted. It was moved and seconded that the slate be approved. The vote was unanimous. The new board will be Angela Baldasare, Robert Bolton, Maria Brandauer, Kurt Dabb, Jay DeAngeli, Delann Debenedetti, Paloma Ibañez, Bente Jensen, Lisa Meder, Stephanie Morrison, Diana Ossana, Chris Reynolds, Scott Ruth, Tom Scarborough, and Joan Scott.

Call for Items from the Floor – Carole thanked the outgoing board members – Mary Jo Schwartz and Leo Roop for their many years of serving on the board.

Adjournment – Robert thanked everyone for attending. The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.