

OFNA ANNUAL MEETING

September 19, 2009
Dove of Peace Lutheran Church
Minutes

Registration and Coffee Hour Neighbors met for coffee, refreshments and conversation.

Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 9:04 by board member Carolyn Redmore. Carolyn introduced guest speakers, BJ Cordova, Director of Programs for Tucson Clean and Beautiful, and Barbara Eiswerth of Iskash*taa, the Refugee Harvesting Network.

Tucson Clean and Beautiful BJ Cordova introduced the many programs in which TCB is involved. The agency works with the business community, government agencies, neighborhoods and individual volunteers, and relies on both public and private funding as well as in-kind donations. Some of TCB's programs include Adopt-a-Park & Public Areas, removing invasives such as buffelgrass, recycling centers and programs, household hazardous waste disposal, children's memorial park and tree parks, Trees for Tucson, and a catch-all, Hot Topics, Cool Solutions. BJ emphasized the need to "get out of the garbage mentality", and to think first of other ways to dispose of items we no longer want or need.

Iskash*taa Barbara gave a brief history of the program and told of the many aspects that have evolved. The main mission of the program remains harvesting the bounty of fruit, vegetables and nuts in Tucson that would otherwise go to waste, and using that harvest to aid refugees from many countries that are here legally. Food sources have been mapped using GIS. Classes are offered in many types of food preparation, sewing and craft circles provide an outlet for creative works of refugees, and refugees learn life skills. Iskash*taa is working to involve restaurants, getting them to use the fruits and vegetables harvested by the agency. They are always looking for volunteers, or offers of fruit that can be harvested. Their motto is 'no fruit left behind'.

Minutes The minutes of the 2008 Annual Meeting were read by Carole DeAngeli. There were no corrections or additions.

President's Report Sharon Laird introduced herself and noted that she had taken over the presidency due to the passing of our elected president, Richard Schwartz. She spoke briefly about Richard and how much he meant to the neighborhood and the association. Sharon also reported that CCR's were an open item from the last annual meeting. Subsequently, the Board of Directors had voted to not proceed with the CCR's that had been proposed, which would only have addressed manufactured housing.

Membership Report – Jay DeAngeli reported that there are 260 homes covered by the association. Last year membership reached 120. Jay indicated that, as Hospitality Chairman, Carole attempts to meet all new neighbors, taking them a package of information as well as one of Bill Broyles' books as a gift.

Treasurer's Report As Treasurer, Jay then presented the Treasurer's report. He indicated that the printed report is issued quarterly and includes all budget items with actual expenditures for each item.

Cash on hand as of 8/31/09 - \$11,179. OFNA income is from dues and a few donations; major expenses include the picnic, annual meeting, newsletter and neighborhood beautification projects. Copies of the year-end report are available on the back table.

Audit Don DeYoung presented the audit report. On 9/12/09 the audit committee – Don and Phil Williams – met to review the Association treasurer’s books. The committee found the books in good order, including the checkbook, reconciliation reports, and all receipts. The audit report was read into the minutes.

Website, Newsletter, Saturday Update Carole reported that the website is now fully operational and that lots of information can be found there. She indicated that input from neighbors is welcome and encouraged, including articles, photos, ideas. The newsletter, Desert Dwellers, goes out 4 times per year and is also in need of articles. The e-letter, the Saturday Update, goes out weekly unless more timely or urgent information needs to be distributed. Carole mentioned that it would be nice for recipients of the Saturday Update to make copies for those neighbors who do not receive e-mail.

Entrance Monument and Triangle Plaque George Grimm brought us up to date on the search for an artist to paint a welcoming sign on the wall at the entrance to the neighborhood at 1st and Agave. The winning bid was submitted by artist/neighbor Ed Muren who will start on the project later this month or early in October. George circulated a photo of the proposed sign and thanked his committee, Camille and Angelo.

George said the board had voted to place a brass plaque in the Triangle Park commemorating the founding of the neighborhood by Nicholas Genematas. George said we are lucky to live in such a beautiful area where the native vegetation is preserved, and also indicated that the Genematas family continues to live in our neighborhood.

Neighborhood Watch Carolyn Hoenig introduced herself as the Neighborhood Watch Area Leader. She emphasized the importance of letting neighbors know when you’re away, and of also watching their house in return. Carolyn noted that she will no longer be able to continue in the Area Leader position and asked for volunteers to take over the job.

Neighborhood Picnic As this year’s picnic coordinator, Becky Spencer announced the date, welcomed all neighbors to come and asked for volunteers. This year the picnic will be on Saturday, October 31st, in the wash next to 220 E. Yvon Drive.

Board of Directors Election Jay DeAngeli introduced the current board of directors, and then spoke of those who would be retiring – Becky Spencer and Jesse Wood. The slate for 2010 includes two new candidates – Leo Roop and Mark Andersen. Jay then called for nominations from floor. As there were no nominations from the floor, it was moved and seconded that the slate be accepted. The voice vote in favor was unanimous. The new Board of Directors for 2010 (which begins as of this date) will be: Mark Andersen, Jay DeAngeli, Angelo Dellacona, Don DeYoung, George Grimm, Sharon Laird, Scott Odom, Karl Oxnam, Carolyn Redmore, Marianne Richardson, Leo Roop, Tom Scarborough, Phil Williams, and Camille Zachmeier.

Items from the Floor Carole thanked Angelo Dellacona for his diligent work on the Triangle Park. Marianne Richardson indicated that they had been burglarized while away this summer and wished to thank Tom Scarborough and the DeAngeli's for their assistance. Jay spoke about the recent identification of some patches of the invasive buffelgrass growing near Oracle Foothills, and how it will be removed. Fountain grass is also invasive but not as flammable as buffelgrass. Neighbors should be aware of both types of grasses and remove them whenever possible. Jay also informed us of the graffiti that has defaced some of our signs and the efforts to clean it up. We have a neighborhood committee who will work on removing graffiti as soon as identified.

Drawing: The raffle prizes, \$50 certificates for Fox Restaurants, were won by: Barbara Schuessler, Carolyn Hoenig, Tom Scarborough and Eileen Mechling.

The Meeting was adjourned at 10:41am.

Carole DeAngeli, Recording Secretary