

Vineyard Estates Neighborhood Association

General Membership Meeting Minutes

Date: 27 Aug 2009

Location: Covenant United Methodist Church

Chaired by: VENA Board Member Mike Gibson

Minutes taken by: VENA Board Member Mike Brewer

Time: Called to order promptly at 7:00 PM

Attendance: Present: See sign-in sheet

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Board member Mike Gibson.

Introduction of Board Members Present

The VENA Board members present stood and introduced themselves.

Election of 2009/2010 Board of Directors

The VENA nominating committee chairman Mike Brewer read the slate of Board nominees which were as follows:

- Lee Ann Riesen – Ventura Village
- Tony Huffman – Vineyard 3
- Pat Verrelle – Vineyard 3
- Mike Gibson – Vineyard 3
- Regina Barela – Vineyard 3
- Aaron Brundage – La Cueva Tierra
- Elizabeth Meek – Desert Vista

The floor was then open for additional nominees. There were no additional nominees presented. A vote was then asked for the nominees presented. The slate of nominees was approved by unanimous consent.

Guest Speaker

Dr. Suga, MD introduced himself, offered plastic water bottles to the group and then briefly addressed the membership. Dr. Suga and his partner Dorsey Beggs, MD have just established their practice and taken up residence in the new Alameda Business Park (Alameda just east of Barstow).

Announcements

Vineyard 1 landscaping concerns: Vineyard 1 resident Vera Rediger expressed the neighborhood concerns regarding the Green Arbor entrance off of Barstow. The median irrigation system has been shut down and the median trees and shrubs are doing relatively well. The concerns are with the landscape strip between the curb and sidewalk along the south side of the street. The North side of Green Arbor has Santa Fe Brown landscape gravel, but the south side of the street is covered with pulverized pumus (crusher fines) and looks out of place. The residents would like to see the crusher fines on the south side of the street replaced with Santa Fe Brown gravel to match the north side and make the area look symmetrical. The Vineyard 1 residents would like to get some financial

support to purchase the gravel from the VENA Board. It was suggested that APS be asked to participate. A motion was made and seconded to take this request to the VENA board and APS for consideration.

Traffic Committee Report: Lucy Roverse (not sure of spelling) gave a report on the VENA Traffic Committee's meeting with the City of Albuquerque Traffic Engineer, Councilor Brad Winter and representatives from Nor Este Estates. On the issue of the Green Arbor barricade the city reported that they have no paperwork on this barricade and consider it a rogue barrier. Lee Ann Riesen has paperwork dating back to when the barrier was installed and will get copies to the City Traffic Engineer. The city indicated that if the issue regarding making the barricade permanent is pursued the city will perform a full investigation which may result in its elimination. As for the possibility of getting a barricade installed on Hampton it was reported that with the city's position against barricades, if signal were to be closed there would be slim chance of getting a barricade approved for Hampton. As for the closing of Signal, Brad Winter told the committee that he has no pony in this race and would support whatever position the neighborhood wishes to take. The city reported that they have no desire or plan to close Signal and its closing is being asked for solely by the developer. It was also noted that there are no plans within the next five years for expanding or improving Alameda that would warrant any consideration for the closure of Signal.

Aluminum Can Recycling: Mike Gibson made a pitch for residents to save and turn over their aluminum cans to VENA. Other than dues the recycling cans are the only source of funding to support the association activities, such as weed control, landscaping improvements and publishing/distribution of the newsletter. Cans can be dropped off at any one of the board members home for recycling.

VENA Website: Mike Gibson reminded attendees of the VENA website and encouraged members to check the website regularly for information. Lots of enhancements have been made and the website is a great source of information.

August Quarterly Newsletter: Mike Gibson announced that quarterly newsletter would be published soon and will include the 2008-2009 annual report.

Questions and Answers with Larry Velasquez, NMDOT District 3 Engineer: Questions and concerns over the traffic signal at Paseo Del Norte and Ventura along with the new turning lane were brought up. Larry explained that the additional turn lane on NB Ventura to WB Paseo Del Norte had been added in anticipation of the increased traffic flow into and out of the new Walgreens. Double left turn lane allows twice the amount of traffic to pass in a given amount of time. Larry said that he would have the NMDOT staff evaluate the timing of the signal for the SB Ventura to EB Paseo Del Norte and take action as necessary. Concern was also brought up on the thru traffic lane alignment for NB Ventura through Paseo Del Norte. Larry said he would have his staff take a look at the lane delineation and striping and configuration. There was also a question about getting a crosswalk across Paseo Del Norte for pedestrian traffic. Larry said he would have this looked into also, but crosswalks across a state highway is generally discouraged unless there is real need. Pat Verrelle brought up the need for repaving of the streets within the neighborhood. The repaving of Paseo Del Norte is great but we need some work performed on the neighborhood streets as they continue to deteriorate. Mike Gibson explained that Paseo Del Norte is a NMDOT facility and that the maintenance of the neighborhood streets is the responsibility of the City. Maintenance of the City facilities needs to be funded and supported through our taxes, ¼ cent NMGR road fund and bonds. Councilor Winter should be making sure that sufficient funds are being set aside and projects being implemented in our district.

Next Board Meeting: The next VENA Board meeting will be held on Thursday 24 September 2000 at Covenant United Methodist Church. Officers will be elected at that time