

MINUTES, Special board meeting
Vineyard Estates Neighborhood Association
October 8, 2009, Covenant United Methodist Church, 7 PM

PRESENT: Mike Gibson, Regina Barela, Pat Verrelle, Donna Daniello, Kaye Lynn Robinson, Lucy Roverse, Kristal Metro (City of Albuquerque Traffic Engineer and member of the Development Review Board), Dick Bothwell, Diana Trujeque (Council Services, representing Brad Winter), Tom Manucci (Council Services, traffic specialist, not sure of spelling), Richard Dourte (City Engineer), Liz Meek, Lee Ann Riesen

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 PM.

A general membership quorum was present. A board of directors quorum was present.

Discussion:

This special meeting was called to discuss the status of Signal Road between Carrington Road and Ventura Boulevard. Hope Episcopal Church and Bob Keeran have requested the vacation of this portion of Signal Road. The request will be heard by the Development Review Board (DRB) on October 21.

Kristal Metro handed out the overhead plan titled "Alameda Blvd NE Plan and Profile, Alameda/La Cueva Arroyo Alignment Study". This shows the planned alignment of Alameda Boulevard between Barstow and Ventura. As the road swings south somewhat, at the eastern end it will be 300 feet north of Signal. (The map will be added to the "construction notes" page of our web site.)

Discussion followed on the history of Signal. Discussion followed on the responsibilities of the developers along the north and south side of Signal both in the event Signal is vacated and in the event that Signal is not vacated.

Facts, in no particular order, gleaned from the meeting are:

If Signal is vacated, the road will remain open space (a trail or a bike path) because it is a utility easement.

One factor that can weigh against the vacation with the DRB is the objection of a party that has a "substantial property right" in Signal remaining a road.

The City's "Development Process Manual" states that any collection of 250 or more homes must have two exits. The vacation of Signal would remove one of the exits from the Carrington and Desert Vista collection of homes.

If Signal remains a road, there are developers who are responsible for paving, curbs, gutters and sidewalks along portions of the road. If Signal is vacated, they may still be responsible for some improvements to what may be a bike or walking path. In particular,

Hope Episcopal is responsible for the northern half of the road from Carrington east almost to Mendocino. The developer of the homes east of Hope Episcopal would be responsible for the north side of the street from where Hope stops to Ventura. D.R. Horton would be responsible for the south side of the road along the Desert Vista development. This still leaves part of the southern half of the road un-improved.

The DRB would like a letter from VENA regarding our preference on the issue of the vacation of Signal.

After the DRB rules, the ruling may be appealed to a Land Use Hearing Officer (LUHO). The result of the that appeal would be heard by the City Council.

Motion:

The motion was made and seconded that the Vineyard Estates Neighborhood Association will write a letter to the DRB opposing the vacation of Signal Road from Carrington to Ventura. The motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Minutes submitted by Lee Ann Riesen