

Minutes
Vineyard Estates Neighborhood Association
Board Meeting
Tuesday, April 27, 2010
Covenant United Methodist Church

Present: Elizabeth Meek, Regina Barela, Mike Gibson, Donna Daniello, Dick Bothwell, Tony Huffman, Lee Ann Riesen

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM. The agenda was approved. The minutes for the February 25 meeting were approved with the correction that Martin Heinrich's last name ends with an h and not a k.

Reports:

President (Lee Ann Riesen): The hours for 311 have been reduced to help with the City budget. Ms. Riesen said that she receives information in email intended for distribution to our membership, however she does not wish to forward information from political candidates. There was general agreement that this makes sense. We will forward information from those in political office, but not those running for political office. The multigenerational center in North Domingo Baca Park is under construction and scheduled to be completed by the end of the summer. The funds for staffing the center are in the City's budget for this year, which has not yet been approved. Our City Councilor mentioned that with so many cuts in this year's budget, another councilor may propose removing the center's funding in order to fund something that has been cut. The District 4 Coalition will monitor the budget process.

Vice President (Mike Gibson): No report

Treasurer (Tony Huffman): Tony gave the annual corporate report to the president to sign and will mail it in with our \$10 fee. We received a \$100 donation from the production company that was filming in La Cueva Tierra. We received a membership application with \$10 instead of \$20 for the membership fee because the year is half over. The treasurer does not have a way to account for this. He will get back in touch with the resident. She also wants to raise chickens in her yard, and he will advise her to call 311 to find out if the City allows that. The treasurer's report shows a balance of \$6,293.35. The bill for weed spraying has not been paid yet. The treasurer's report was approved by general consent. Finally, the treasurer has moved from Vineyard III to Ocotillo. The address on the membership form has been changed. Lee Ann will send the new form to Lee Kann for the web site.

Secretary (Michelle Garza): No report.

New Business:

Appointment of nominating committee at May general meeting: In accordance with our by laws, a nominating committee will be appointed at the May general meeting, composed of at least one board member. Tony Huffman was asked to be the board member on the committee and he accepted. Lee Ann will seek two association members to serve with Tony, resulting in a committee that is geographically representative of our association. She will send the names of these volunteers to the board in email. Assuming there are no objections, these three people will be appointed to the nominating committee at the May meeting.

A discussion followed on the topic of our certificate of incorporation. We learned this year that it specifies that there should be no more than seven board members. Our options are to elect seven board members next year, or to dissolve the corporation and form a new one. Lee Ann offered to send email to the membership asking for opinions. Options for the corporation are to specify a minimum number of board members only, so the board can grow as the number of communities grows, or to specify that there be one seat for every community on the board (which may be unworkable because we have 21 communities right now), or to specify a number larger than seven.

Problem at 8709 Hampton: There is a group home for mentally disabled individuals at this address which has become a problem for the neighborhood. The home seems to be mismanaged. In particular the caregivers don't seem to be qualified to do this sort of work, and the home's residents don't seem to have 24 hour care. Because the home keeps no

more than 5 residents at a time, it does not have to comply with the regulations for a community residential home. It only has to comply with the regulations for a family. The residents only live in the home for 60 days, then they are replaced with someone new. Apparently the insurance that covers the care only covers 60 days. Our City Councilor's office was able to locate the person at Optum Health responsible for the home and she began an investigation of the owner of the business that runs the home. These homes are sprouting up all over New Mexico, so please be aware of the problem.

Hope Episcopal to renew effort to close Signal from Carrington to Mendocino: Our friends at Hope learned that the church trustees still wanted to try to close the road, so that the healing center (hospice) they plan to build will have a quieter environment. However we have heard no more, there are no hearings scheduled, and so this plan may have been abandoned.

Unfinished business:

2009-2010 weed attack: Tony brought the check for Aspen Leaf Landscaping to be signed. They offered to return for \$300 to respray if necessary. Tony has asked them to respray along Holly, Holbrook and Carmel where green weeds are growing. It was moved and seconded that Tony should pay \$300 for the respraying. The motion passed.

Ventura boulevard traffic improvement: The Department of Municipal Development replied to our request for a comprehensive traffic study of Ventura with an offer to do studies of specific areas, but not a comprehensive study which they said is more the purview of the sector plan. It was moved and seconded that Mike Gibson will draft a reply asking for a study of the Ventura/Holly/Carmel intersection at Albertson's and Trader Joe's, which we agree is the worst point along Ventura between Paseo del Norte and Alameda. The motion was approved. Mike will send the letter to the board in email for wordsmithing.

Incorporating document specifies 7 board members only : This discussion is documented above under Appointment of Nominating Committee.

Signal bus route: It was moved and seconded that Lee Ann will write a letter to the appropriate department asking to have the bus route moved from Signal to Alameda. The motion passed.

There were additional discussions about the fact that the City does not maintain our medians, as it does in other neighborhoods. Also, Vineyard Park is not on the Parks Department's maintenance schedule. It was moved and seconded that we will send two letters to get the same services that other neighborhoods have, one regarding median maintenance and one regarding park maintenance. The motion was approved. Mike Gibson will write draft versions of the letters and send them via email to the board.

There was also a discussion about the May general membership meeting. Lee Ann will talk to the person at Desert Ridge Middle School to find out whether May 27 or June 3 would be feasible for our meeting. We agreed to invite the new commander of the APD Northeast Substation to attend the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.