

Vineyard Estates Neighborhood Association

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: 24 Jan 2008

Location: Tony Huffman's home, 8912 Corona Ave NE

Chaired by: President, Pat Verrelle

Minutes taken by: Secretary, Hank Happ

Time: Called to order 7:11 PM by Pat Verrelle

Present: Hank Happ, Pat Verrelle, LeAnn Riesen, Tony Huffman, Mike Brewer, Aaron Brundage Mike Gibson

Absent: Duke Winsor

Visitors: Hena Torres, Ian Wilson, both of the New Mexico Educators Federal Credit Union

Secretary's Report

The minutes for the 1 Nov 07 board meeting had been disseminated by e-mail, and no issues were raised. As there are a number of open issues, Hank Happ will collect them and include them in this set of minutes as old business. (Closed)

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was presented and approved by unanimous consent (UC) (Closed)

Guest Presentation

Hena Torres and Ian Wilson of the New Mexico Educators Federal Credit Union (NMEFCU) spoke about the new credit union to be constructed on the southwest corner of Paseo del Norte and Barstow. It is scheduled to open October 2008. The building will contain 9000 square feet. It will be the largest state-wide, full-service (including a mortgage division, drive-up window, and ATM) NMEFCU. They will lease part of the space, no more than 1/3.

Dues-paying members of VENA may become members. We will need to send them a letter requesting membership (a sample letter was handed out), with attached by-laws. NMEFCU is also willing to add some free financial advice to our newsletters, and provide some meeting rooms.

President's Report / New Business

MEETING DATES. The board meetings and General Meeting for 2008 will be scheduled for the fourth Thursday of the month. General meetings this year will be held in March, May, August (annual), and November. (Closed)

QWEST MEDIAN CONSTRUCTION. Qwest did a poor job of restoring the landscaping on the Ventura median and sidewalks. Lee Ann Riesen will contact Qwest to have them fix what they did. The contractor performing the original work is Del Rio Construction. (Open)

FORM-BASED CODE. There was much discussion concerning the Form-Based Code the city is considering adopting. Pat Verrelle is worried that it may supersede the

La Cueva Sector Plan. There are items in the code that would not be good for the neighborhood.

The vote whether to adopt the code is coming before the city council on 21 Feb 08. We would like more information. Mike Gibson moved to have Pat Verrelle request more information at her next Planned Growth Strategy meeting, and that the information be presented at a special VENA board meeting before 21 Feb. Mike also suggested that Walt Miller should attend this special meeting. Mike Brewer seconded the motion. Motion passed by UC. (Open)

INSURANCE: Mike Gibson has checked with the Manuel Lujan Agency to look into insurance for VENA officers. They will give him a quote within a month. (Open)

CONTACT NEW ONC PERSON: Pat asked Lee Ann Riesen to contact the new staff person at the Office of Neighborhood Coordination (ONC), and invite the new person to the VENA annual meeting. Stephanie Winklepleck is no longer there. (Open)

THANK-YOU LETTER TO CHUCK GARA: Pat asked Hank to write a Thank-You letter to Chuck Gara and John Gallegos for presenting at the 7 Nov 07 General Membership meeting. (Open).

Treasurer's Report

We now have 773 residents within our borders. We only have 80 memberships. While this percentage is more than most neighborhood associations, it is not what we have seen in the past. Tony passed around a Treasurer's report. We have a balance of \$4673.28. (Closed)

Old Business

REQUEST FOR VOLUNTEERS: Pat asked that we place a request on the web site (www.venaabq.org) asking for volunteers to help scan VENA documentation that extends back many years. (Open)

LA CUEVA SECTOR PLAN AMENDMENT: Lee Ann Riesen gave a report on the city council meeting where the amendment to the La Cueva Sector Plan was discussed. The amendment was to close a loophole that allowed developers to include easements (by calling them "proposed") and other areas when computing acreage to be developed. The amendment passed unanimously. It is not clear whether Bob Keeran will be required to reduce the number of homes in the development planned directly north of Signal. Tony Huffman made a motion that passed by UC to have Mike Gibson and Mike Brewer investigate these issues and bring them before the board in future meetings. In particular, they are to work with Councilor Winter and the city to get the density issue of the Keeran development resolved. (Open)

WEEDS IN VINEYARD PARK: Duke will take pictures of the weeds in Vineyard Park, and send a letter to Jay Hart (City Weeds Dept.) He'll also ask the city to move the dog poop bag dispenser located in the alley on the south side of the park to a spot within the park. (Open)

VENTURA MEDIAN: Pat will continue the process with the city to get the Ventura median "recognized" so that the city will maintain it. There was a motion, approved

and seconded, that we cede the Ventura median to the city. Approved by UC. (Open)

LETTERS: Hank will draft template letters to send to residents concerning barking dogs and weeds. Relevant city ordinances will be quoted. Hank will also draft a thank-you letter to Councilor Winter for his support of the La Cueva Sector Plan Amendment, and a letter to all the other councilors thanking them for their support. (Open)

CITY COUNCIL ADDRESSES: Duke will have Lee Kahn add the addresses of City Council members to the web site. (Open)

MONTESSORI SCHOOL POSTCARD: Pat Verrelle suggested that we look at the postcard the Montessori school puts out, and consider emulating it. (Open)

WEEDS ON THE WEBSITE: Pat suggested that Lee Kahn add a section on the Web site (www.venaabq.org) devoted to weeds. Everyone agreed it was a good idea. Lee Ann will work with her. (Open)

Next General Meeting Date/Location: 28 Feb 08, 7 PM, Covenant United Methodist Church.

Next Board Meeting Date/Location: 27 Mar 08at TBD.

Adjournment:8:52 PM by unanimous consent