

Vineyard Estates Neighborhood Association **General Membership Meeting Minutes**

Date: 29 Nov 2007

Location: Covenant United Methodist Church

Chaired by: VENA Board of Directors (BOD) President Pat Verrelle

Minutes taken by: BOD Secretary, Hank Happ

Time: Called to order 7:04 PM

Attendance: Present: BOD, Residents of Vineyard Estates (~10), Guest
Speakers: John Gallegos and Chuck Gara of NAIOP.

Introduction of Attendees

Pat Verrelle welcomed all attendees, and introduced all present board members.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved with no additions/deletions by Unanimous Consent (UC).

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the September 2007 General meeting were available for resident. Lee Ann Riesen made a motion to approve the minutes. Residents were encouraged to read the minutes, and let Pat Verrelle know if there were any corrections, otherwise the minutes would be considered approved. No corrections came during the conduct of the meeting. (Closed).

Guest Speakers

Chuck Gara and John Gallegos of the National Association of Industrial and Office Properties (NAIOP) spoke after presenting a video, and they took questions from attendees. There are 201 NM members of NAIOP. They are involved with the development of the North I-25 Sector Plan (bounded by Paseo del Norte, Edith Blvd, Sandia Pueblo, Louisiana Blvd). They, along with Pat, expressed concern that something called a "form-based code" would supersede Sector Plans, and that high-rise apartments might be allowed for in-fill areas. (Closed)

Public Comment

A resident asked about the status of the closing of Signal Blvd. Pat said she had no further information, and that the board should check with the DRB and EPC. (Open)

A resident asked about the high-rise buildings being erected south of Paseo. Pat responded that the buildings will house a retirement community. She expressed our displeasure with the fact that no neighborhood association input was solicited before the development proceeded.

A resident commented that the "r" in the Vineyard Estates ?? sign is gone. Eventually VENA funds will be expended to replace it.

A resident complained about the "drag strip" on Carmel from Ventura to Holbrook. Pat encouraged the resident to call 311.

A resident asked about trash and weeds. Pat said that the best approach is to call 311, report as much information as you can, and identify yourself as a member of VENA. If this identification is done, the city must inform VENA about the result of the complaint. She reported that the area NE of Carmel and Ventura was taken care of by the city as a result of 311 calls. She also remarked that residents are responsible for the weeds that surround their property, including those that are between the street (e.g., Signal) and their back wall.

Resident Cliff Smith complained that the 3 stop signs at Carrington and Signal are ignored. Pat encouraged him to call 311, and identify himself as a VENA resident.

A resident asked about the status of the Green Arbor barricade. Pat replied that we have no knowledge of any change to that.

A resident asked about the weeds on the Ventura Median. Pat responded that we have asked the city to take over the median maintenance. She moved, and Hank Happ seconded, to have the city take over maintenance. The motion passed by UC.

President's Report

Pat reported that we received a "no strings attached" contribution of \$75 from Bob Turner Ford. We thank them for their unsolicited generosity.

The board received a letter from a resident who was disappointed that VENA did not "do more", e.g., in the area of weed removal. Pat stressed that we are a neighborhood association, not a homeowners association, and that all board members are unpaid volunteers, every one of whom goes "above and beyond" in their involvement with VENA.

Treasurer's Report

Tony Huffman reported that we have only 48 memberships, while we have over 700 homes in VENA.

Coalition 4 Meeting Report

?? reported that the representatives spent most of the evening discussing red-light cameras. Councilor Brad Winter claims that revenues are going into the general fund rather than for public safety projects. There was also discussion at the meeting of a bill to allow the formation of sub-neighborhood associations, with as few as 2 people! We do not support this.

Committee Reports:

Aluminum Recycling: Hank Happ recently redeemed 100 lbs. of aluminum cans, collecting \$48 for VENA.

Architectural: None

Median: The water and electric meters have been pulled from the Green Arbor median.

Refreshment: Refreshments are not permitted in the Covenant UMC sanctuary area.

Newsletter: The newsletter is available on the web site (www.venaabq.org) or via e-mail.

Sign: Regina Barela and her family put the signs announcing this meeting in place.

Vineyard Park: None.

Website: The web is maintained by Lee Kahn. The web address is www.venaabq.org.
Welcome: None.

Neighborhood Reports:

Vineyard I and II

Discussion: None.

Vineyard III

Discussion: None.

Vineyard IV

Discussion: None.

Carrington

Discussion: None

La Cueva Tierra

Discussion: None.

Adjournment: 8:35 PM

Passed by Unanimous Consent

Next General Membership Meeting: Scheduled for ?? at Covenant United Methodist Church.