



## MINUTES

### Board of Directors Regular Monthly Meeting

Thursday, **November 3, 2016**, 5:30 p.m.

Prince of Peace Church Room 13 & 14

3641 N, 56<sup>th</sup> Street (at Indian School Road)

**Call to Order & Roll Call:** Meeting was called to order at approximately 5:30 p.m.

**Board Member Attendance:** Karen Beckvar, Dan Drake, Jerry Eisen, Al Frei, Sally Geyer, Jerry McKenna, Claudia Richardson, Paul Roshka, Marilyn Miller Schmidlin, Tristan Schaub, Jennifer Sheedy, Craig Steblay, Courtney Sucato, Tom Thomas, and Emily Whitwell

**Excused Absences:** Joan Warne, Brian Flader, Tracy Wadas and Marvin Borsand,

**Absent:** David Gordon, Kera Drake,

**Ex-Officio Members Present:** Rick Spiegel

**Neighbors & Guests in Attendance:** Ben Carro. Ashley Boudreau, Nick Cappellini, Danny Pickett, Justin Acklen

**Report from Officer Ben Carro:** Officer Carro thanked the Association for its support of the recent law enforcement bike ride. Hopi School was broken into last week. While the neighborhood is otherwise quiet, this is the time burglars start casing houses and cars for holiday items and gifts. Be careful what you store in your car, display in your windows, and what you throw in the trash; these may be calling cards. State Farm has a \$25,000 grant program, although the current round is nearly closed. Based on neighborhood complaints he will check if the Streets Department will do a survey of the striping and traffic signage at 56th Street and Indian School to better control the traffic.

**Blockwatch.org:** We heard an informational presentation by Danny Pickett and Justin Acklen the founder and CEO of Blockwatch.org. It is a for-profit Arizona LLC and has website sponsored to some degree by security companies. They sell yard signs and several signs have been placed in the Arcadia area advertising their website. Basically, the website is another posting board for people to post anonymous comments about crime or other news. They have no affiliation or association with the official Block Watch program sponsored by Phoenix Police Department. You must be registered with your name, address, and email to join their website. They do verify the email and address by mailing a postcard to your house with a passcode. Justin said that, for the time being, they do not sell subscriber information and that the company is funded by advertisers.

**Minutes: October 6, 2016,** minutes were offered for the Board to review. The minutes were approved with corrections offered on proper Motion by Paul Roshka and Second, by unanimous vote.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer's report was offered by Al Frei for the Board to review. Al reminded us that the treasury balance had been decreasing due to retention of lawyers to advise the board on the Wright House. The proposed Phoenician development may continue that trend. The minutes were approved on proper Motion by Jerry McKenna and Second, by unanimous vote.

**By-Laws review Committee:** Tristan Schaub started the discussion by pointing out the advantages of being an IRS Section 501(c)(3) organization: 1) matching contributions from employers and paid time off for charitable work; 2) tax-deductible contributions might encourage greater financial support; and, 3) being recognized as a charitable organization our

efforts are for the general good and welfare of the people of the community. The drawback is a limitation on activities; we may not devote a substantial part of our activities to efforts to influence legislation or support of individual candidates for public office. However, we do not and have not done that. Additionally, the activities can be assessed largely by the amount of money spent, and we can control that to keep it under 20%. Increasing our treasury would allow us to be more proactive. We could support neighborhood schools, parks, and public areas.

Paul Roshka pointed out that the process for IRS recognition requires an application describing the activities of the Association and references to its organizing and controlling documents.

Dan Drake directed us to the Articles of Incorporation which stated that the objects of the corporation are "charitable, civic and educational, specifically to preserve the residential character of the Arcadia/Camelback Mountain Neighborhood." The City of Phoenix Arcadia Camelback Special Planning District Plan adopted in 1999 identified our area as a "mature neighborhood" and explained the plan was "designed to recognize the desired character of a neighborhood and identify strategies to maintain that quality and livability."

The discussion continued with various members describing particular Association activities that benefitted the City of Phoenix as a whole, such as its position on development at 24th Street and Camelback Road, in the Garfield Neighborhood of Central Phoenix, and its support of other neighborhood associations. Al Frei offered a Motion that the ACMNA pursue obtaining IRS recognition as a 501(c)(3) organization, with Second, and the Motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**Subcommittee Assignments and Appointments:** Courtney Sucato is stepping down as Events Committee Chair and Brian Flader is replacing her.

**Preservation Committee Report:** Craig Steblay reported that the Wright House was in discussions with the Arizona Community Foundation regarding donation of the property to ACF. Development at the Phoenician is opposed not only by our Association but property owners in the Phoenician Area. They have retained Wendy Riddell, our attorney on the Wright House, and agreed to pay her fees, as well as waive any conflict as she continues to represent us on both issues.

Tristan Schaub reported that the variance requested at 6262 E Calle Camelia was rejected as the City would rather deal with all the properties affected by an easement by joint action, rather than individual variances. He explained the property at 5616 E Lafayette is being broken up to create a large lot and one that does not meet the R24 zoning size. Unless the smaller lot meets zoning we will oppose the split. He also explained that the City rejected a request by the dental clinic on the west side of 44th Street at Devonshire to create an access onto 44th Street. While out of our immediate area, it is adjacent and an adverse ruling could have had impact on the east side of 44th Street, which is our area.

**Publicity Committee Report:** Tom Thomas advised that our Block Watch grant application will be submitted by November 7. A PPD Block Watch Grant meeting will take place on November 22 addressing, among other topics, DUI issues.

**Events Committee Report:** Courtney Sucato reported on a successful G.A.I.N. event on October 14 at the Shemer. We were joined by members of the Arcadia Osborn Neighborhood Association. The event cost about \$1,000 all totaled, but was good for both neighborhoods. The Camelback Road Show (Cleanup) is Saturday, November 12. Meet at Shemer at 8:00 am.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held Thursday, December 1, 2016.

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Drake, ad hoc Recording Secretary