

Sam Hughes Neighborhood Association (SHNA): Board of Directors
Minutes: Annual Meeting of 1/17/2012 (Sam Hughes Elementary School)

Board members present: John O’Dowd (Pres.), Rick Bell (Membership), Carolyn Classen (Sec.), Doug Donahue, Steve Gilsdorf (Treas.), Susan Peters (Home Tour Cmte.), Gail Schuessler (News Co-Ed.), John Wilder (Website)

Board members absent: Janett Carbajal, Kim Crooks (MCRC Cmte.), Christine Curtis, Sheila Hoban (V.P.), Frank Soltys

Presenters: LoriAnne Barnett (Natl. Coordinating Office, National Phenology Network <http://www.usanpn.org/about/staff>); Janet Jordan (Principal, Sam Hughes Elementary School, TUSD <http://www.samhugheselementary.org/>); Deborah Long, President, Strategic Technologies Communications, Inc. (STC) <http://tusd1.org/bidrfp/documents/STC%20RESPONSE-%20Final.pdf>

Following a reception in Talmadge Hall, the annual meeting moved to the School’s cafeteria. President John O’Dowd greeted the public and preceded the introduction of the presenters with some history of SHNA as well as a review of some of the current zoning threats to the quality of life in the neighborhood. O’Dowd then introduced the members of the Board of Directors and explained that the annual meeting and the elections to be held during this meeting are required of all membership non-profit associations such as SHNA. Secretary Carolyn Classen announced that Mayor Jonathan Rothschild, a SH neighbor, sent his regrets in not being able to attend the Annual Meeting as he was out of town.

PRESENTATION : Tucson Phenology Observation Project, National Phenology Network (NPN)

<http://www.usanpn.org/about>

LoriAnne Barnett (lorianne@usanpn.org) of the NPN, gave a Powerpoint presentation on a project being developed in partnership with the UA’s Campus Arboretum and the Pima Co. Cooperative Extension office. Barnett began by defining “phenology” as the study of the life cycles of plants and animals and their interaction with the ecosystem. She went on to describe what her organization has envisioned for a “Tucson Phenology Trail,” and the stated goals for such a project: community-university engagement, research, place-based education, and science literacy. The NPN is approaching SHNA to see if there is interest in being their liaison with the Sam Hughes neighbors.

PRESENTATION : High-Speed Internet Upgrade to Sam Hughes Elementary School through TUSD

<http://tusd1.org/bidrfp/documents/STC%20RESPONSE-%20Final.pdf>

Janet Jordan introduced representatives of the company, STC, that has been chosen by TUSD to upgrade the school district’s computer network infrastructure. STC presented pictures of proposed locations for a microwave transmitter, which is to be added to the Sam Hughes School building and grounds. O’Dowd invited STC to present this information at the next regular SHNA board meeting in February (2/21/12), where it will be on the agenda.

BUSINESS MEETING:

O’Dowd called the business portion of the meeting to order at 8:18.

Before proceeding to the election of the Board, O’Dowd recognized Francis Patrick Saitta, a candidate for Pima Community College Board of Governors, who introduced himself and solicited signatures for his candidacy. O’Dowd also introduced Rick Bell as the SHNA representative to the Sam Hughes Elementary Site Council.

SHNA Treasurer, Steve Gilsdorf, recapped significant financial transactions over the past year. The Home Tour brought in over \$11,000, which will help fund the Association for a few years. In addition, SHNA made a donation to the City to help pay for the resurfacing of the tennis courts at Himmel Park.

O’Dowd announced that Paul Mackey would represent SHNA at the Broadway Corridor planning meetings being conducted by the City and County, and that the Colonia Solana and El Encanto homeowner associations will be joining SHNA in opposing the widening project as proposed.

Secretary Carolyn Classen presented Pres. O'Dowd with a box of Hawaiian chocolates in appreciation for his dedicated pro bono legal work on behalf of the SHNA.

ELECTIONS:

Randy Downer, chair of the Nominations Cmte., announced the slate of candidates:

- LuAnn Barr
- Rick Bell
- Janett Carbajal
- Carolyn Classen
- Christine Curtis
- Doug Donahue
- Steve Gilsdorf
- Sheila Hoban
- John O'Dowd
- Corey Reidy
- Gail Schuessler
- Frank Soltys
- John Wilder

A motion was made to accept the slate by a vote of acclamation. The motion was seconded. The vote of acclamation was all in favor.

CALL TO THE AUDIENCE:

ODowd opened the meeting to questions and comments from the audience. In response to a question about a problem created by the new minidorm construction on 1st Street, O'Dowd said he would follow up on the sidewalk access to the bus stop, which has been blocked.

Comments and questions about the potholes lead O'Dowd to report on the SHNA inventory of all of the neighborhood streets, which was presented to the Ward VI office. The Regional Transportation Authority's role in maintenance was mentioned. Molly McKasson wondered how more roads could be built when the existing roads cannot be maintained. Someone had a negative opinion of the "chip seal" materials that will be used to fix the potholes.

O'Dowd recapped the status of the minidorm construction project proposed for the Christian Science Church site.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned before 9:00.

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