

Sam Hughes Neighborhood Assn. annual meeting

January 21, 2014 at Sam Hughes Elem. School, 700 N. Wilson, Tucson

President John O'Dowd called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

(Reception was held in Tallmadge Hall prior to the meeting, with music from members of Tucson High School orchestra, plus food compliments of The Fix and Baskin Robbins).

All 10 Board members present: John O'Dowd, Rick Bell, Carolyn Classen, Jim Head, Janett Carbajal, Gail Schuessler, Mary Durham-Pflibsen, John Wilder, Bill Craig, LuAnn Barr

Sam Hughes Elem. School Principal Janet Jordan welcomed the neighbors to the meeting, was attending Sam Hughes PTA concurrent meeting in the library.

Ward 6 Councilman Steve Kozachik spoke on "The New Normal" (the City's fiscal situation) also prior to the business meeting. He spoke about vagrants camping out next to the Panda Buffet empty building on NE corner of Norton/Broadway, status of which is pending the Broadway Corridor committee's final report. Neighbors asked him about the poor state of the roads in Sam Hughes neighborhood.

Himmel Park beautification project: Betty Guarraia/Susan Peters/Denice Blake reported on their ongoing project to use proceeds from home tour to beautify the area around the Himmel library (oldest branch built in 1961), which gets 25,000 visits/month. Various Landscape design ideas have been solicited such as low water use, desert plants, more bike racks. The committee will be working w/ City P & R, Pima County library, UA landscape design students. Fundraising, gardening volunteers, and publicity will be needed in the future from the neighbors & friends. Neighbor John Blackwell announced he would match the first \$500 donated to this project.

Call to audience: Jean McKnight representing Sam Hughes PTA announced the 3/1/14 Chuckwagon fundraiser at the school, but to please be aware of parking issues. Christine Curtis asked that Broadway Blvd. not be widened. Rick Kenney asked about # of memberships compared to # of homes in neighborhood. (VP Rick Bell responded that the membership is about 10%). Rosemary Hooper expressed concern about the state of the poor roads. Wendy Gardner also spoke of poor roads compared to Seattle, where she has just moved from. Treasurer Jim Head said that he has calculated that \$4 M would be needed to fix the roads in Sam Hughes perhaps through a private/partnership, or through an improvement district. Su Egen asked that neighbors not park on the sidewalk area and block other cars and pedestrians.

Election of board members: Neighbor Randy Downer presented the slate for 2014 of the 10 current board members (see list above) with none nominated from the floor. Motion by Downer to accept the slate, 2nd by Steve Gilsdorf, motion approved.

Committee reports:

- 1) VP Rick Bell asked for volunteers for grant writing and fundraising, neighborhood watch, a representative for Mansfield MS site council
- 2) Spring fling: Bill Craig reported that this fundraiser is coming back to UA campus on Friday/Saturday/Sunday April 11,12,13; working to mitigate any problems (noise, garbage, parking); neighbors with concerns should call 520-621-5610, the Spring Fling hot line #. Park wise parking concerns – please contact Bill as well.
- 3) Campus Community Relations Council – John O’Dowd reported on CCRC meetings which he attends; Theta Chi fraternity rep. does attend our board meetings to monitor concerns
- 4) Historic Preservation/water tower – Pres. John O’Dowd reported on progress to restore water tower on SE corner of E. 1st St./Tucson Blvd., contract signed with architect & City of Tucson for Phase 1. \$35,000 will be provided from Sam Hughes Neighborhood treasury, another \$100,000 needed to be raised. Neighbors asked about the tower maintenance on this City property and removal of the chain link fence.
- 5) Land use – LuAnn Barr reported that the City’s group dwelling amendment prevented denser development of Christian Science property –current plan by Michael Finkelstein is to develop 12 single family homes on the property on E. 5th St. and Country Club.
- 6) Broadway Corridor – Mary Durham-Pflibsen – next committee meeting on Thursday 1/30/14 at Child & Family Resources on Broadway Blvd., next meeting on Feb. 6 thereafter; public input welcome and recorded
- 7) Contact info: Rick Bell mentioned 3rd Tuesday monthly SHNA board meetings at Himmel Library, contact the board via website, [www. samhughes.org](http://www.samhughes.org) per webmaster John Wilder; there will be a future fundraising link on website to purchase SHNA tshirts/aprons, or donate to Himmel Park beautification project
- 8) Membership – Rick Bell reminded neighbors to renew membership for 2014
- 9) Garden tour coming up on Sunday April 6, starting at Sam Hughes Elem. School. Members free, \$10 non members, info will be in Spring newsletter

Meeting adjourned 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Classen, SHNA Secretary