

Minutes, RAA General Meeting Jan. 2, 2017:

Present: President Sherry Rampy, Ryan Tempest, Doug Churchill, George Pasquel

NOTE: Secretary Joan Kelchner arrived 20 minutes late; initial minutes provided by President Rampy

Meeting call to order at 6:15

Welcome and introductions were made

Minutes from December 2015 were approved

Treasurer's report was approved; current balance is \$26,103.20.

Community Action Officer Report: Officer Howell

On Feb 20, the Downtown Operations will lose 12 officers.

357 N. 4 Ave. had a fire this am and 3 people were removed from the property; there is a nuisance case open on this property.

There is a NSD file being worked on by Jason Hernandez (at the city) on the dog kennel at 2 Ave and Fillmore, which is not in compliance (owned by Native American Connections).

Presentation of the College Basketball Final Four Events by Phoenix City staff

NCAA Final Four will be played in Glendale at the stadium, but downtown Phoenix is hosting special events open to the public, including the March Madness Music Festival which will be held on the east side of Hance Park. This will be going on from Friday, March 31 at 4pm through Sunday, April 2 at 10pm. National recording artists will be featured and there will also be a semi-final viewing party on outdoor screens on Saturday. 100,000+ attendees are expected through the 3 day period.

Other downtown events noted include the indoor fan festival event at the Phoenix Convention Center, which includes interactive games, youth clinics, autograph sessions and sponsor exhibits celebrating 24 NCAA Championship sports. Also – an outdoor 3-on-3 basketball tournament along 3St between Washington and Monroe Streets. On Sat. and Sun., April 1-2, there will be family friendly events along 1 St. between Roosevelt and Monroe Streets. And, finally, the Final Four Dribble for youths 18 and under; after dribbling their way through downtown Phoenix, the participants and accompanying adults will receive free entry into the Final Four Fan Fest.

Further details noted by staff: they are trying to keep “back of house staging” for the music festival over by the Phoenix Center for the Arts. They are trying to encourage use of downtown parking and use of light rail. Entrances to the music festival will be sited to discourage coming from north or west of the park. There will be a trolley to and from downtown.

For more information, please visit www.phoenixfinalfour.com or www.ncaa.com/final-four and, if you wish to volunteer – www.phoenixfinalfour.com/volunteer .

Questions from the audience: Ms. Rampy: ? was the info on closing off the entire west side of the park for 25 days to use for staging correct? No, the west side will remain open for neighborhood use.

Dr. Kelchner: ?can we use the west side for a planned event (the chili-cook-off) on the 18th? Yes, though Cate Russo says we still have to go thru channels to set up the event.

Monica Goddard: ?is the NCAA going to be donating money to neighborhoods? Yes, but currently Harmon Park is the planned recipient. Ms. Goddard asked that the city also consider Roosevelt.

Rick Naimark: ?is the city also using surrounding facilities. Yes, some.

Dave Krietor: ?the event is free but fenced? Yes, in order to minimize street impacts., mostly Culver and Moreland.

Agenda updates:

FAA update, Ms. Rampy: Willo neighborhood, one of the 4 neighborhoods who joined in the lawsuit against the FAA, made their promised contribution to the law group.

RAA has planned a fundraiser to raise the rest of our share for the law group. This will be at the Puppet Theater, on Feb 23 and will be a silent auction. A number of great items have already been promised for the auction.

James Trocki Memorial Chili Cook-off, update by Dr. Kelchner: March 18 is the planned date and the cook-off will be sited either at Kenilworth Elementary School or the west end of Hance Park. This should be settled within the next week. Planning is ongoing; anyone who wants to serve on the planning committee is welcome. Please contact Joan Kelchner, at 602-257-8385, or DrJ4Roosevelt@cox.net.

Elections update, Ms. Rampy: We will have 1 one-year and 3 two-year slots open. Elections will take place next month and we can take nominations from floor now, but can also write in nominations next month.

Ms. Sherry hereby nominates Steve Bruckel. Aimee Nelson nominates Dan Nelson. Both nominees accepted the nominations. No further nominations at this time.

Report on an item brought up last month – the mastiff center on 2 St and Fillmore. Ms. Rampy contacted them and they insisted it is an adoption center, not a kennel, which would require a zoning permit. They would not tell Ms. Rampy whether they had zoning permits. Officer Howell says they are not permitted.

Monica Goddard asked about RAA by-laws. Which version are we using? Currently we are using a version approved by RAA vote in 1999. By-laws are on the web site, as well as articles of incorporation. Dr. Kelchner was supposed to chair a review committee on this matter and has not been able to in the last few months.

Quinn Whissen reports that she went to City Council Transportation Sub-committee and that the issue we voted on last month (3 and 5 Ave and bike lane changes) was strongly supported.

Dr. Kelchner: General meeting of the Hance Park Conservancy meets this Thurs. at 4:30 at the library.