

THE ROOSEVELT NEIGHBORHOOD

MINUTES OF THE ROOSEVELT ACTION ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY MEETING

MARCH 21, 2023, at 6:15 PM

Fusion on First, 380 N. 1st Ave, Room 338, Phoenix, AZ 85003 & Zoom

BOARD PRESENT: Officers – President Joan Kelchner, Vice President Michael Kosse, Treasurer Chase Kassel, Secretary Braxton Hynes

Board – Bill Scheel, Kate Kunberger, Claire Nelson

BOARD ABSENT:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Caroline van Slyke, Dianne Barker, Aimee Conroy, Dan Nelson, Patricia Zermeno, Rick Neimark

AGENDA ITEMS

CALL TO ORDER

Joan Kelcher called the meeting to order at 6:18 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of last month's minutes will be deferred to the next meeting. Due to the transition of the new board, the full member email list is still being updated.

GENERAL WELCOME Joan Kelcher, President

Joan gave a general welcome and introduced the new Members of the Board.

TREASURER'S REPORT Chase Kassel, Treasurer

Written report is included in the Appendix.

CITY OF PHOENIX, WATER MAIN PROJECT Aimee Conroy, Dan Nelson; Richard Estrella, Project Manager, City of Phx Water Engineering Dept; Tina

Presentation slides included in Appendix. Aimee explained that the pipe indicated in slides has broken at least 5 times and needs to be replaced. There will be significant impacts to traffic at the intersections indicated in the presentation. "History" slide shows the last pipe break. It took quite a while to fix the leak and it took out all the sidewalk in that area. The Water Services Dept has repaved 7th Ave almost 3 times. 2nd Photo indicates when they were trying to dig it out to replace it. 1926 pipe replaced with 2022 Pipe. Project team indicated in slides. 7th ave - southbound restricted in the curb lane and pushed to the high speed lines (please note that this is a correction to a misprint in the slides). Project hotline is included in the slides.

Bill asked if the McDowell lanes will all be kept open. Richard said yes, until they get to the intersection for approximately 2 weeks, because there are utilities. They will send out notifications prior to that intersection closing, and will plan to send notifications to the Association every 2 weeks with general updates. Richard is hoping this project will mitigate emergency flooding and other issues that have happened in the past in this area. He said he will work hard to eliminate cut through traffic and that there will be no idling with big trucks in the area and eliminate a lot of the noise.

A member asked about what's going to happen on McDowell and 7th. Tina said that when it comes to

major intersections like McDowell and 7th, usually it cuts down to one lane, probably restricting the left turn going eastbound to northbound. They will try to do it in pieces so they're limiting what lanes get closed, trying to avoid a total shutdown of the intersection. Be sure to pay attention to the signage, because that will indicate which lanes are closed, which could vary day to day and week to week.

Joan asked when the work would be done. Tina said there's a possibility of night work depending on the needs of the project. They have to get approval from Streets about what can be shut down at what time and when they can do the work. If they have to work nights and weekends, they'll do what they can to get the project completed. Don't anticipate having to affect the Northbound lane.

Aimee stated that they put a lot of thought into working this intersection because there are lots of large sewer lanes there, that they thought carefully about the size of the intersection and are trying to work around some of the concerns. This was not an easy design, but when you have closed an intersection because of a water main break 4 or 5 times in a 5 year span, this type of project needs to move forward.

Tina said the team has 25+ years of experience with this kind of work and when they were figuring out the best route to take, it was based on a lot of years of experience. It's better to be proactive than to wait for another main break. They will do everything to make sure every driveway has access and keep everyone notified. If you or your neighbors have questions, make sure you call the hotline.

Caroline recommended posting on social media pages when things are going on or last minute changes. Discussion between many of the members regarding best channels for communication about updates ensued. More to come.

HANCE PARK COMMITTEE UPDATE Bill Scheel and Kristine Laws, representing Portland

Place condos

Bill has agreed to be the board representative for the Hance Park Conservancy. Caroline is alternate. There's going to be a big meeting at Hance Park at the end of April. Caroline and Joan with RAA and Celine Coleman with Japanese Friendship Garden will attend. Vacant lot on 3rd and Roosevelt is now owned by City of Phoenix Parks, but was not included in the park renovations. In the last year, Rick tried very hard to get money from the new bond monies but unfortunately did not make much on the list. Lots of work needs to be done. Joan is looking at this vacant lot, worried about what's going to happen to it, as well as the neighbors around it. We don't want it to just be for parking. We've met and taken the ideas that Rick hosted. Discussion about moving a house there, that cannot happen. Would like to provide additional ideas for discussion. Basic ideas are:

1. Instead of all parking lot, a pick up/drop off lane. Joan has been pushing for some hardscape to be done with bricks or pavers because her late husband was on a walker for a period of time and there is not much which is accommodating to folks with disabilities. Caroline is talking about the type of landscaping that would be good in that area. We've tried to include the Sister Cities coalition, but we think they are very busy.
2. Finding a trolley car because we're an original trolley car suburb

RAA as a nonprofit should be using some of the money we fundraise for to do something there. We're at the idea phase and need to think about next steps. Braxton mentioned the Better Block Foundation, PlacemakingUS, and Trees Matter as options for finding grants and planning what could do there.

Elaine said Hance Park is truly a destination and with Phoenix's office of Cultural Affairs, the state's tourism, that we could submit for funding, and find a sponsor who does matching. It's a good hook for large corporations.

Claire stated that she does not like the way the conservancy operates, the Fiesta Bowl playground is not accessible, not a good idea to get corporate sponsorships, just her opinion.

Bill said it's clear that Hance Park has been turned into a regional park, and he'd like to think about the vacant lot as a more neighborhood-oriented space because we've lost that with Hance.

Joan said this is our last little corner.

There was a question about the fencing off of the new addition to Hance Park, but Bill said it should be taken down very soon. Aimee asked that whatever we do, we have to work with parks. Joan said yes, but she wants to have our ideas on paper so we can stand behind what happens to that lot. A member suggested that we get RAA contractually involved in the lot, so that we can make that sense of ownership more official. Will put out information about forming a subcommittee on this in the newsletter.

BLOCK WATCH COMMITTEE Caroline van Slyke

Easter Egg Hunt: Kids Club Roosevelt and Willow Neighborhood to hold the event at Encanto Park on April 2nd. Joan has fliers printed that she will pass out. Kate said they need a couple of volunteers. Please let Kate know if you're interested in volunteering. Claire offered to volunteer. Egg hunt will start at about 4:15 PM.

Caroline and Mark are finishing up some free little library projects.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Fundraising

- i. Joan said we need to start thinking about fundraising opportunities and that if we want to have a Home Tour, we need to start thinking about that now. Braxton suggested the Ice Cream Social that the organization has done in previous years. Rick said that he thinks the membership dues are very low and that we should reassess the pricing structure.

ADJOURN

Joan adjourned the meeting at 7:35 PM.

NEXT COMMUNITY MEETING

April 18, 2023, 6:15 PM at the Winship House, & Zoom

Appendix

I. Treasurer's Written Report

March 21, 2023

Treasurer's Report

The balance of our Chase Bank account was \$38,374.82 at the time of our last RAA meeting on February 21, 2023.

In the past month, the following deposits were made into our account:

- \$20.00 for membership payments.
- \$.28 in accrued interest.

We incurred \$66.12 in expenses from the following sources:

- \$31.98 to Zoom for virtual meeting services.
- \$32.58 to Intuit for Quickbooks online accounting software.
- \$1.56 in fees from PayPal.

The current balance of our account, as of March 20, 2023, is: \$38,328.98 with \$829.45 in checking and \$37,528.11 in savings.

There is a balance of \$0 in our PayPal account.

II. [City of Phoenix Water Main Project Slides](#)

III. Easter Egg Hunt Flyer

Roosevelt and Willo Kids Clubs jointly present

FIRST ANNUAL RO-WO SPRING FLING!

A NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK WATCH / GAIN EVENT

"KID SAFETY IN PUBLIC SPACES"

EASTER EGG HUNT - BOUNCE HOUSES - GAMES

PICTURES WITH THE EASTER BUNNY

FACE PAINTING AND CRAFTS!

Sunday, April 2 @ 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Encanto Park Amphitheater Island

15th Ave and Encanto Blvd.



THE ROOSEVELT
NEIGHBORHOOD



**BLOCK
WATCH**

