

RAA Neighborhood Meeting
Tuesday, September 19, 2023
Winship House

Board Members Present: Joan Kelchner, Braxton Hynes, Chase Kassell, Mike Kosse, Kate Kunberger, Bill Scheel

Board Members Absent: Claire Nelson

Community Members Present: Dianne Badeer, Ben Patton, Mia Milinovien, Lois Francis, Mark Francis, Jackie Young, Edward Nieman, Stephanie Nichols-Yang, Roger Yang, Louie Padilla, Marielle Brown, Shiraz Malul, Carol Finney, Joe Pfeiff, Max McQueen, Dorina Bustamante

1. Joan called the meeting to order at 6:13 PM
 - a. Minutes general meeting August 15, 2023
 - i. Chase moved to approve meeting minutes. Braxton seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasury report

Written report in Appendix.

2. Bicycle Lane on Fillmore; Marielle Brown, Phx Streets & Transportation
 - a. Active Transportation Principal Planner for City of Phoenix.
Fillmore street feasibility study for bikeways. Within the last couple of years we completed the protected bikeways. Want to expand across Fillmore to 7th. Reaching out to the community to hear what you think about Fillmore and what you want to see so we can take that information and come back with a few proposals. Encourage your friends and family to take the survey, which closes October 8th. First public meeting with alternatives in early 2024. Finalize and share recommendations in Spring 2024. Roger asked if Marielle is aware of the bottleneck created at Fillmore and 7th. Getting off at Fillmore at 7th. Marielle said she would be looking at that. Diane asked if they'll be factoring all the additional traffic from Chik Fil A. Marielle said they will definitely be looking at that during the modeling piece. Rick stated that he wanted to encourage people to respond to the survey. There was a cyclist killed and now there are really nice

bike lanes...This project really creates a lot of connectivity and you'll be able to bike safely between 7th ave and 7th street.

3. Ben Patton / Live Forward: new development at 3rd Ave. and McKinley including restoration of the Sargeant / Oldaker House.
 - a. Ben Patton is a Partner with Live Forward develop. Background is city planning. Particular passion is urban reinvestment and infill projects. Few years ago invited to bring passion to the development group, Live Forward, worked on Verde Park Condominiums. Love working with and near historic districts. A bit more layered working through that process, but that much more rewarding. Involved in pre-development on 7 different projects, all in downtown phoenix all small and mid rise. Don't do high rises. Passionate about missing middle housing. 2-3-4 story environment. When you can create a walkable space, it's beautiful. Low intensity but high impact - make a difference in neighborhoods. Complicated and exciting project - Sargeant/Oldaker house - there was a recent effort on the part of the previous owner to relocate the house that was unsuccessful. Our ambition and intention is to save the house, move it onsite, and activate it. It has homeless issues and is infested with rats. How can an old house be saved and the site utilized for missing middle housing? Reference picture of little red house in Little Italy, San Diego. What other examples are there? It's difficult to find. Preserve. Relocate. Stabilize. Activate. Presented site plan (referenced in appendix). The most challenging aspect of this is the actual act of moving the house (even though the distance is not very substantial [15-20 feet]). 7 figures the cost of moving the house. Now we are building the budget. It's on the national register, needs to stay on the register. Joan explained that in order to move a house, you have to take it off the historical register and then put it back on. We ought to consider doing a letter from RAA to offer support. Kim said she attended the HP commission meeting last night and this house was 2 agenda items. One was to amend their national register status. The other issue is Helena is writing a grant for the heritage fund. I've never seen the HP office work so hard on something. So that's optimistic. Helena asked, we're moving this

house in order to make the project work? Ben said yes. Ben said it was built in 1909 but it was renovated decades ago so it's pretty stable. Braxton moved to write a letter to the HP commission from RAA in support of the project. Kim seconded. Passed unanimously. Ben said letter will be well served to go to the mayor's office.

4. Upcoming Phx City Council redistricting

- a. Joan explained this is done every 10 years. Rick explained that the City has to redraw the district after the census. Now they're in the process late because of COVID trying to redraw the district. The constitution requires equal voting rights across the city. They have to pay attention to complying to the voting rights act. City took a bunch of input in June to get ideas about redistricting. There hasn't been a lot of input in the process, but there has been some. Now they have drawn 2 alternative maps (available online). Neither one are major changes to the council districts. The reason why I thought it would be important to bring up here is because one of the maps keeps the Roosevelt neighborhood in District 7 (option A) the 2nd map splits the neighborhood at the freeway (option B) so that part of the neighborhood north of the freeway goes into district 4 and the rest of the neighborhood stays in district 7. Just wanted people to be aware of the ability to give input. Kim stated it seemed to be just one more divide and it would be difficult to administer. Joan and Rick made the same recommendation. Kate agreed and wanted to point out that South Roosevelt especially needs the advocacy right now. A lot of people in the city don't recognize South Roosevelt as part of an historic neighborhood. Pat asked, do we really have a choice in the matter? Rick said Council will make the decision, but we have the choice to engage. Chase said that those who don't comment get separated, because it's easiest. Bill made a motion to write a letter in support of not separating the districts. Mike seconded. Motion carried. Rick advised to look up phoenixredistricting.com and it should come up where you can comment.

5. **Newsletter - deadline for content Oct. 15!** Send to Bill Scheel bill.scheel@yahoo.com or Kate Kunberger kjkunberger@yahoo.com

- a. Joan explained that we need Block Captains still to help distribute the paper newsletter. Which is being assembled as we speak. If you have content, an article, or a picture you'd like to include in the newsletter, please let us know.
- b. Halloween and Kids Meeting
 - i. Sunday Oct 29th Halloween in the park. Pumpkin carving 2-4 costume parade starting at 4. and a block watch event 4 pm going into the evening (hosted by a separate group and more details to come).
 - ii. We need folks to attend next Kids Club meeting Saturday October 7th 528 W Lynwood St.
 - iii. Halloween Decoration Contest - will announce details at October. Need to have house decorated by the 22nd and the Kids Club will judge and pick winners.

6. North Roosevelt Traffic committee report

- a. Chase shared that they have been working on parking on Latham for the Puppet Theater. People park on both sides of the street which is difficult because of the turn. Working to present potential solutions to the City. Other issue is 7th ave and Lynwood - lots of speeding and excess parking. Came up with a letter with a list of issues which will hopefully go out within the next couple days. Priority ask is for a peninsula to be added, similar to Windsor, to help mitigate speeding traffic. Also asking to do another traffic study on the volume of customers that are frequenting that commercial center because there have been ongoing tenant issues.

7. South Roosevelt Committee / South Traffic Committee report

- a. Caroline shared they have met with development projects regarding the permit that was issued to allow the project to do noisy construction. Have been in touch with Scott and Ken (owners of the DeMund house) to discuss the noisy construction happening over there. Joan explained that this neighborhood put together the 2nd ave streetscape and the x roosevelt project decided to cut a bunch of trees down without notifying us. Joan explained that there is such a thing as an 'extended construction work hours permit' intended for emergency repairs. It does not require any public input and not sure that it required a full city

council vote. City Council woman approved this and a 30 day extension for a project called SAIYA. According to the construction people, needed because of concrete pouring and a crane shortage. It's extremely loud and disruptive. We have to address that. Kate and a few other people are reviewing - it doesn't seem like the permit is meeting emergency criteria. Considering hiring a lawyer to get the construction companies to not work during the night so that people can sleep. We may be looking at that and we may be doing some fundraising to that end. Dorina Bustamante is a developer representing a site being discussed, wearing rep hat for SAIYA, have been working on that project since 2019. Not going to debate the reason for the overnight pours except to say that construction can happen by early December by March.

8. New Business/Community Comments

- a. Minea said that they put their names in for Vacant Lot and was waiting to hear back. Please email bvhynes@asu.edu. Jackie Young expressed concerns about homeless issue and feels like City of Phoenix has failed them and wants to know if anyone wants to organize with her to support them. Email is jackie.young38@gmail.com
- b. Rick mentioned Noche en Bianco October 28th

Appendix

September 19, 2023

Treasurer's Report

The balance of our Chase Bank account was **\$36,594.90.** at the time of our last RAA meeting on August 15, 2023.

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

- \$40 in membership
- \$.29 in interest

The following expenses were incurred:

- \$18.12 in fees
- \$10.85 for Google One
- \$500 for Hance Park Conservatory membership

The current balance of our Chase Bank accounts, as of September 19, 2023, is **\$36,136.22.**

The difference in balance from last month is **-\$458.68.**