

Alvarado Gardens Neighborhood Association
Quarterly Meeting
August 20, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by President Carolyn Siegel.

Present were: President Carolyn Siegel, Secretary Jill Schneider-Taylor, Treasurer Yolanda Homann, Sallie Andrade-Cervera, Bruce Baumgartner, Catherine Hogan, Joan Lewis, Don Michaelis, Bob Poyourow and Veronica Reed

1. The new board members, Bruce Baumgartner and Catherine Hogan were introduced and welcomed.
2. The minutes from March 25, 2014 annual neighborhood meeting were approved.
3. The Treasurer's report was submitted by Yolanda Homans and approved.
 - a. We have \$1993.00 in the treasury.
 - b. There is \$567.00 from the Keep America Beautiful grant to maintain and improve the neighborhood medians. Discussion ensued concerning line of sight disruptions from tall plants in the medians. Upkeep of the medians was also discussed. Volunteers were solicited to do this.
 - c. There was \$123.00 left over from the grant from Bernalillo County for the Alvarado Academy. That amount has been returned to Bernalillo County along with Kathy Chilton's written report concerning the Alvarado Academy activities. Kathy Chilton will be asked to request the grant again.
4. Carolyn suggested we all read the City Council News Letter which was circulated via the list serve.
5. After discussion it was decided to skip the Fall Block party since we do not have enough time to plan it appropriately.
6. The Neighborhood Yard Sale will be held September 20, 2014. Veronica Reed, Sallie Andrade-Cervera and Jill Schneider-Taylor will work with Yolanda Homans to print and distribute the information flyers to the neighborhood.
7. Speed bumps, speed tables and stop signs were discussed.
 - a. All agreed that there was a problem with cars speeding through the neighborhood.
 - b. There was a discussion concerning the pros and cons of speed tables and speed bumps.
 - c. Areas of concern were identified as the intersections at Glenwood and Campbell and Glenwood and Candelaria.
 - d. Carolyn will find a volunteer living on Candelaria to help her find out what the procedure is to put stop signs at these corners.
8. Update on the Roundabout at Rio Grande Blvd and Candelaria
 - a. The project is going forward
 - b. The funds remain in place
 - c. The State of New Mexico has earmarked some additional funds for this project.
9. Information on the problem of home burglaries was presented.
 - a. The burglaries fall into 4 categories:

- i. Home
 - ii. Porches
 - iii. Mailboxes
 - iv. Cars
 - b. Home burglaries usually occur around 12-2 pm when most people are at work.
 - c. All were advised to be alert for unfamiliar cars driving slowly up and down the streets repeatedly as they could be potential burglars looking for targets.
 - d. Neighbors have identified a grey Dodge pick-up truck and a blue Ford Escort as such possible vehicles.
 - e. Discussion ensued concerning the advisability of approaching such vehicles, copying down their license plate numbers or engaging the drivers in conversation and asking them if they were looking for a particular residence?
 - f. All are advised to call the police (311 or 911) if these vehicles or any suspicious vehicles or people show up and linger in the neighborhood.
10. The coyote situation was discussed.
- a. Information about the program concerning co-existing with coyotes was sent out via e mail.
 - b. The program will be held at the West Side Open Space Center.
11. Sallie brought up a question concerning obtaining a dog poop station along the ditch. This is land belonging to the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District so she will contact them to find out the procedure to establish a station with plastic poop collection bags and a trash can.
12. Carolyn reported that the North Valley Coalition of Neighborhoods is concentrating on the issue of the new Waste Transfer Station at Edith and Comanche.
- a. Main issues are traffic, noise and odors in the immediate neighborhood.
 - b. Carolyn Siegel, John Siegel and Sallie Cervera are the AGNA representatives to this group.
13. New Issues
- a. Maintaining the medians for traffic safety.
 - i. Carolyn Siegel and Bob Poyourow will trim the spreading bushes.
 - ii. Research will be done to see if there are more suitable low growing plants for the medians. Perhaps the tall plants can be replaced.
 - b. Dog owners, dogs and leash laws.
 - i. Discussion ensued concerning dogs off leash.
 - ii. Don Michaelis will find the actual city ordinance and circulate it to the neighborhood as well as post it on the AGNA web page.
 - c. Weeds
 - i. With the recent heavy rains, the weeds are flourishing.
 - ii. Everyone is encourage to pull or cut the weeds
 - iii. Don Michaelis will find the weed ordinance and circulate it via list serve and post it on the AGNA web site.
 - d. Bees

- i. The Open Space Rangers have established three bee hives in the area close to Veranda and Glenwood.
 - ii. This contributes to maintaining the appropriate ecological balance in the area.
 - iii. All are advised not to use pesticides especially DDT type poisons in daylight hours as the bees can pick it up, take it back to the hive and endanger the entire hive.
 - iv. Jody is the Open Space Beekeeper. Please contact her if you have questions or encounter a bee swarm.
14. Carolyn Siegel closed the meeting with the observation that AGNA was fortunate that our neighborhood concerns are gentle issues and within our means to resolve.
15. The next AGNA Board Meeting will be held Tuesday November 18, 2014 at Jill Schneider-Taylor's house.