

Alvarado Gardens Neighborhood Association
Board Meeting
November 4, 2019

Board members present: Diana Hunt, Melo King, Mike Dexter, Carolyn Siegel, Jennifer James, Yolanda Homann, Kathy Chilton, Jill Schneider, Bruce Baumgartner, Bob Poyourow, Melinda Moffitt

Meeting was called to order at 6:36 pm by the President, Diana Hunt.

1. Old Business

a) Carolyn Siegel reported on the Candelaria Nature Preserve Plan (TAG - The Technical Advisory Group)

i. Carolyn opened by referring the Board to the link she sent to Board Members via e mail that connects them to the city website and the massive document that details the plan.

<https://www.cabq.gov/candelaria-nature-preserve>.

ii. The regulations that govern the program require that there be both aspects of a nature preserve (wildlife, natural habitat) as well as recreation/education opportunities - observing and learning about wildlife. The Nature Preserve is currently out of compliance and has until February 14, 2020 to submit a new 20 year plan that will meet all the federal requirements. Without this plan, the Nature Preserve could face de-funding. It's a complex problem since recreation, education and the conditions of a Nature Preserve are not mutually inclusive. For example: The city has requested that a parking lot be built to allow public access. The plan at this time has been structured to allow only limited access via guided tours or limited numbers of individuals doing research.

iii. The proposed 20 year plan will go to the open Space Division and then to the city on Dec 10, 2019.

iv. Bob suggested that the complex plan requires the City's commitment for funds or private volunteers, people and money we do not have at present. Carolyn replied that a volunteer organization might be formed (Friends of the Candelaria Nature Preserve) to help carry out the plan being formulated by TAG. This will require time and attention and follow up. A transition team will have to be formed.

b) Treasurers Report and Audit - Yolanda Homann Treasurer and Melo King. Melo reviewed the check book and register and found no abnormal activity in the few (6) transactions recorded. Bob offered to organize this data so everyone can see it easily. Because there are so few transactions, members suggested that we review the transactions every 4 to 5 years.

i. The board agreed that it should have a yearly budget to plan on the AGNA's revenues and expenses. The board reviewed a suggested budget that was presented in the packet.

ii. Melo will set up a system on the website so members of the neighborhood can pay their dues on line.

iii. On motion made and seconded, the Board agreed to add \$50.00 to the annual budget for paper, printing and related supplies.

iv. The Treasurer reported a beginning balance of \$879.29, receipts of \$263 over the last quarter, expenses of \$144.88, and a current balance of \$997.41. On motion made and seconded, the Board accepted the Treasurer's report.

c) Jennifer James reported on the development of the Board Member Handbook.

The committee has held three meetings to date to create the handbook as a guide for new board members, covering Mission, Duties, Opportunities, Standing Committees, Ad Hoc Committees, the Role of Liaisons, Finance, SOPs for the Block Party the Annual Meeting, etc. Jennifer asked for suggestions of additional topics.

d) File Management

Melo King reported that meeting minutes and photographs can be moved to the AGNA's Google Drive. She offered to train new Board members on using Google Drive. On motion made and seconded, the Board agreed to store its files on Google Drive.

e) The Nominating Committee

i. Bob Poyourow summarized the bylaws. The purpose of the nominating committee is to identify and produce a slate of candidates to be considered for election to the AGNA Board. The committee is to be made up of at least five persons, one of which must be a board member. The President is an ex officio member of the committee by virtue of her office. The purpose of the Nominating Committee is to find representatives and candidates to create a balanced slate and system.

ii. Currently there are four members of the Board whose terms of office will expire in 2020. Due to resignations, there are nine members whose terms will expire in 2021. Ideally these numbers should be equal, so half of the board stands for re-election or turns over each year. However, some of the nine were selected at the 2019 annual meeting and are serving the expired terms of several members who resigned during 2018-2019. The Nominating Committee will identify those who will stand for election at the 2020 annual meeting to balance the rotation of members and terms.

iii. Bob agreed to Chair the Nominating Committee and to send an email to the membership asking for nominations to the Board and asking interested volunteers to serve on the Committee. Diana, Melo, Melinda and LeRoy agreed to serve on the Committee.

f) Mike Dexter led the discussion into Vicente Quevedo's Presentation from the summer board meeting.

Quevedo recommended that we develop a clear message about the AGNA organization and mission; find out why people do or do not join AGNA; and reach out to the city for available funds for AGNA projects.

Mike proposed and a committee was created to carry out these objectives by the next meeting. Mike, Kathy, Diana, Jill and Melinda volunteered to serve on this committee.

2. New Business

a) Kathy Chilton, Board member and Volunteer Coordinator, reported

i. AGNA has been recognized as valuable contributor to the Book Drive and the Read to Me Program. The Board agreed to continue these efforts.

ii. The Board agreed to reapply for the grant for Neighborwoods to plant new trees. The AGNA applied last year, but a neighborhood with NO trees was selected instead. We were encouraged to reapply and will apply again this year.

iii. Seven local artists have agreed to create a owl-themed mural on the wall facing the ditch running southwest from Candelaria. There will be a phone readable QR code on the mural so the observer can hear the sound of the birds depicted and find facts about these species. Work will start in April.

Volunteers will be needed. The wall will be prepped and painted with materials that will discourage graffiti artists from adding their creations.

iv. Tiling the concrete boxes. We have permission from the Rio Grande Conservancy District to decorate the 12 concrete boxes in our neighborhood. These are unused since the ditches have been abandoned. Kathy will apply for Urban Enchantment Funds.

v. Porching. Kathy described a "porching" event for this spring. On "porching" evenings during the

summer, different neighbors occupy their porches with simple refreshments and welcome the passerby neighbors onto to their porch for friendship and fellowship. We will start planning this at the February meeting. Volunteers will be needed.

b) Traffic Safety Committee.

We attend to the neighborhood concerns and complaints about traffic safety. It was remembered from the March 2019 annual meeting that Jimm Palmer wants to participate on this Ad Hoc Committee. It was decided that he'd be approached about his willingness to serve as chair. Other past members of the committee would continue to help but we can also reach out to all members to volunteer.

c) Oro Vista house complaints.

The Board reviewed neighbors' complaints about two homes on Oro Vista where the owner has been dumping trash and the properties appear abandoned. The city has been contacted but nothing is known about the situation. Bob will visit the neighbors and the properties and report back.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 pm.