

McDuffie-Twin Parks Neighborhood Association
Minutes of Temporary Steering Committee Meeting, August 13, 2008, 6:30pm
Highland Senior Activities Center – 131 Monroe NE, Albuquerque

Temporary Steering Committee (“Board”) Members Present: Bill Hoch, Carla Kugler, Enid Howarth, Gary Harrison, Kathleen Kimler Altobelli, Mark Hyland, John Scariano. Absent: Charlene Brown, Laurie Moye.

Guests: 9 neighborhood residents.

The meeting began at 6:35 pm with a welcome by Bill followed by self-introductions.

Gary moved that the minutes of the July 9th meeting be accepted, Carla seconded and the minutes were approved.

Bill distributed 2 crime notification reports from the Office of the District Attorney for our neighborhood and close-by neighborhoods and posted 2 maps showing crime locations: Homicide hotspots 1996-2000 and Gang Crime. There are “Weed and Seed Programs” working in the 2 really bad areas for homicides. The area around and south of Central is another high-crime area. Property crime is everywhere in town. When law enforcement efforts are concentrated on a given area, some crime will move to nearby areas. It was noted that meth labs have often been in neighborhoods without neighborhood associations and in rental houses. Owners are now responsible for removing meth lab contamination from their properties. There is a newly-formed neighborhood association directly to the east of us – Pueblo Alto -- which includes the location that allegedly housed a meth lab and where someone was charged with drug trafficking. The retailers association continues to work collaboratively with law enforcement on crime issues, with 600 crimes currently in prosecution.

Our event at Twin Parks in conjunction with National Night Out on August 5 was reviewed. A committee meeting was held July 23rd to plan the event. Even though the storm clouds were ominous before the 6 pm start time and undoubtedly kept some possible attendees at home, more than 20 neighborhood residents were having a good time at Twin Parks, with information tables set up by Bill, good conversation, and children getting their faces painted and playing with the bean bag toss game brought by Carla. Pete Dinelli, the city’s Chief Public Safety Officer, had just arrived as part of the City’s participation in neighborhood events – and then the heavy rainfall started and didn’t end. So the event was over within 30 minutes of the start time. Most of the city’s neighborhood events that evening were rained out. Thanks were given to the flyer deliverers and to all those who helped with planning. And it was agreed that another picnic should be held – perhaps next year.

Enid asked about the late timing of the flyer deliveries for August 5th. There was a communication breakdown and Bill ended up printing them, at a cost of \$98. Bill Moye has now set up an account for us at Alpha Graphics so this should facilitate flyer production in the future. It was agreed that in the future we should do half-page flyers to save money – and note on the flyers that membership forms can be downloaded from web site or obtained at meetings. Carla will send John a membership form for the web site – which will include Charlene’s name as part of the address along with the PO Box number (necessary for delivery).

Fundraising was briefly discussed. Bill said that his old neighborhood had house tours and a progressive dinner to raise about \$5,000 for their annual budget. Enid pointed out that further discussion should really be left to the new Board – which will have to accomplish it – so that ended discussion on the topic.

The date for the annual meeting was set after consultation of the by-laws requirements. Enid moved that the annual meeting be held at 6:30 pm on Sept 24th at the Highland Senior Activities Center. John seconded and the motion passed. In accordance with notification rules in the by-laws, we will hand-deliver ½-page flyers by Aug 23rd. We will also do a reminder-flyer delivery the week before the meeting. We will elect 9 Board members, for one- and two-year slots. Gary agreed to collect nominations of names in advance of the meeting – nominations will also be accepted from the floor. As it was getting late and there were several details of the election process to be arranged, it was decided that a nominating committee meeting will be held on Sept 10th at 6:30 pm at Highland Senior Activities Center to complete arrangements for the election. The nominating committee meeting will be open to all who care to participate.

The meeting adjourned on a motion by Kathy, seconded by Carla.

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Kimler Altobelli