

McDuffie-Twin Parks Neighborhood Association
Minutes of the Annual Meeting, September 24, 2008, 6:30pm
Highland Senior Activities Center – 131 Monroe NE, Albuquerque

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

12 additional members of the neighborhood association were present. (We have 64 members, so our quorum for an official meeting was met. 2 more members arrived before the end of the meeting.)

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

Charlene Brown presented the Treasurer’s Report – current balance is \$342.28. \$300 has been received for 3 days of filming in the neighborhood. Our primary expenses have been for communication – fliers and the web site fee.

Carla Kugler reported that Bill Moye has offered to donate more than enough to cover the expected costs of future fliers – which was greeted with a round of applause.

Bill Hoch presented the President’s Annual Report. He gave a brief overview of the activities of the temporary steering committee and the association since last fall. He thanked Charlene for getting the ball rolling on getting the neighborhood association started up again. He listed various reasons for having a neighborhood association and thanked those who had been involved in various projects. A neighborhood survey has been written, distributed, and analyzed. At our meetings this past year we have had presentations given by City personnel about community policing and filming. We have distributed fliers to notify the neighborhood residents of our board meetings and about the National Night Out gathering. The latter event was cut short by torrential rainfall, but we made a good effort to have a neighborhood social event. Bill and Laurie have attended various coalition meetings (District 7 Coalition of Neighborhood Associations and Heart of the Heights) and have been able to network with more-experienced neighborhood association leaders. We have encouraged the formation of neighborhood block watches and stressed heightened awareness of safety and crime issues. As a neighborhood association, we have received notification of various zoning case hearings within our neighborhood and close by. We have taken an official position in support of one zoning exception request, as requested by the homeowners involved.

There was a discussion of the soon-to-be-built shelters at bus stops and bus service for our neighborhood, with noisy busses, infrequent service on Carlisle, complete lack of service on Washington, and inadequate safety of current bus stops mentioned as concerns. Several locations were mentioned as good candidates for the new bus stop shelters. Marianne Dickinson volunteered to head up a Transit Committee and talk to the City Transit Department about our concerns and preferences.

John has offered to continue to build the web site. Gary asked for suggestions on web site content and responses included all dates of neighborhood association meetings and the posting of the zoning hearing notifications. At least one neighborhood watch block group in our boundaries has an email alert system for their block members – this is something we could encourage other blocks to take up.

There has been a complaint about one of our meeting announcement fliers being left in or near a mailbox. Our volunteers delivering the fliers have been instructed not to put them into mailboxes, as that is a federal offense. But it is not clear what the rules are concerning leaving a flier *near* a mailbox or attaching one to a clip attached to the mailbox – we have been informed of differing rules by postal carriers. Bill has a call in to the Post Office to get a clarification of the rules, as we want to be sure to abide by the rules during future flier deliveries.

The election of the Board of Directors was the next order of business. The names of those who had submitted their names into nomination for the 9 positions prior to the meeting and who appeared on the printed ballots were written onto the room’s whiteboard. Ballots were distributed to the 20 association members who were present. Enid withdrew her name. Nominations from the floor were opened. Maya Gallegos was nominated. Laurie moved to close nominations, Gary seconded, and the motion passed. Nominees were Bill Hoch, Carla Kugler, Charlene Brown, Gary Harrison, John Scariano, Kathleen Kimler Altobelli, Laurie Moye, Mark Hyland and Maya Gallegos. Voters were instructed to vote for no more than 9 candidates. The marked ballots were collected, and then counted by Enid, who announced that all 9 candidates had each received a majority of the

votes, and moved that we accept the election of all 9 candidates. Laurie seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Gary gave out copies of the neighborhood survey results during the vote counting. The crime mapping capabilities on the city's web site were mentioned for those interested in seeing such statistics. Glass recycling is available behind the WalMart on Carlisle (west side). The vacant lot at Avenida Estrellita and Avenida La Resolana continues to be a concern to neighbors.

It was suggested that residents, who might be reluctant to call in a complaint to the City about a neighbor, could request that the call be made by a member of the Board of Directors.

As Bill Moye had arrived after Carla made the announcement of his donation, she recognized him and thanked him for his generosity.

Enid brought up the possible leaking or broken water pipes along the west side of McDuffie Park. Bill will report this to the parks department and/or through the Waste Water and Abuse Hot Line. Several residents stated that they have observed water being wasted by their neighbors. It was suggested that we might focus a meeting on water issues, including waste and meter size/billing issues, and invite Katherine Yuhas, Water Conservation Officer at the water authority. Our neighborhood probably has a high number of larger meters, resulting in higher water bills for the same volume of water used (#3 is the most expensive, #1 the least).

Danice Picraux, member and also State Representative for District 25, spoke briefly about issues that are going to be prominent at the upcoming session of the legislature: a new funding formula for education and health care.

The first meeting of the newly elected Board of Directors was set for Oct 8th, 6:30 pm, at the Highland Senior Activities Center.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm on a motion by Laurie, seconded by Gary, and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Kimler Altobelli