MENLO PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Minutes

April 11, 2019

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **ITEM** | **ACTIONS** |
| **Board Members present** | **Zach Yentzer-President, Wendy Sterner-Vice President, Raul Ramirez-Vice President, Isabel Doe-Treasurer, Liza M. Grant-Secretary, Steve Brown-Parliamentarian, and Matt Perry-Historian** |
| **Introductions** | Board members were introduced to the attendees. Attendees and special guests introduced themselves to the group. |
| **March Minutes** | Isabel motioned to accept the minutes. Lorraine seconded the motion to accept the minutes. March minutes were accepted without objection. |
| **Treasurer’s report by Isabel Doe** | There is a balance of $1,005.27 in the MPNA account. |
| **TUSD Superintendent Trujillo presentation/Menlo Park School** | Superintendent Trujillo presented improvements made over the last 2 years as well as the challenges that may impede further progress. He indicated that Menlo Park Elementary school may see public education students walking the halls again as an elementary school where 5th graders can stay for 6th grade to ease transitioning. “Middle School” will return to educating 7th, and 8th graders. These 3 grades benefit most from smaller classrooms. Menlo will become a school that can take students from schools that do not have sufficient capacity as well as accommodate the growing population of the neighborhood. Menlo Park’s enrollment plan will begin in 2020 and be complete in 2022.  He also encouraged attendees to support a bond override in the future if necessary to provide for increases in teachers’ compensation and professional development as the teacher shortage has gone from 140 vacancies to 82 this year. |
| **Westside/Historic Landmark update-Regina Romero** | Councilwoman Romero presented plans to have the area at the base of A Mountain known as Tucson Origins Heritage park go through a process that would designate it as a historical landmark. This presentation included a Mayor and Council Memorandum dated 08-08-17 describing Westside Development Projects submitted by the City Manager, Michael Ortega. It also included a memo from her office to Roger Randolph, City Clerk, to request a study session with the Council on 04-09-19. The memo also announced the preparation of the application for Historic Landmark Designation of Tucson Origins Park. This designation would serve as an additional layer of protection against future development.  It should be noted that there was concern voiced at the omission of the “festival area” that borders the Santa Cruz River on the mapped site. |
| **Children Youth and Families committee update by Matt Godfrey** | The committee held an informal meeting at the park. The discussion of “What kind of neighborhood this can be”resulted in the decision to formulate a list of committee members and a list of ideas. |
| **San Isidro proposal by Raul Ramirez** | Raul reported that San Isidro is the patron saint of farmers and the festival has been held at Mission Gardens for the last 5 years. There is a Mexican and a Chinese Garden that seasonal vegetables and fruit will be harvested and well as the “thrashing of the wheat”. Mariachis and Chinese dragon dancers will be there on May 18, 2019 from 8AM-12PM.  Cory motioned that MPNA donate $100.00 to Mission Gardens for the Fiesta. Elizabeth seconded the motion. The motion passed without any objection |
| **Dia De San Juan report by Liza Grant** | Dia De San Juan committee will meet next Tuesday the 16th at the Pima County Housing Center,. James MacAdams from Tucson Water will attend and discuss the Santa Cruz River Heritage Project. On June 24th, in conjunction with DDSJ, the Water Department would like to initiate the release of water into the Santa Cruz. |
| **Call To The Audience** | Karen Green updated all the happenings at the Main Pima Public Library which included: Introduction to Proposal Writing is one course offered. The One Seed program has chosen the sunflower. Food Stamps and AHCCCS application assistance is available the 1st Weds. of the month. One can find multiple events in the Idea Space. Information on each of these activities and more can be found on the calendar/library website. The library now has keychain cards for library cards.  Karen also reported that Dunbar Springs has a new project. It will be a map of all the neighborhood’s homes that are over 100 yrs old. It will be on-line and possibly on paper.  Reverend Dulce Vargas of the Menlo Park United Methodist Church provided the service schedule for Holy Week which includes bilingual Spanish-English services with a tri-lingual Korean service on Good Friday at First United Methodist Church.  Elizabeth announced that on the 2nd Sunday of each month, from 8AM to 1PM, there will be a Flea Market at Menlo Home and Gardens. |
| **Zach announced there would be a “Listening Session” directly after the meeting.** | The Listening Session is hosted by theMPNA Neighborhood Plan Committee, with Wendy and Steve as facilitators. Pizza is provided. |
| **Adjournment** | Raul moved that the meeting be adjourned. Isabel 2nd the motion which passed without objection. |
| **Next Meeting** | **May 9, 2019** |