

MENLO PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
Hybrid Meeting
February 09, 2023

ITEM	ACTIONS
Board Members present at MPNA monthly meeting menloparktucson@gmail.com	Kylie Walzak-President, Raul Ramirez and Anthony Nelson-Vice Presidents, Liza M. Grant-Secretary, Liz Martinez-Treasurer, Matt Perri-Historian, Steve Brown and Keren Torres—member at-large.
Introductions	Board members and attendees introduced themselves to the group. There were 31 neighbors (including the 8 Board Members) in attendance at this meeting. Guests (6) included Aelita Grijalva from PCBOS District 5, Community Service Officers Kirsten Hinthorn and Karla Rubio from TPD, Erica Nacim and Michael O’Connell from Ward 1, and Eryck Garcia as the Community Advisor Liaison from Mayor Romero’s office
January’s 2023 Minutes	Isabel motioned and Armando seconded the motion to accept January’s minutes which were approved.
Treasurer’s Report—Liz Martinez	Bank balance is \$137.66, with the \$10 monthly fee. There is \$25.00 in savings.
TPD-Community Resource Officers	<p>-Lt. Cindy Mechtel was not able to attend tonight’s meeting because of work emergency. However, the CRO’s introduced themselves as newly hired into their positions. Their advice for the neighbors who complained about the speeding, drag racing, and motorcycles was to gather as much information as possible including license plate numbers down and take cell phone pictures of the offenders so that TPD can pursue action. The time-of-day incidents occur can help establish a pattern of behavior in each area.</p> <p>-A reminder was offered that traffic mitigation efforts require a process, including “bump outs” and green water harvesting, through the City Of Tucson</p>
Neighborhood Announcements/Adopt-A-Park/Barrio Sin Nombre (BSN)/Yard Sale Report/Vecinos + Neighborhood Plan Update	<p>Andrew and Sofia presented on Adopt-A-Park. Tucson Clean and Beautiful (TCB) provides supplies for the clean ups. After clean-up bags are left by the trash cans in the park and then called in for pickup. They would like to hold a quarterly clean-up. Environmental will provide roll-offs for cleaning of alleys, park, washes, etc. TCB record the clean-up and erect a sign. Andrew will organize the next one (before it gets too hot) and do so quarterly. TCB has funding for refreshments.</p> <p>Raul reported on the infrastructure improvements and meeting with BSN on 01-28-2023. 30 of the 75 households attended the meeting where it was decided to open up Melwood. Opportunity was taken to encourage neighbors to participate in the neighborhood planning process. The lights of the monument are to be turned on. Adding a 4-way stop at Avenida Convento and Cushing to slow traffic was mentioned. The desire for a 1.5-acre park on the Southeast corner of Cushing and Melwood was discussed. The maintenance of the monument by COT Parks and recreation. The Planning Center was able to obtain information from neighbors at this event.</p> <p>Wendy reported on the neighborhood yard sale held on 01-28-2023. The yard sale at the corner of Congress and Melwood raised \$1350 for the neighborhood. Lots of neighbors participated in the very busy day. The Vecinos were important contributors to the event. The Planning Center was able to obtain more info from neighbors for the plan.</p> <p>Wendy reported on the progress of the Neighborhood Plan. The next step is to have an Open House so that neighbors may contribute to the progress so far. Though a date is not yet set it will be held in March at the Sentinel Building on Bonita. The Neighborhood Plan is for the “land use for the entire neighborhood”. The event will be announced through the email list serve, on Face Book, Instagram, etc.</p> <p>Diana announced there will be a river clean up on January 19th at 8 AM. Please where appropriate shoes, hats, sunscreen. Mission Garden will provide coffee and sweets. Mission Garden is open and free to Menlo Park residents Tuesday through Saturday.</p>

	<p>-David Walker announced that this Sunday, the 12th there will be a buffel grass pull from 8-10 AM. Coffee and empanadas will be provided by the Vecinos.</p> <p>-There will be a PIZZA PARTY at the Linda House at 17 N Linda Ave, just north of Congress on February 26th from 11 AM-3:30 PM. Pizza will be made in the adobe oven that is on the property and dough, sauce, and cheese will be provided. David is investigating the best way to preserve (apply clear coat) the long mural on the back wall by David Tineo. There will be activities for the children.</p> <p>-Adelita announced there will be a Black and Brown Health Fair on Saturday, 01-18-2023 from 10 AM to 4 PM at Donna Higgins, 2160 N. 6th Ave. She also announced that District % will host a Youth Art Contest for high school seniors on 02-14-2023.</p>
<p>Cuesta Avenue Speed Hump Request</p>	<p>-Kylie introduced Suzette and the reason Cuesta Avenue residents requested financial assistance for speed humps on the road that is used to go to and from A Mountain. The MPNA board met and discussed the possibility of assisting financially with one of the two speed humps for the street. The project had already been approved by Jesse Soto and received the Ward 1 discount and securing the financing was the last step. Suzette and Cuesta residents presented stories and photos of dangerous situations and damage. Raul moved and Zach seconded the motion to provide the \$500.00 from the MPNA funds raised at the yard sale for one of the speed humps on Cuesta Avenue. The motion was approved unanimously. The Cuesta Avenue neighbors were invited to regularly attend the MPNA.</p> <p>-MPNA was reminded that Cedar is not approved for speed humps, but other traffic mitigation strategies will be explored (Cedar is also used to access A Mountain).</p>
<p>Ward 1 updates, Participatory Budgeting Workshop+ Funding Proposals</p>	<p>Updates included the announcement of FUGA Bike Ride on the 12th at (am starting at the W-1 office). There are usually about 50 riders including the Manzo Bike Club.</p> <p>The Skate Park has been approved and is ready for construction. Funding is being sought. Bike checks are held every 1st Monday and 3rd Friday but you have to bring your own parts. The next ones are scheduled for the 6th from 5:30-7 pm and the 15th from 5:30-7 pm.</p> <p>There will be open houses to discuss the Participatory Budgeting Process including on 2-11 at Mission Library from 10 am-1 pm, 2-23 at the Alva Torres Plaza, and 2-25 at the Fred Archer Center from 10 am-1 pm. The City of Tucson has some discretionary funding that will allow residents to participate in the spending of \$45,000 to fund projects desired by the residents, up to \$10,000 per project. This is the first process to occur in Arizona, and only in Ward 1. It has been successful in cities such as San Francisco and in New York. There will be 5 categories in which any resident in Ward 1 can propose a project:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Arts and cultura 2. Sustainability and beautification 3. Youth investment 4. Mobility justice 5. Community cohesion <p>This first cycle will go through May 2023. The second will start in August 2023. Submissions for projects will take place on the website. There will be training to offer technical assistance by the end of March. There will be voting for the top projects in April with those who receive the most votes being funded.</p>
<p>Call to Audience</p>	<p>-Dr. Cole from the Sonora Institute will be coming next month to discuss alternatives to the A Mountain landfill site, maintaining open space.</p> <p>-Westside Stories production by Borderlands Theater will be held April 20-30th, at Bonita Park, north of the Garden of Gethsemane.</p> <p>-Día De San Juan planning will begin in the next month. Start thinking about volunteering!</p> <p>-This Sunday there will be a Buffel Grass pull scheduled from 8-10 AM on A Mountain and David will demonstrate adobe making with the pulled grass.</p>
<p>Meeting Adjourned</p>	<p>Everyone moved and seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting, which was unanimously approved by everyone.</p>
<p>Next Meeting</p>	<p>March 9, 2023, 6:00 PM at the Menlo Park Elementary School.</p>