



Department of Neighborhood Resources
 P.O. Box 27210
 Tucson, AZ 85726-7210

PRSR STD
 US POSTAGE
PAID
 TUCSON, AZ
 PERMIT NO. 426

Mountain/1st

Neighborhood Association

Next Meetings:

Next meeting:

Thursday, September 20th, 2007
7:00 to 8:30 p.m.
Ward III Community Room
1510 East Grant Road

Following month: October 18th, 2007

2007 Officers:

Co-Chairs

Celine Hayden 740-0426
Ron Proctor 629-9788

Secretary

Elizabeth Lawrence 903-0391

Treasurer

Elva Davis 624-1126

Sergeant at arms

Darla Wandell 622-5906

Newsletter

Elizabeth Lawrence 903-0391

Park Cleanup Phil Alderink 622-2767

Tucson Police Dept. Emergencies 911

Non-emergencies 791-4444

Beat Cop 791-4253

Ward 3 Council Office 791-4711

Citizen Comment Line 791-4700

Independent Police Auditor 791-5176

Department of Neighborhood Resources 792-2489

Graffiti Removal Hotline 792-2489

Lend A Hand senior assistance 248-6882

Ambassador Program service referrals 623-9805

The City of Tucson, its officers and employees, its Department of Neighborhood Resources and all other offices neither agree or disagree with the views expressed or implied in this communication and are not responsible therefor. The distribution requestor is solely responsible.

Report on Last Meetings

Minutes of Mountain/1st Neighborhood Meeting
June 21st, 2007 at the Ward 3 Office
11 Neighbors present
Ward Office Staff: 1
Visitors: 2

Community Plan: Mountain/1st, Hedrick Acres (HANA), and Samos Neighborhoods

John Laswick presented an overview of our Community Plan. Our goals are: 1. Diverse, well-organized neighborhoods. 2. Balance of housing prices and types. 3. Emphasis on streets friendly to children, pedestrians and cyclists. 4. Rich landscaping, recreation and parks 5. Personal safety. As a neighborhood, we need to discuss and define our strategies for achieving these things.

Reading of the Minutes

Elizabeth read the May minutes. George motioned to ratify the minutes; Celine seconded. There was a unanimous vote yes to ratify the minutes.

Announcements

- **Speed humps** thanks to Back to Basics and all the hard work from NW quadrant residents!
- **Tucson Clean & Beautiful t-shirts**
- **CPR classes** through the Tucson Fire Department: \$10/class. Check www.savealifefd.com or call 623-8484.
- **Department of Neighborhood Resources** has hired 2 new staff members

Buffelgrass Eradication

Neighbor Sarah Studd is willing to teach us to eradicate Buffelgrass for free! She can help us identify it and tell us how to get rid of it. She has seen a lot of it throughout the neighborhood. By unanimous straw poll, we would like to organize a workshop in August.

Green Infrastructure Meeting

Mountain/1st, HANA, and Samos met with City Council representative Karin Uhlich to establish a committee. The goal is to create a template for other neighborhoods for "green" projects in Tucson. They are planning for a planting project in the fall. The committee is meeting every 2 weeks.

Covered Bus Stops Committee Report

The city will pay for covered bus stops! There are only a few places we can install these because of setback, right-of-way, and lack of curb issues. The stop at Park

Agenda For Next Meeting

Thursday, September 20, 2007
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

<i>Reading of the Minutes</i>	7:00-7:05
<i>Announcements</i>	7:05-7:15
<i>Buffelgrass Removal Effort</i>	7:15-7:30
<i>Nomination Committee Report</i>	7:30-7:45
<i>Community Plan follow up</i>	7:45-8:00
<i>TPD Officer</i>	8:00-8:15
<i>Open to the floor</i>	8:15-8:30

and Copper on the west side of Park Ave. is a good candidate. We can choose if we want shelters either with or without advertising. George motioned to have a non-advertising shelter at Park and Copper. Ron seconded. There were 7 in favor. None opposed. The motion passes.

Park Avenue Improvements

Elizabeth will make a presentation to the Pima Association of Governments on June 25 in support of our Park Ave. Transportation Enhancement grant application.

Robert's Rules of Order

We discussed George Hubbard's recommendations for guidelines for our meetings (printed in our June newsletter). George motioned that we adopt his recommendations with the addition of the chair voting to break or create a tie. Cindy seconded. 8 in favor. None opposed. The motion passes.

Minutes of Mountain/1st Neighborhood Meeting
August 16th, 2007 at the Ward 3 Office
9 Neighbors present
Ward Office Staff: 1
Visitors: 1

Bus Shelter Options

Tom Fisher from the City Department of Transportation presented the options for bus shelters. Southbound Park Ave. at Copper is a good location, but other

locations would be more challenging because there are no curbs or sidewalks. City-owned shelters are being refurbished and painted purple. Advertising shelters are generally kept to the periphery of neighborhoods, unless neighborhoods specifically want them. It usually takes 2-3 months to get a shelter installed. We may install some more at a later date, possibly on Glenn.

Reading of the Minutes

Elizabeth read the June minutes. George motioned to ratify the minutes, Ron seconded. The minutes were ratified by a unanimous yes vote.

Announcements

- **Tucson Clean and Beautiful T-shirts** are here!
- **Free workshops through United Way and ProNeighborhoods** – Grant Writing, ID'ing Neighborhood Assets and more. Call Celine for more information.
- **Suicide Prevention Conference** – Oct. 25-26 at the Sheraton, info. At www.azspc.org or call Sawsan Madanat at (602) 364-4324.
- **Crisis Training** – Through the Pima County Attorney's office. \$75
- **Pima County Home Health Care Hearings** – Oct. 4 @ 6 p.m., Flowing Wells High School Cafeteria; Oct. 13 @ 9 a.m. Canyon del Oro High School Little Theater; Oct. 17 @ 6 p.m. Green Valley West Social Center.
- **Meet Candidate Night** – Meet Dave Croteau, every first and third Wednesday through October, at Zachary's Pizza, 1028 E. 6th, 6 - 8 p.m.
- **Master Watershed Steward Program** www.cals.arizona.edu/watershedsteward, \$125.
- **City of Tucson Home Repair Deferred Loan Program** – 837-5330 for more information.
- **Let's get rid of mosquitoes in our neighborhood! Check your yard and home for standing pools of water**, no matter how small.

Lend-a-Hand Yard Sale, Veterans Day Weekend

Project Lend-a-Hand has been having trouble getting elders who want service. There are about 40 elders served in the cooperating neighborhoods, with about 5 in Mountain/1st, and 5 Mountain/1st volunteers. With help from Wal-Mart, Lend-a-Hand has 50 gift baskets with useful items, which may be helpful for making contact with seniors. Lend-a-Hand is having a fundraising yard sale November 10 for Veterans Day. Get in touch with Ron if you are interested in helping out and/or donating items.

Neighborhood Protection Zone (NPZ)

City Councilmember Karin Uhlich spoke to us about the NPZ and answered questions. Initially the NPZ will be for neighborhoods with historic designations, which Mountain/1st does not have. There will be architectural guidelines for new structures. Mayor and Council also adopted a couple of other related

procedural measures: 1) a requirement that any effort to demolish a structure built prior to 1945 will have to go through a special review process; and 2) a parking provision to address past issues with student parking. Cars will need to be moved more frequently than currently if they are parked on the street. Mayor and Council are also identifying areas that can more appropriately contain more "compact" housing. This may include incentives for developers and potentially some rezoning. Proposition 207 is a major impediment to some of these regulations, but they want to continue to make progress within the provisions of the law. The city is working with developers to help identify appropriate infill. There was a Neighborhood Meeting on August 28 to discuss the NPZ.

Speed Tables

Celine sent in our official letter requesting to use our \$10,000 Back to Basics money for 4 speed tables in the northwest quadrant of our neighborhood. The plan is to have two on Tyndall, and two on Mitchell Drive.

Park Avenue Improvements

Elizabeth told neighbors that the federal Transportation Enhancement grant application is moving forward. It is due on August 27. We will likely find out in October if we have been awarded the \$500,000.

Buffelgrass Eradication

Sarah Studd spoke to us about this highly invasive, fire-prone weed. Spraying it with herbicide is effective while the plant is green and growing. Deadheading (cutting off the flowers) helps. The best way to get rid of it is to dig it up from the roots. If digging out, "deadhead" it first to prevent seeds from spreading while the plant is being removed. She found heavy infestations in alleys and in vacant lots in our neighborhood, particularly behind the businesses on 1st Ave. Sarah was considering contacting the city to see if they would come out and spray. There is at least one home whose front and back yards are completely infested with buffelgrass. With ongoing effort, we can eliminate buffelgrass in 2-3 seasons, especially by using mapping to track the presence of the plant. There is professional consensus in the biology community that this is the WORST invasive species in urban and natural areas around Tucson right now. It is an extreme fire hazard and crowds out native vegetation. See www.buffelgrass.org for more information. We made plans for our first neighborhood buffelgrass eradication session from 7-8 a.m. on Saturday, August 18.

Nomination Committee for November Board Elections

Ron and Celine do not plan to run again, but would like to continue involvement in the neighborhood by working on committees. We need to try to find more candidates for office and possibly address the issue of proxy voting. Note that the nominating committee does not preclude nominations from the floor. Ron, George, Joan will be on the committee.

Would you like to be on the Mountain/1st Neighborhood Association Board?

Elections for the 2008 term are coming up in November. This is great opportunity to get more involved with your neighborhood. Please contact Ron Proctor at 629-9788, or any other board member, for more information.

Crime Report from Tucson Police Department Meeting: New Crime Prevention and Enforcement Strategies

TPD reported on some recent issues to be aware of:

- Someone has been throwing 15-20 pound rocks through windows to break into homes.
- Cars with booming stereos may be drug dealers advertising that "the drugs are here." This type of noise pollution is illegal. Take down the license and description of such vehicles and report them to the police.
- Remember, if you see anything unusual in the neighborhood, don't be afraid to call 911. Help keep your neighborhood safe by keeping your eyes open.

Your Monthly Safety Message From the Tucson Fire Department

Did you know that the 2nd leading cause of unintentional injury in all age groups is falls (motor vehicle accidents are #1)? Falls are particularly dangerous to our elderly population. Death occurs immediately after a fall for 9,500 seniors per year. If you add to that figure the 60,000 individuals who fracture a hip and die within 12 months due to complications, the death rate from falls is 190 elderly people per day! The major cause of falls for the elderly is throw rugs. Make sure that all throw rugs have a rubber backing that cling to the floor or, better yet, eliminate all throw rugs from the home. Remember to test your smoke detectors this month. For more safety information, visit our website at

www.ci.tucson.az.us/fire/Code_Administration/_Community_Safety/Safe_Kids/safe_kids.

The Enemy: Buffelgrass



This time of year, buffelgrass is green with purplish bottlebrush-like seedheads. If you see any in your yard or alley, cut off the flowers to avoid spreading the seeds, and then dig it up from the roots. Dispose of it in trash bags – don't leave the weeds to dry out and spread their seeds.

REMEMBER: It is your responsibility to clean to the center of the alley behind your home. Please help out your neighbors by keeping your alley clean.

Make a Difference with Project ACHIEVE!

Project ACHIEVE is seeking volunteers in your neighborhood! Project ACHIEVE, in partnership with the Volunteer Center of Southern Arizona and Amphitheater School District, provides Amphi School students with the encouragement, inspiration and practical tools needed to succeed both academically and socially through school and beyond. We are currently looking for volunteers, mentors and tutors for grades K-8. Volunteers can help out before or after school with homework help, board games, arts and crafts, shared reading and more. Free training and fingerprinting are provided. If you are interested in changing a child's life in your neighborhood, please contact Danielle Flink at 881-3300 ext 141 or dflink@volunteersoaz.org.

Clip this Coupon to pay your Annual Association dues. Make checks for \$12.00 per household payable to: **Mountain/1st Neighborhood Association**. Bring to our next meeting or mail to our Treasurer:

Elva Davis, 2714 North Tyndall, Tucson, AZ. 85719

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

E-Mail _____

Willing to volunteer for

Mitchell Park Cleanup _____ Phone Tree _____

Meeting Refreshments _____ Newsletters _____

Birthday _____ Anniversary _____

