

SUNRISE PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION  
MINUTES OF BOARD OF ADVISORS MEETING

July 16, 2016 – 9:00 a.m.

Palm Springs Teachers Association Offices, 180 N. Luring @ Andreas

Board Members in Attendance: Roseann Bleiweiss, Kathy Cohn, Will Follett, Byron Lohman, Ken Nelson, Curt Watts and Neil Wortman.

Guests: Ted Luciani, Mike McLean and Shon Tomlin

- I. Meeting Agenda - The proposed meeting agenda was approved as previously distributed.
- II. Public Comments –Ted Luciani addressed the Board about crime in the neighborhood and his perception that the increase in vacation rentals may contributing to that trend. He stated the Board should be working with the City to see if there is a correlation and that some of the increased City revenues received from vacation rentals should be directed to improving police presence in the affected neighborhoods. Ken Nelson commented on the City’s approved plan to hire a full-time staff member to oversee vacation rentals. Mike McLean stressed the need to include all stakeholders in these discussions and that it’s important for everyone to come together to find solutions. Neil Wortman commented on the amount of revenue generated from the fees paid by vacation rental owners for their annual licenses (exceeding \$440,000 or more). Curt Watts clarified that these fees are used by the City to cover the costs of the vacation rental hotline service, security patrol service responses to noise complaints and City Hall staff time to process the almost 2,000 license applications. The Transient Occupancy Tax (“TOT”) on registered vacation rental units generates around \$5 million annually which goes into the City’s general fund for other services including the police department. Byron Lohman commented that it’s unclear as to whether crime increases are related to vacation rentals. Ted was informed of SPNO’s plans to hold a crime awareness and prevention event on Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> (immediately following the special meeting to deal with incorporation of SPNO as a non-profit entity and adoption of related changes to the By-Laws). Kathy Cohn stated that at a recent ONE-PS meeting it was reported that in 93% of neighborhood property crimes there were unlocked doors/windows and other conditions that contributed to the break-ins. Shon Tomlin thanked Ted for raising the topic and for being focused on trying to find solutions. Shon stated there’s a lot of misinformation being circulated and these are complicated issues requiring more dialogue among interested parties.
- III. Minutes – The May 21, 2016 Board Meeting Minutes were approved as previously distributed.
- IV. Officer Reports:
  - a. Chairperson – Ken Nelson
    - Ken reviewed the previously distributed SPNO Community Calendar. Our neighborhood Home Tour to be held on Saturday, February 25, 2017 will be added to the Calendar for future reference.
  - b. Vice Chairperson – Kathy Cohn
    - Kathy commented on Lee Bonno’s future retirement from the City and her “send-off event” which was held by ONE-PS on July 14<sup>th</sup>.
    - Kathy’s work related to SPNO’s future incorporation as a non-profit entity will be discussed under Old Business.

- c. Secretary - Curt Watts
  - No items to report.
- d. Treasurer – Byron Lohman
  - Byron distributed the most recent bank statement showing the July 16<sup>th</sup> account balance as \$20,725.29. The only recent expense was the annual P.O. Box fee of \$86.
- e. Communications Officer – Roseann Bleiweiss
  - Roseann stated there's been relatively little recent communications activity other than posting an advance notice of today's Board meeting. She thanked the three neighbors attending today's meeting to speak during Public Comments. She also prepared & previously distributed to Board members a preliminary draft of a potential presentation for the October crime prevention event.

V. Old Business:

- a. 2017 Modernism Week Home Tour
  - We are waiting to hear back from neighbors Robert Reinhart and Neil Cohen who indicated during last year's tour that they would be willing to coordinate our 2017 Home Tour. Roseann and Byron will meet with them as soon as possible to confirm their planned participation.
- b. Crime Prevention/Neighborhood Watch Event
  - Ken spoke with Officer Melissa Desmarais who indicated that she would work with us in September to plan the event.
  - After discussion, the Board agreed that a first class mailing on this event (coupled with the special meeting notice on SPNO incorporation) should be sent to all members who have given us their contact information. This will be supplemented by general postings on NextDoor, the SPNO website and placement of yard signs (similar to what was done for the last Annual Meeting).
- c. Social Events
  - Our next neighborhood social event is a mixer planned for Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup> from 4 pm to 6 pm at The New York Company Restaurant & Bar on S. Palm Canyon Drive. Roseann and Will are coordinating the event. Email invitations will be sent to everyone on our contact list. Expected attendance is around 50. RSVP's will be required to assist us and the restaurant in planning the event.
- d. SPNO Incorporation and Bylaws Changes
  - Kathy reviewed the process for SPNO to incorporate as a non-profit as well as the related draft Resolutions, Articles of Incorporations and Bylaws changes. A few minor changes in the draft documents were made including the suggested use of Rosenberg's Rules of Order to conduct meetings (versus Robert's Rules of Order) as stated in Article VIII – Meetings of the Bylaws.
  - A motion was made by Neil Wortman and seconded by Will Follett to recommend to the SPNO membership (for adoption at a special meeting to be held on Saturday, October 22) the proposed Resolutions, Articles of Incorporation, and Proposed Bylaws Amendments for the conversion of SPNO from an unincorporated association to a California nonprofit public benefit corporation. The motion was approved unanimously by the Board on a vote of 7-0.

- Kathy reviewed the potential costs related to the processing of the incorporation documents noting that the largest single item is the US Tax Exemption Request which was estimated at \$400 assuming annual gross receipts have averaged not more than \$10,000 during the preceding 4 years. This will have to be clarified since our gross receipts (based on the most recent bank statement) totaled \$39,643.80 since our initial formation as a NORG around May 2014.
- Related to, but not required as part of the incorporation process, is the question of SPNO obtaining liability insurance to further protect board members and the organization from potential liability related to the group’s activities. Initial information indicates this may cost around \$1,600 annually, although research is still being conducted by ONE-PS on less costly alternatives.

e. Possible Recruitment of South of Tahquitz Canyon Way Board Members

- Curt led a brief discussion on whether or not the Board wanted him to pursue outreach efforts at this time to recruit additional Board Members from south of Tahquitz Canyon Way. By consensus, the Board agreed that no additional efforts should be undertaken at this time but there should be a concerted effort made to encourage “south of Tahquitz” neighbors to run for the Board during the next election in March 2017.

VI. Updates on City Projects

- a. Vacation Rentals – Neil Wortman has reviewed materials related to past community discussions on vacation rentals and noted 4 primary groups weighing in during public meetings and previous discussions with the City and ONE-PS. These have included real estate brokers/agents, property management companies, the “Protect Our Neighborhood” group and property owners who operate vacation rental units at their personal residences (without outside management). Given the previous somewhat lengthy discussion during Public Comments, no additional discussion occurred by the Board on this topic at this time.
- b. Palm Springs Pride Parade – Roseann previously researched the potential costs to have Sunrise Park participate in the PS Pride Parade (\$286 plus the cost to rent a flatbed truck). After discussion, the Board opted to not pursue this matter this year.
- c. Street Repairs – Curt checked with Christine Hammond of ONE-PS who clarified that although there are no streets to be slurry sealed in Sunrise Park this summer, we still have several street “segments” to undergo reconstruction later this year including:
  - Belding from Sunset Way to Saturmino
  - Cerritos from Andreas (on the west end) to Andreas (on the east end)
  - Luring from Andreas to Tahquitz Canyon Way
  - Saturmino from Tahquitz Canyon Way to Baristo
  - Terry Lane from Michelle to Sunset Way
- d. Proposed COD Campus at Palm Springs Mall – Curt informed everyone that the COD Board is scheduled to conduct a public hearing on Wednesday, July 20<sup>th</sup> before taking a vote on whether or not to initiate eminent domain proceedings to acquire the Palm Springs Mall for a future west valley campus. (Post-Meeting Update – Following the

July 20<sup>th</sup> public hearing, the COD Board voted to delay its eminent domain vote until its August meeting)

- VII. New Business – None.
- VIII. Non-Agenda Board Member Comments – None.
- IX. Adjourn – Next Board Meeting will be Saturday, September 17, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. at the Palm Springs Teachers Association Building.

Recorded by Curt Watts, Secretary

Drafted: August 1, 2016 (Revised August 30, 2016)

Approved: September 17, 2016