

# RIO GRANDE BOULEVARD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

## Board Meeting

9.09.13

Los Griegos Center

6:00 pm

**Present:** Jack Taylor, Susan Johnson, Patricia Stelzner, Doyle Kimbrough, Monica Gilboa, Jeff Newlander. Steve Ewing was unable to attend.

1. Call to order: Meeting was called to order by Susan at 6:06 PM.
2. Treasurer's report: Doyle submitted report. The only new item is that the check he sent for the Association Fee for \$20 got lost in the bureaucratic process. He then paid the fee of \$20.52 on his own credit card and is donating that amount. Board thanked him. Jack asked if the \$800.00 budget for the website consultant was accurate. Doyle replied that it was not and that it could/would be more like \$300.00.
3. Review of minutes from 4.23.13 board meeting, 5.21.13 annual meeting and 7.11.13: Susan discussed the April minutes. The minutes were accepted and adopted unanimously. Discussed the May Annual meeting and clarifications were made. Jack added the item which he presented to the meeting regarding attending the public meeting about the development south of the Coop (Jack, Susan, and Doyle went). The July Board Meeting minutes were discussed and clarified, and they were accepted and adopted unanimously. Pat will make the final corrections.
4. Election of president: Jeff has reigned as President earlier. Jack agreed to resume his position as President. The Board thanked him.
5. Website: Doyle brought a monitor screen and showed the members the current website with the different functions which are online already. The question of advertisement by supporting businesses was discussed. Doyle showed the members the "test ad" for Mark Feldman's business and how it links to Mark's own website. Discussion ensued on the topic. Question about whether or not to have text in addition to the name of the business was discussed. Jack voiced some concern about the 'liability' that could be implied by our posting of such texts, and Susan also was concerned about it. The overall sentiment was that we should probably only have the name of the business and a link to their own website. Also discussed the

question of answering e-mails, as well as how to 'market' the website so that it is more widely used by the community. It was agreed that once we solidify our web operation we should discuss specific policies about this. Doyle demonstrated using links by going to the City of Albuquerque website, and we also looked at the Alvarado NA website. Monica agreed to join Doyle as one of the team which would be in charge of operating the website. She will start training with Doyle as soon as possible, and will get access to the management of the site together with Doyle. Jack suggested that Doyle and Monica will begin to make a list of topics the board needs to discuss regarding the operations of the website. The question of Lucia's involvement was discussed. Jack asked if her involvement should be gradually diminished. Agreed that she should remain as a 'backup' person for the site. We may have to contact Julie if there are many links we want to establish as part of our "useful resources" section on the site, and pay someone to establish these links. Jack would like to see the website demonstrated at the next Membership Meeting in November. We will need to have a projector and the technical setup. The board thanked Doyle for his dedicated work on the website. Doyle also mentioned the use of the Google Group for the Board members. We agreed that the Secretary will post minutes on the Google Group site and everyone could see what other members already wrote or edited.

6. Update on roundabout: Susan reported about the meeting that will be held tomorrow, 9/10/13, about the roundabout report. The City will hold the meeting and will have a facilitator. It will last one and a half hour. Susan had concerns that it was not enough time to express all the questions and statements. The City agreed to accept written questions and statements for two weeks after the meeting, which they will respond to.
7. Update on Albuquerque the Plan: Jeff and Pat reported on the public meeting held last week regarding the ABQ Plan. Some people opposing the City's plan were very loud and rather extreme in their positions, which was unpleasant. Later in the meeting other people got things to be more orderly. The City wants to eliminate 'unofficial' paths in the Bosque and make one central path, although not paved. Their goal is to get more residents to use and enjoy the Bosque, and to make it more accessible, including to the disabled. There are significant concerns about wild life if this happens. Jeff mentioned the planting of cottonwoods which has been going on but not mentioned in the meeting.
8. Agenda items for the next year: all agreed that the development of networking with other organizations in our area would be an important goal. We would work on creating connections with both home owners associations within our area and with other neighborhood associations. Jeff agreed to be the point person for this effort.
9. Fall membership meeting: Susan reported that historically it was decided by the board that it would be a good idea to have two membership meetings a year, rather than only one. This would allow for better communication with the members and offer opportunity to disseminate important information and hear from the membership. We will try to schedule the Fall Meeting for 11/19/13, and if this does not work for 11/12/13.

10. Other matters: the topic of the North Valley Coalition was discussed. Members familiar with the history of the coalition reported that it has had ‘ups and downs,’ and was usually mobilized around specific issues, such as the Montano Bridge, and more recently the cement plant. In the last couple of years the Coalition has been ‘dormant,’ but some individuals are trying to ‘revive’ it. Jonathan Seigel and Marit Tully are leading these efforts. The geographical area covered by the Coalition includes the whole North Valley, including Alameda and the Village, and all the way down to Central on the south side. Doyle explained that the Coalition has included a “mix” of association members and individual members (not as part of a specific neighborhood association). Susan said that in the past she had opposed our Association’s participation in the Coalition because of the votes the non-members would have. If this issue is clarified she would re-consider. Jeff and Doyle agreed to be our Association’s representative and liaison to the Coalition. Susan reported that a member, Cynthia Ratcliffe expressed willingness to be on the Nominating Committee. Jack is the only member on this committee at this time. Four of the board members (Jack, Susan, Doyle, and Patricia) will reach the end of their two-year terms.