

MEETING MINUTES

April 14, 2009

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE: President Mike Quintana, Vice-President Louie Tafoya, Secretary Gretchen Elsner

MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN ATTENDANCE: Charmaine Gutierrez; Georgia Michael; Jacqueline Wenner; Jeanette Dalton; Berniece Quintana; Representative Moe Maestas; Senator Bernadette Sanchez; Eric Walters, Corporate Education Liaison, University of Phoenix; Lenton Malry; Glenda Drone; Bonnie Lee; Sylvia Parra

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:32 PM

TREASURERS REPORT

Treasurer Michelle Beltran was not present; treasurers report will be presented at the next meeting. The approximate balance is \$585.

SECRETARYS REPORT

Louie Tafoya moved to accept the minutes from the March 10, 2009 as presented. Mr. Malry seconded the motion.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Sen. Sanchez reported that the first problem was to deal with the budget shortfall. She carried a couple of ethics bills. Sen. Sanchez also carried a bill regarding pre-apprenticeship programs. She is working with Public Education Department Secretary Veronica Garcia on the proposed Westside school district. She was appointed as chair of the Conservation Committee this session.

Rep. Maestas noted that the leadership made sure that there were not any state employees who lost their jobs, even if they had to cut parts of retirement savings. He sponsored a media literacy bill, which will now be required in New Mexico. He also sponsored a sports agent bill. He also worked on an insurance penalty bill and a whistleblower bill for the health care industry. Rep. Maestas also spent a lot of effort on jail issues and expungement. He reported that the most fun day was Westside Day, with local students and dignitaries.

Both Sen. Sanchez and Rep. Maestas supported the department of Hispanic affairs. Both supported the repeal of the death penalty. Both supported TIDDs.

Both legislators spoke about the domestic partnership bill. Sen. Sanchez was opposed to the bill; it did not make it to the House for Rep. Maestas vote.

WEST MESA COMMUNITY CENTER DANCE GROUP REQUEST FOR MONEY

Charmaine Gutierrez requested that the association contribute approximately \$100 to help purchase training equipment for the hip-hop dance group. President Mike Quintana proposed that the parents of the dancers participate in the April 25, 2009 neighborhood clean-up. The association is the fiscal agent for the youth board. Sen. Sanchez and Rep.

Maestas each put in \$50 to support the hip-hop groups purchase of training equipment, on the condition that five parents become involved in the association. Sen. Sanchez gave a \$50 check to the officers at the meeting. Rep. Maestas will make his contribution in the future.

LAND USE

Vice-President Louie Tafoya discussed the pending requests.

* 423 62nd St. The request is to vary from the three-foot front yard fence. We decided to stay with our position of three feet for front yard fences.

* 351 Yucca, also known as 56th St. NW and Bluewater - we support the down-zone of the property from commercial to residential, with three single-family residences.

UNIVERSITY OF PHOENIX

Eric Walters offered to help the association with the youth (educational) fair, even if we do not do one this school year and instead plan one for next school year. He offered to speak whenever we have a need for an education speaker.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

The neighborhood association sign on Coors & Iliff was wiped out this weekend by a driver. Mike is working with Bill Jackson to get the insurance from the driver.

BOND ISSUE

There is a bond issue coming up regarding the sidewalks and improvements around West Mesa HS.

THE CENSUS IS COMING

We need people to answer the door in order to be fully counted. Perhaps we can do our own education on the issue to encourage people to participate.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Commander Candelaria would like us to assess our interest to start a Neighborhood Watch program.

COMMUNITY RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMS

Our district is on the low-end of the number of programs that are allowed.

915 PALISADES

A citizen turned in a hot spot sheet, the Westside narcotics team got involved, and they were able to take positive action to address a criminal issue.

TABLED ITEMS

We tabled the membership drive and discussion of ideas from members until the May meeting.

ADJOURN

Secretary Gretchen Elsner moved to adjourn at 8:17 pm. Jackie Wenner seconded it.