

## District 6 Coalition of Neighborhood Associations

Meeting Minutes - Thursday, September 27<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00pm

Christ United Methodist Church

A regular meeting of the District 6 Coalition of Neighborhood Associations was called to order, at the time and place mentioned above, by President Gina Naomi Dennis.

### Topic | I. Welcome & Introductions

Thank you to the Siesta Hills Neighborhood Association for hosting this meeting.

The following were present:

Chris Sanchez, Community  
Undersheriff Larry Koren, Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office  
Laura Kuehn, APD: Crime Prevention  
Cmdr. J.J. Griego, APD SE Area Command  
Lt. Rene Barraza, APD SE Area Command  
Joanne Landry, Trumbull Village Neighborhood Association\*  
Rose Marie Baca, Victory Hills Neighborhood Association  
Lloyd Princeton, Victory Hills Neighborhood Association\*  
Feroza Jussawalla, Victory Hills Neighborhood Association  
Eugene "Gene" Trosterud, University Heights Association\*  
Reynaluz Juarez, South San Pedro Neighborhood Association\*  
Isle Biel, South San Pedro Neighborhood Association  
Catherine Lovato, South San Pedro Neighborhood Association  
Tom V., South San Pedro Neighborhood Association  
Zabdiel Aldaz, South San Pedro Neighborhood Association  
Mike Gallegos, Southeast Heights Neighborhood Association\*  
Marian Jordan, Elder Homestead Neighborhood Association\*  
Mara Hoffman, Parkland Hills Neighborhood Association\*  
Suzy Sanchez Beg, Parkland Hills Neighborhood Association  
Kate Lynnes, Parkland Hills Neighborhood Association  
Alyce Ice, Trumbull Village Neighborhood Association  
Veronica Garcia, Fair West Neighborhood Association  
Barb Villa, Highland Business and Neighborhood Association\*  
Sarah Baca, Highland  
Pat Davis, City Council  
Patrick Barrett, Community  
Mark Martinez, Community  
Enrique Cardiel, IDHCC/Bernalillo County  
Rev. Willie Russell Sr., Grace Temple Missionary Baptist Church  
Epic Villanueva, Desert Light Church  
Isabel Cabrera, Clayton Heights Neighborhood Association\*  
Ryan Kious, Elder Homestead NA, Coalition Treasurer  
Eileen Jessen, South Los Altos NA, Coalition Vice President\*  
David Cooper, Interim Coalition Secretary  
Gina Dennis, Clayton Heights NA, Coalition President

Tamaya Toulouse, Siesta Hills Neighborhood Association\*  
Idalia Lechuga-Tena, La Mesa Community Impr. Assoc.\*  
Adrian Carver, Nob Hill Neighborhood Association  
Carmen Pennington, Elder Homestead Neighborhood Assoc.  
Merylyn Wafer, Elder Homestead Neighborhood Assoc.  
Marvin Wafer, Elder Homestead Neighborhood Assoc.  
Donna Orozco-Geist, South San Pedro Neighborhood Assoc.  
Erick Hernandez, South San Pedro Neighborhood Assoc.  
Karen Cathey, South San Pedro Neighborhood Assoc.  
Juan Cardiel, South San Pedro Neighborhood Assoc.  
Valerie Calkins, Siesta Hills Neighborhood Association  
Ron Campbell, Siesta Hills Neighborhood Association  
Kathy McBride, Siesta Hills Neighborhood Association  
John and Rose Sena, Siesta Hills Neighborhood Association  
Charlene Campbell, Community  
Mike Kious, Community  
Ivan Wiener, Community  
Maria Delgado, Community  
Ambrose Ashley, Community  
Melissa Madrigal, UNM  
Cat McGrath-Farmer, La Mesa Community Impr. Assoc.  
Sara Osborne, Campus Neighborhood Association\*  
Calvin Martin, Campus Neighborhood Association  
David Standridge, Trumbull Village Neighborhood Assoc.  
Pat Wheeler, South San Pedro Neighborhood Assoc.  
Bob Mares, South San Pedro Neighborhood Assoc.  
Charlie Bennett, La Mesa Community Impr. Assoc.  
Nancy Bearce, La Mesa Community Impr. Assoc.  
Miguel Valdez, Whittier Elementary School  
Barbara Petersen, APS School Board  
Aaron Nieto, Mayor's Office  
Angelo Metzgar, Safe City Strike Force  
Mark Chavez, Parks and Recreation Department  
Dave Simon, Parks and Recreation Department

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12 paid Neighborhood Associations were present at this District 6 Coalition meeting. Quorum is 9 of 16 paid Neighborhood Associations. *\* Paid NAs that were present in the meeting.*

Among the 17 Neighborhood Associations within the District 6 Coalition, 16 Neighborhood Associations have paid their annual dues for the 2018-2019 year. The paid Neighborhood Associations are: Campus Neighborhood Association, Clayton Heights/Lomas del Cielo Neighborhood Association, Elder Homestead Neighborhood Association, Fair West Neighborhood Association, Highland Business and Neighborhood Association, La Mesa Community Improvement Association, Mesa del Sol Neighborhood Association, Nob Hill Neighborhood Association, Parkland Hills Neighborhood Association, Siesta Hills Neighborhood Association, South Los Altos Neighborhood Association, South San Pedro Neighborhood Association, Southeast Heights Neighborhood Association, Trumbull Village Neighborhood Association, University Heights Neighborhood Association, and Victory Hills Neighborhood Association.

### **Topic | II. Approval of Minutes & Agenda**

The July 2018 Minutes were approved. The Agenda for today's meeting was approved.

### **Topic | III. Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office & APD (SE Area Command)**

Discussion | A. Undersheriff Lawrence Koren described the most important investments in their office as boots-on-the-ground, improving technology and collaboration. Undersheriff Koren explained that Warrant Roundups/Sheriff-Roundups consist of an 8-hour period targeting felony offenders within a half-mile to one-mile radius; this is not just about arresting people, but it is also about checking in with the community about potential dangers (e.g. needles in the parks). Undersheriff Koren explained that there are nonprofits in our community that deal with addressing the root causes of crime, such as addiction.

Discussion | B. District 6 President Gina Dennis introduced Lt. Barraza, and the Lt. serves as the new APD point of contact in the SE Area Command. Lt. Barraza described his roles, which include addressing concerns communicated by the community, as well as building partnerships with the churches and block captains to address problems. President Dennis indicated that some members of our District 6 Coalition Neighborhoods are block captains for their neighborhood watch.

Discussion | C. A District 6 Coalition community member inquired as to when faith-based organizations will be contacted. Lt. Barraza explained that such contact will occur in the upcoming months. Attendees suggested collaboration with the American Legion.

Discussion | D. A District 6 Coalition community member suggested some a form of collaboration with the American Legion.

### **Topic | IV. Wilson Park, Jack and Jill Park, Bullhead Park, and Lassetter Park: Public Safety and Public Health**

Discussion | A. District 6 President Gina Dennis described the District 6 Coalition strategy to use existing community-based resources in partnership with the City's resources to resolve the growing homelessness and drug use in our Parks. She explained that growing homelessness and drug use in our Parks has become a systemic problem that has evolved into more than just a

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"Park" issue and has also become a Community-Wide "People" issue. She explained that the District 6 Coalition strategy is in its early stages and will evolve, but it is a three stage strategy: Stage 1 is crisis intervention, which involves boots-on-the-ground, directly interfacing with people experiencing homelessness in the parks, and encouraging them to receive on-sight addiction treatment directly in the parks and to directly embrace being admitted to a 24-hour drop-in facility; Stage 2 tracks the people experiencing homelessness, who participated in Stage 1, and helps place those folks into Shelters and recovery facilities on a monthly basis; and Stage 3 tracks the people who received assistance from Stage 2, and helps place those folks into transitional living and permanent housing, and helps them with job training.

Discussion | B. A District 6 Coalition community member inquired as to which parks would be included in this Coalition strategy. District 6 President Gina Dennis explained that eventually we would like all parks in our District to become part of this District 6 Coalition strategy.

Discussion | C. Dave Simon, of the Parks and Recreation Department, greeted the community and described his new job as Director of the Department. He announced that he loves the parks and he thanked the District 6 Coalition.

### **Topic | V. Tiny Home Village**

Discussion | A. Ilse Biel, of the Tiny Home Village initiative, explained that Tiny Homes are just part of the solution. Biel explained that this is about creating stability, while also closing the gap between the curb and traditional affordable housing. Biel indicated that we need satellite areas where people can find their home. The Indian Center Lot in Trumbull Village is part of the Tiny Homes initiative.

### **Topic | VI. Speeding and Traffic**

Discussion | A. Tamaya Toulouse, of the Siesta Hills Neighborhood Association, noted that there is excessive speeding down Ridgecrest. Toulouse discussed the new traffic pattern from changes to the Kirtland Air Force Base entrance.

Discussion | B. Isabel Cabrera, of Clayton Heights Neighborhood Association, stated that the speed bumps have not been effective, and also that it is an arduous process satisfying that mandatory traffic study.

Discussion | C. A Coalition community member explained that enforcement might be the only solution, citing people for aggressive/reckless driving.

Discussion | D. A motion was made to have the District 6 Coalition support the following Coalition Neighborhoods in dealing with speeding concerns: EHNA, SLANA, HB& NA, LMCIA, CNA, UHNA, SSPNA, SHNA, PHNA, TVNA, VHNA.

### **Topic | VII. Lighting in our Neighborhoods**

Discussion | A. District 6 Coalition President Gina Dennis reminded attendees that the \$95,000 to put lighting in South San Pedro and Trumbull neighborhoods is now under the Mayor's domain

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for implementation. She indicated that we need to know where the money is and when it will lead to more lighting in our neighborhoods. Aaron Nieto, of the Mayor's Office, spoke and looks forward to the relationship-building between the Mayor's Office and our District 6 Coalition.

### **Topic | VIII. Housing Crisis Vacant and Abandoned Properties**

Discussion | A. Angelo Metzgar, of the Safe City Strike Force, discussed banking habits toward homes and the City's approaches. Metzgar emphasized the possibility of a new Ordinance to shorten the amount of time that entities and owners have, with respect to holding onto vacant properties. He noted that having a new Ordinance can prevent long periods of vacant homes, sell the homes faster, and reduce the vacancy rate. District 6 Coalition President Gina Dennis noted that the Ordinance sounds like an effective path toward reducing the amount of vacant and abandoned properties.

Discussion | B. District 6 Coalition community members inquired about the Sahara Motel because it had previously been declared a public nuisance. Metzgar explained that the situation is evolving.

Discussion | C. Metzgar explained that a few troubled properties have been approved for demolition.

Discussion | D. Metzgar explained that people can file a New Mexico Inspection of Public Records Act (IPRA) request for public information.

### **Topic | IX. Whittier Elementary and Hawthorne Elementary**

Barbara Petersen, of the APS Board, gave a status update, noting that APS schools are likely not properly funded and that children have strong families, but lack access to robust educational experiences. Miguel Valdez and Reynaluz Juarez, of Whittier Elementary, discussed root causes of issues, and that they are working collaboratively with community-based stakeholders.

### **Topic | X. Trumbull Neighborhood**

Joanne Landry, of the Trumbull Village Neighborhood Association, explained that the project to serve people experiencing homelessness in Trumbull Village has evolved to being solely a service-based model that will now be a Compassion Services Center that will not be a shelter, but will be a safe space. The facilities will involve Modules placed on a local lot.

### **Topic | XI. Neighborhood Association Concerns**

Marilynn Wafer, a Coalition community member, voiced that we have to deal with drug and mental health crisis.

### **Topic | XII. Community Input & Announcements**

Enrique Cardiel, of IDHCC, discussed the "Light the District" initiative as an opportunity to solve our own lighting issues. He also discussed Syringe pickups.

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**Topic | XIII. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned @ 8:12pm.