

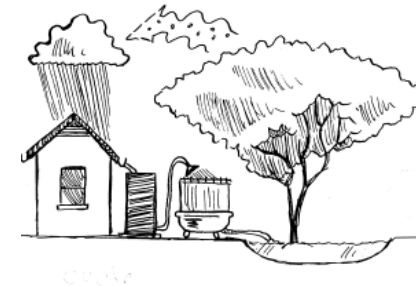


Department of Neighborhood Resources
 PO Box 27210
 Tucson AZ 85726-7210



December 2007

an invitation to get involved in the enhancement of our neighborhood



The results of the Neighborhood Reinvestment Grant survey were presented at the most recent neighborhood association meeting, and the results were crystal clear. A total of 71 surveys were returned – a record according to Lori Aldecoa of the county’s Neighborhood Reinvestment Program – and 65 of those were judged countable. The overwhelmingly favorite option won by a margin of 43 to 22.

After getting the go-ahead response from the neighborhood-wide survey, the Dunbar/Spring Neighborhood Association is going to apply for Neighborhood Reinvestment funds to enhance the public space in our neighborhood, and we’d love your ideas and input as to how we apply to use those funds. The survey results are guiding our direction toward “street beautification,” which can include tree planting (along streets, footpaths, and in public gathering areas), art (sculptures, street murals, signs), water harvesting (earthworks in public rights-of-way, curb cuts, stormwater-catching traffic circles and pullouts), public benches, and more.

A subcommittee of neighbors has been formed to put together some formal proposals of what we can ask for, and a final proposal will be presented to the Neighborhood Reinvestment oversight committee in January or February. If you’d like to be on the subcommittee, please contact Jeff at 409-3780 or Brad at 882-9443.

Please note that for any proposed improvements in the streets, such as a new traffic circle, water-harvesting pullouts, narrowing, or enhanced on-street parking, signatures will need to be gathered from at least 60 percent of those living in or owning property within a one-block radius of the site in favor of the proposed improvement. So if you want something in your part of the neighborhood, talk to your neighbors to see what they think. If folks are in favor of an idea, you can spearhead the petition drive while getting to know more of your neighbors. More of this will be discussed in the subcommittee meetings, which are yet another opportunity to get to know folks and be in a community of friends rather than strangers.

For regular updates, please come to our neighborhood association meetings. This process will likely move fast as the county is pushing us to get things wrapped up in just a few months. The project, if accepted, is expected to bring \$300,000 to \$400,000 to spruce up the Dunbar/Spring Neighborhood.

Thanks and congratulations to everyone who participated in the survey. Here’s looking forward to working together in a constructive, productive, fun way!

Dear neighbors...

I am a 50-year resident of the Dunbar/Spring Neighborhood. I am looking for approximately 500 to 750 square feet of powered space. Maybe a finished garage or guest house. Any help would be appreciated. Thank you.

Nathan Foster
 1016 N. 10th Ave. • npf9242@yahoo.com

Dated Material

Additional Contacts:

TPD, Downtown Division
 Non-emergency 791-4444
 Anonymous reporting 88-CRIME

Ward One,
Councilwoman Regina Romero
 791-4040 ✉ regina.romero@tucsonaz.gov

Graffiti or Blight Reporting
 792-2489 ✉ graffiti@tucsonaz.gov

Dunbar/Spring discussion group,
calendar, phone book, and classifieds:

groups.yahoo.com/group/DunbarSpring

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principles of successful water harvesting

- Begin with long and thoughtful observation. Use all of your senses to see where the water flows and how. What is working, what is not? Build on what works.
- Start at the top of your watershed and work your way down. Water travels downhill, so collect water at your high points for more immediate infiltration and easy gravity-fed distribution. Start at the top where there is less volume and velocity of water.
- Start small and simple. Work at the human scale so you can build and repair everything. Many small strategies are far more effective than one big one when you are trying to infiltrate water into the soil.
- Slow, spread, and infiltrate the flow of water. Rather than having water erosively run off the land’s surface, encourage it to stick around, “walk” around, and infiltrate the soil.
- Always plan an overflow route for the water in times of extra heavy rains and, where possible, use the overflow as a resource.
- Maximize living and organic groundcover. Create a living sponge so the harvested water is used to create more resources, while the soil’s ability hold water steadily improves.
- Maximize beneficial relationships by “stacking functions.” Harvesting strategies should do more than hold water. Berms can double as high and dry raised paths. Plantings can be placed to cool buildings in summer. Vegetation can be selected to provide food.
- Continually reassess your system: the “feedback loop.” Observe how your work affects the site – beginning again with the first principle. Make any needed changes, using the principles to guide you.

For a thorough introductory description of water-harvesting principles, see *Rainwater Harvesting for Drylands, Volume 1* or visit www.harvestingrainwater.com.

Upcoming DSNA Meetings:

General meetings are held the third Monday of each month from 7-9 p.m. at the Dunbar auditorium (325 W. 2nd St.).
Next meeting: December 17

Board meetings are the first Wednesday of each month from 7-9 p.m. Please contact a board member for location.

DSNA Contacts:

President: Evaristo Ramirez
 622-7368 ✉ evaristorb@yahoo.com

Vice President: Piper Weinberg
 624-7007 ✉ piperweinberg@hotmail.com

Secretary: Ian Fritz
 628-4318 ✉ sprocket@riseup.net

Treasurer: Sky Jacobs
 791-2913 ✉ skyjacobs@gmail.com

Parliamentarian: Jeff Simpson
 409-3780

DSNA Newsletter: Turtle
 628-4318 ✉ mydogellen@greenbicycle.net

MINUTES FROM DSNA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING OF NOVEMBER 19, 2007

I. Call to order and introductions – 17 in attendance

II. Guest Speakers: Adrian Guevera – TPD

- Burglaries in the neighborhood seem to be decreasing.
- Let him know if there are any problems.
- Concern about mail and newspaper theft.
- Someone sleeping in Dunbar auditorium doorway.

III. Approval of Minutes – Read by Ian Fritz

Motion to approve minutes. 13 approve/0 opposed/0 abstain.

IV. Discussion on Proposed Changes to Neighborhood Bylaws

– Continued from October (for the complete text of the proposed changes, visit www.wildsonora.com/process.html)

6. Outside or Rotating Facilitation

- Came about in response to questions about the role of the president after the One West discussions.
- Agree with sentiment. Some past presidents have rammed issues down neighborhood's throat.
- Could someone from Ward 1 office facilitate? A: wouldn't likely be considered impartial by some.
- Don't like outside facilitator idea, wouldn't be familiar with neighborhood (blind leading the blind).
- Might be difficult to get outside facilitator without payment. Suggest only have rotating facilitation.
- Secretary and Parliamentarian have important roles during meeting, should only rotate between other officers.
- Any specific neighborhood bylaws would supersede Robert's Rules when there is a conflict between the two.
- Support for this item if eliminate outside facilitator and limit to president, vice president, and treasurer.
- One person supported leaving things as they are.

7. Minutes

- Currently, meeting minutes record content of discussions. Robert's Rules say to only record what issues were discussed and what votes took place. Do we want it to stay as is or change to this format?
- Support for keeping minutes as they are.

8. Rescinding Votes

- Robert's Rules says a motion to rescind has to take place at same meeting or next meeting. Proposed change to bylaws is intended to make decisions more difficult to overturn by requiring notice of a vote on motion to rescind and 2/3 majority.
- Don't remember ever rescinding votes, only new votes with new information.
- Sounds good.
- Could we limit the number of times that votes could be rescinded?
- Can we add a provision for absentee ballots?
- This item needs more development and working out of details, before further discussion.

V. Neighborhood Reinvestment Grant – Lori Aldecoa & Teresa Bommanto from Pima County

- Of 400 surveys sent out, 71 were returned. Dunbar/Spring had more

returned surveys than any neighborhood applying for funds thus far.

- Overwhelming support for street beautification projects. Within this category, fairly even support for all four subgroups: native tree planting, public gathering places, art in traffic circles, street water run-off harvesting.
- We need curb cuts and swales to deal with flooding on 1st Street.
- Tree planting is easily funded elsewhere, what can we use this funding for that would be hard to get from other sources?
- Survey has put things into a box, can we integrate different elements? Like a rainwater harvesting/tree planting project that also calmed traffic? A: Yes, county would allow this.

•Can we get help from county engineers? A: Yes

•Is this number of surveys enough to satisfy the county of neighborhood support for a project? A: Yes

•Components of 1st Street green-belt could be installed without whole project, since there wouldn't be enough funding to complete it.

• If grant proposal has a lot of elements, county may fund some and not others.

•Sign-in sheet passed around for formation of a committee to get cost estimates for various street beautification projects. Grant proposal needs to be submitted to county in January.

Motion to approve street beautification idea based on survey results. 13 approve/1 opposed/2 abstain

VI. Outreach Committee – Piper

•Many of those interviewed for the Stories from Our Streets project have made comments that neighbors don't know each other as they once did. Suggest forming some sort of outreach committee to host events or to do door knocking.

•In the past there were block captains, which could be reinstated.

•Could Stories from Our Streets begin reconnecting neighbors? Put neighbors' stories in the newsletter?

•Host party and show Stories from Our Streets video when finished?

•Support for block captain idea if area is not too big. Had trouble finding people to organize captains in the past.

VII. Stories from Our Streets Video Project – Piper

•One month left. Have been going for two months already. Had some technical problems with equipment. Have approximately one month of editing to do. Questions or want to help, please contact Piper.

VIII. Bulletin Board Project – Ian

•Moving project forward. Have cost estimate for construction, yet we need \$40 above existing donation from IMCHD to cover costs. We have \$2,300 in treasury.

Motion to approve expenditures up to \$40 to complete construction of bulletin board. 13 approve/0 opposed/0 abstain

IX. Committee Reports

•**Garden:** Celebration and mesquite milling/pancake breakfast were successes. 250 people were served 600 pancakes. Holy Family's bathrooms are open 24 hours, but we are asked not to post a sign in the garden encouraging people to use them. The garden needs crew directors to help lead/plan future events in garden.

•**Weed & Seed:** Funding has been extended for one year. New proposals are due on November 26. Suggestion to continue Stories

from Our Streets with Weed & Seed funding.

Motion to apply for Weed & Seed funding to extend the Stories from Our Streets project. 12 approve/ 0 opposed/1 abstain.

•**Dunbar Coalition:** Board voted down an all-night horror movie event. Alder alley easement issue is holding up funding, and coalition is working that out. Middle section of building should be done soon. Museum to be finished in 2009. Comment: Should allocate funding to update website with rental rates, etc.

X. Announcements

•**El Mirador Committee:** Is there anyone else interested in participating? Erin went and met with Raul Reyes, and she can give an update when there is time. Town West is still trying to get the zoning changed. (*Decision to put on the agenda for next month*).

•People like easy pedestrian access over 9th Avenue if it doesn't demolish Steinfeld or BICAS buildings.

•Pedestrian corridor as drawn in Town West's design isn't for bikes, and these different uses should be separate and clear to users.

•Don't like section south of Steinfeld; it looks high end with no entry point for artists and should be dedicated to more low income, live/work space.

•Project takes away public/performance space. Put resources into new performance space, maybe at railroad park?

•Get rid of fountain. *If* there are fountains at all, only with water harvesting tanks (i.e. fountains run dry if water runs out). Get more creative with water harvesting.

•Height of 15 stories is a concern in that it will change neighborhood's character. Strong opposition to this (need to discuss position on building height).

•Need to define low income and what it means to us in Dunbar/Spring.

•Basic LEED certification is pretty flat – if Town West wants to be leaders, they need to go for gold/platinum level.

•Don't like the position that we want BICAS building preserved no matter what – neighborhood needs to take position that we want both buildings 100%. Pedestrian/bike access over 9th Avenue is tied into Downtown links, not necessarily this project.

•Desire to clarify items of concern and deliver them to Town West in near future.

Capoeira in the Neighborhood

Capoeira is an Afro-Brazilian martial art that combines music, dance, and acrobatics to make this practice very unique. Capoeira was developed by African slaves in Brazil during the time of colonization, providing a means by which slaves could feel liberated. It gave slaves a sense of hope and community during a time in which those in power tried to take those very elements away



in order to demoralize them. Because of the mental and physical strength that is developed with the practice of capoeira, it was outlawed in the plantations even after the abolishment of slavery in Brazil.

Our capoeira lineage goes back to a man who fought to make the martial art known and accepted as such. Mestre Bimba worked with the president of Brazil, and, after giving a public performance in 1920, capoeira was legalized and the martial art was deemed Brazil's national sport. Today, capoeira is practiced around the world. We strive to keep the same liberating energy in our classes and in our capoeira community. Capoeira provides its practitioners with physical and mental wellness plus a well-rounded community of very diverse people. If you are interested in checking us out, we are located at 210 W. 5th St. (10th Ave. and 5th St.) in the Aikido of Tucson building in the beautiful Dunbar/Spring Neighborhood. The first class is always free.

Our class schedule is Tuesday and Thursday 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., as well as Saturday Noon - 2 p.m.

For more information contact capoeiradosmalandros@yahoo.com.

