

Azalea Park Neighborhood Association

Meeting Minutes

From December 12, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 6:33pm with introductions; APNA President **Justin Boone** presided; and approximately 22 people attended. The meeting adjourned at 7:21pm.

Richard Medina, Real Estate Development Manager for Price Charities noted that their sole focus is on City Heights with the goal of creating over 220 units of affordable housing and generally upgrading the neighborhood. He discussed their robust affordable rental housing and retail space projects which include the "East Block" project on El Cajon Blvd. east of the YMCA; the "Fourth Corner" project at Fairmount and University; and the Union Bank project behind the Payless Shoe Store on University which will include retail space as well as residential. He also noted their work with local agencies and USC on alley-way "green alley" improvements.

Deanneka Flores of Sen. Ben Hueso's office noted that the Legislature is currently in recess through the end of the year. She noted his recent local activities which include a District-wide 500-turkey giveaway and his involvement with recent affordable housing and water quality events. She once again invited anyone needing help with issues involving government agencies to contact the Senator's office.

The following upcoming events were noted:

- Breakfast with Santa to be held at the Rec Center on Saturday, December 16 from 10am to 1pm;
- Canyon Hike Project wherein Justin Boone heads a guided canyon tour had its first hike last Monday with 18 attendees. Its next meeting will be next Monday featuring a hike through Swan Canyon. Beginning in January, plans are to meet up at Burly & the Bean every Monday and possibly an occasional weekend day as well for canyon hikes;
- A crafts bazaar will be held this Saturday at Burly & the Bean from 8am to 2pm featuring 7 vendors with hopes that this will become a regular event featuring local artists and crafters whose spaces will be available to them for free;
- Justin also proposed a salsa and street taco competition for the future.

In recognition of all the time and work they put into the Pop Street Mosaics Project which included the beautification of a bus round and 2 trash cans on Poplar and 2 bus rounds on Pepper Drive, the following volunteers were awarded Chiquita's gift certificates: Marcy Bonham, Bonnie Brooks, Diane David, John David, Linda David, Diana Diehl, Meredith Downs, Kathy Hudson, Gina Faulk, Tricia Hwang, Evie Kosower, Tom Lashbrook, Monica Lopez, Larry May, Doug Pizzy, Kevin Pruitt, Felicia Shaw, Sheila Stittiams, Theresa Valenzuela. Special recognition goes to Vicki Leon, the artist who managed the Pop Street Project.

Special recognition was requested for Carlos Perez for organizing the recent cleanup of the on/off ramps of I-805 at Home Avenue. Carlos also noted that he prepared a 2-page guide to installing a surveillance system which he offered to anyone interested. It was noted that he also prepared neighborhood watch-type signs that were specific to Azalea Park that he hoped would be conspicuously posted; an effort will be made to produce them inexpensively and distribute them to whoever wants them.

Submitted by Diane David, APNA Secretary 12/13/17