

Azalea Park Neighborhood Association

Meeting Minutes

From September 12, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 6:33pm with introductions; APNA President **Justin Boone** presided. Approximately 35 people attended. The meeting adjourned at 7:18pm.

Kelvin Barrios of Councilmember Georgette Gómez' office noted that the City Council got back into session yesterday wherein a 5-hour discussion was held on marijuana regulations with focus on supply chain rules; a bikeway project creating bike lanes along Orange Avenue was reviewed; the City's receipt of a grant for four roundabouts to be constructed on University Avenue was noted; and utility undergrounding projects were revisited where it is still anticipated that City Heights will see very little undergrounding before 2050.

Other items included APNA's gratitude for Kelvin's help in getting Environmental Services to cleanup the homeless camp near Aiwa very quickly; the hepatitis A outbreak; the ongoing City Heights problem of dumping large trash items in alleys and on streets; and the next public meeting (September 13 at 202 C Street) to continue examining the homeless issue.

Officer Danny Medina, Mid-City's 830s CRO noted/discussed Azalea Park's continued very low crime rate; ongoing homeless enforcement issues; the importance of calling in all issues/concerns to the PD since "it's a numbers game" wherein those areas making the most calls are the ones who get new officers first; he recommended that we "let it ring," "keep calling" and get an incident number because if we hang up before the call gets answered, that call is not counted in the numbers; he also indicated that now we can streamline getting calls answered by pressing the * key to alleviate the long introductory message when calling the PD. Furthermore, in response to concerns about the dumping of large trash items, he suggested we organize another neighborhood cleanup like there have been a number of times in the past; and that since California decriminalized drugs recently, arrests are no longer made for the use/possession of small amounts of drugs. In the case of larger amounts of drugs, he stressed the need to document observed drug activities and report them to him.

Omar Passons, attorney and former member and president of the North Park Town Council addressed the group; he is currently running for County Board of Supervisors.

Deanneka Flores of Sen. Ben Hueso's office distributed his most recent newsletter noting his letter to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee requesting an audit to determine if the San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency is currently adequately staffed with nurses. She also noted the expected September 23 24-hour San Ysidro border crossing closure and the October 3 City Heights Town Council meeting at the Substation wherein CalTrans reps would be available to discuss project updates, rights of way especially with regard to canyons (some of which are also county-owned while others are state-owned).

Election of APNA Officers:

Nominations for APNA officers were previously made as follows:

- Justin Boone** to continue as President;
- Rick Millhofer** to serve as Vice President; and
- Diane David** to continue as Secretary;
- Mark Pennington** to continue as Treasurer.

The nomination of **JP Schuiteman** as Ambassador was added and all nominees were unanimously approved.

Submitted by Diane David, APNA Secretary 9/14/17