# WINDSOR SQUARE HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOOD AND SPECIAL CONSERVATION DISTRICT 2014 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 23, 2015

**A.** The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m. by Ken Mosesian, President, who welcomed all those in attendance -- 55 Windsor Square residents were present.

#### B. State of the Square - Ken Mosesian

Windsor Square embodies what makes neighborhoods great -- great foundation to build from; community with character and a sense of place; accommodate walking, biking, transit; sense of neighborliness; safety. Our accomplishments over the past year include establishing a united front with Medlock Place and other historic neighborhoods, and working collaboratively on development issues, such as helping defeat the 3rd Ave./Camelback development. Other accomplishments include record attendance and income from the Home Tour and scanning in the neighborhood archives. We are particularly proud of our ability to call the City and get a meeting. The Mayor and Councilwoman pastor have been very responsive, and we are grateful to both of them.

## C. Mayor Greg Stanton and Councilwoman Laura Pastor

Mayor Stanton was introduced. He expressed that Councilwoman Pastor has been a wonderful neighborhood advocate and has shown leadership on behalf of historic neighborhoods. He explained that there is a lot going on at the City. During the SuperBowl week, light rail ridership set a record. The City is doing more with less, and is managing to get through without slashing services. This year the budget will be balanced without any cuts to city employees or services. On the agenda is a transit initiative. The City needs a plan before 2020 to extend the light rail throughout the city. There is a great deal of economic development locating along the light rail. The ReInvent Phoenix and Walkable Urban Code are efforts to make the city more walkable and bikeable.

Councilwoman Laura Pastor spoke about how it has been an exciting year. She thanked Windsor Square residents for being so involved. It is important that everyone have input and a voice. She gave an update on the Four Corners and development plans. Vintage Partners is revitalizing Uptown Plaza. The property south of Camelback at Pierson is now going to be revitalized. She has asked the developers to meet with the Four Corners neighborhoods. The BMO Bank building on the southeast corner of Central and Camelback has been purchased. The vacant lot behind it is also going to be developed. She is asking the developers to meet with all four neighborhoods. She is also watching several bills at the legislature. HB 2359 (liquor licenses) is one such bill. It requires some sort of threshold (5%) of the property owners within one mile radius to start the appeal process. HB 2360 deals with liquor stores in proximity of churches and schools. In response to a question she explained that the property at the northeast corner of Central and Indian School is part of an ongoing dispute between a private company and the federal government. The city doesn't foresee development on that property for quite some time. If the federal government ends up with the property, the City will be in dialogue with them regarding the possibility of development or of the city purchasing it.

#### D. Officer Aimee Knight-Fogel

Officer Aimee Knight-Fogel was introduced. We are now part of the desert horizon precinct. She and Officer Mario Lozoya are assigned to our neighborhood. She discussed crime trends. Looking at the statistics from June 2014 to the present, crime appears to have remained steady. There have been 11 burglaries in those 8 months. Violent crime is very low. Overall, crime is down 16+%. The number one call they receive is a suspicious person. That means that neighbors are paying attention and are calling. Prevention is key.

## E. Uptown Plaza - Vintage Partners

David Scholl from Vintage Partners introduced Casey Treadwell and Cameron Mildreth, also with Vintage Partners. He expressed that Windsor Square has been a good working partner with respect to Uptown Plaza. Windsor Square has had great communication and participated in the ReInvent Phoenix process. In terms of the redevelopment of Uptown Plaza, the big question mark has been what AI's would do. Vintage Partners continues to meet with them, and they are hoping to stay. Vintage Partners may be prepared to put some of their capital into the interior improvements of the AJ's site. The demolition of the exterior of Uptown Plaza should continue for the next month or so. Hopefully there will not be any more night time activity. They are trying to be a slow impact as possible, and appreciation our patience. The first round of renovation should be completed in late summer or early fall. It then usually takes 60-120 days for tenants to build out. The ghost signs are great to see, and if possible they may preserve some of them. They have also settled on new branding an imaging for the Uptown Plaza sign. Their plan is to go back to the 1955 neon sign. They are also planning on expanding the courtyard area (where the fountain currently is located). There will be one or more restaurants in that space, but the courtyard won't be devoted to outdoor dining. They still understand that we don't want amplified music and excessive noise from patio dining. A resident asked about the parking situation. Vintage explained that they would support the neighborhood if we decided to seek parking limitations along Medlock. The plan for revegetation along Medlock is on hold until the worst of the construction is over so as not to damage the new vegetation. They encouraged neighbors to go to the website they are developing: uptownplazaphx.com. Also they offered to host an open house in their offices so that people could come see the renderings and learn more about their plans.

#### F. Bylaws Amendment Discussion

Susan Myers discussed the need to amend the Windsor Square bylaws. This is presented as a discussion only item, as the Board wants to get input on the proposal. The areas of by the bylaws that we are proposing to amend are (a) in sections that require written notice to the residents, to permit that notice to be delivered electronically; and (b) to amend the composition and timeline for the nominating committee to streamline the process. On the electronic notice proposal, Susan explained that each time the Board is required to give written notice, we end up paying neighborhood kids to deliver the notices. Most of us receive notices through e-mail, and it would be nice to have that option here. Some residents spoke up and raised the issue of neighbors not being on the NewsBlast or not using e-mail. Perhaps we could arrange some sort of minimal hand-delivery to those residents and use electronic notice for the majority of the residences. On the issue of the nominating committee, Susan explained that the process as outlined in the bylaws is fairly cumbersome, requiring the nominating committee to be formed as early as September, and requiring it to have 3 members only one of whom can be on the Board. This isn't particularly practical, as we don't have a surplus of residents wanting to serve on the Board or the nominating committee. The Board hasn't drafted any new language for this provision, but wanted to raise it as another issue in the bylaws that could be improved.

#### G. Windsor Square Committees

The Board has proposed creating various committees to support the activities of the Board and the neighborhood. These committees allow residents to work on a particular area that interests them, without requiring excessive time commitments. The committees include: Home Tour committee; Kids' Club committee; Zoning committee; Commercial Relations committee; and Neighborhood Beautification committee. Susan Myers has passed around a sign up sheet and the Board encourages neighbors to sign up for one of the committees.

# H. Treasurer's Report - Approval of FY 2015-2016 Budget

Julia Fitsimones, Treasurer, presented the Fiscal Year 2015-16 Budget for approval. Julia presented the budget, showing that Windsor Square has \$64,614.51 in the bank. She discussed the Kids Club activities and introduced Jennifer Delgado, chair of the Kids Club, who described all the various activities, such as the upcoming Movie in the Park. Susan Myers moved to approve the FY2015-2016 budget as presented; Steve Caniglia seconded. Motion carried.

#### I. Election of Officers for 2014-2015

Stephanie DePascal, head of the Nominating Committee, introduced the board candidates. The Nominating Committee proposed the following slate of Officers and Members at Large for Fiscal Year 2015-2016:

Ken Mosesian President
Alex Meyers Vice President
Julia Fitsimones Treasurer
Dawn Dauphine Secretary

Steve Caniglia Member at large
Kristy Roschke Member at large
Phil Sheinbein Member at large
Jeffrey Long Member at large
Cristín Duerinckx Member at Large

Stephanie DePascal moved to accept the nominations; Vicki Hersh seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### J. Additional Comments

Phil Sheinbein provided an update on the plans to annex the northern irrigation district (consisting of the north side of Colter through the north side of Oregon. Seth Goodman and Mary Stoffel have been leading the efforts to get the two irrigation districts joined. Maricopa County and the City have signed off on it. We should have ballots out to the neighbors within the next few weeks. In order to join the two districts, we need to have 50% + 1 house in the new group vote in favor.

Ken Mosesian reminded everyone to look up the ReInvent Phoenix and WU Code on the City's website. We all want to be well versed in this. He then expressed the Board's appreciation to departing board members Susan Myers, Andrea Stone and Tammy Tepper-Cunningham.

There being no further business, Ken Mosesian moved to adjourn the meeting; Phil Sheinbein seconded the motion. The Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Susan Myers, Secretary