

Racquet Club Estates Neighborhood Organization

BOA Meeting Minutes

June 13, 2009

The meeting commenced at 10:00 AM at the glamorous home of Rick Vila and Ken Lyon at 2792 N. Avenida Caballeros. Another perfect desert morning.

The following BOA members were present: Rick Vila, Dean Nicastro, Scott Kennedy, Joseph May, Lauren Scarbro, Ney Fonesca, Ron Oliver. Absent: Nicki Randolph and Nat Gozzano. (Quorum was present for all votes)

The following RCENO general members were present: Bob Merliss, Marty Kapff, Ken Lyon, Steve Schultz and Kurt, whose last name we somehow have misplaced but will make amends by buying him a cocktail next time we are out and about.

1) Rick opened the meeting by welcoming the general members who were present and asked if there were any additional items they would like added to the days agenda. There were none. He then acknowledged prior Board Members, Timm and Todd for their service and support the past year.

2) Blade Sign Report:

- Sign #1 was selected. A separate report is available for all votes' casts and tallies.
- A subcommittee was established for the signage purchase and installation oversight. Consists of Rick Vila, Scott Kennedy, Nat Gozzano, and Ney Fonesca.
- A lively discussion was held regarding where the signs would be placed. Two different approaches were reviewed. All street signs within our association boundaries (Rick and Ken took a drive and informally tallied approx. 63 signs, but that included "big" streetlight ones and adjacent boundary ones, so it may be as few as 56 or 57 estimate when those omitted). Scott Kennedy presented a draft "map" if only the perimeters were done, which was perhaps only 15 or so signs. Pro's and Con's discussed between approaches were expense, inclusiveness,

neighborhood identity.

- A vote was taken: Put signs on all RCENO posts (excluding big ones at lighted intersections and those not physically on our neighborhood property for those with adjacent neighborhood borders). 6 Aye, 1 Nay. Passed.

3) Election of Officers.

- 4 Positions Open. General Coordinator, Deputy Coordinator, Treasurer and Communication Coordinator.
 - General Coordinator – Rick Vila (Unanimous)
 - Deputy Coordinator – Ney Fonesca (Unanimous)
 - Treasurer – Dean Nicastro (Unanimous)
 - Communications Coordinator – Ron Oliver (Unanimous)

Deferred to next meeting: Address our by-laws for rotating officer positions, if we want to, duration of terms, etc.

4) It was agreed that monthly BOA meetings would continue for 2009 on the second Saturday of each month at 10AM at a rotating Location. Next meeting is July 11th at the home of Lauren Scarbro, 896 E. Racquet Club at 10am.

5) Board discussed and voted unanimously for RCENO to acquire a P.O. Box for all association related mail correspondence. There will be two keys for access, Treasurer and Communications Coordinator positions.

6). Updated Board Contact List provided to Ron Oliver.

7) PSNIC Report – Rick Vila (who has been going to the meetings)

- Deputy Coordinator to represent us at these meetings, (mandatory participation required by the city) on the 2nd Thursday of every month at 8am. Anyone else is allowed to attend as well. The Deputy is our formal representative (for voting, etc). They are encouraging associations participation on subcommittees (which are numerous)
- PSNIC will be hosting a “Good Neighbor Awards Dinner” on November 11, 2009. David Carden is headed up this committee at PSNIC. There will be opportunity to nominate people for these awards that have done something special for their neighborhoods. Each association is required to guarantee purchase of a “round”

(8 seats) for the gala, at \$35 each. RCENO voted unanimously to “purchase” the round out of general funds and also notify (via email and/or website) of this to see if any general membership wants to purchase tickets and attend.

- Rick reminded us that the city will pay for one mailing per year, no matter the size. Board thinks this mailing may be for the October Picnic/general meeting timeframe.
- City Manager discussed the city's annual budget and that approximately \$12M was slashed. Non at that time were for safety reductions (i.e. police, fire, etc) but no they have approx \$1M target for safety reductions pending. Looking for perhaps _ of it to come from closing of Fire Houses (not reduction in Firemen, they would be relocated to other houses), but of the actually facility.
- Green Programs-
 - PSNIC reported there has been lots of theft from recycle trash, and recommends that residents put their cans and bottles at the bottom of the recycle bin and paper trash on top to discourage this activity.
 - “Broken Irrigation” subcommittee. This is for the identification of broken sprinkler heads, etc for water loss. Rick passed a few of the flags that residents can carry with them on their walks or drivers, and if a broken sprinkle head is observed, then it can be marked with the flag so homeowner's are aware there is a problem and can fix.

9) October Picnic and General Meeting

- A subcommittee was established for the picnic. Will be lead by Scott Kennedy. Lauren Scarbro and Joseph May are on the committee as well.
- Targeted date is October 17th.
- Rick requested that the subcommittee include in their planning any opportunities for revenue generation (ex: membership drives, t-shirt or other item (mini blades, mugs?) sales, raffles)
- The board discussed the pros and cons of combining the second required annual general membership meeting to be at the same time as the picnic. Attendance at this year's recent firehouse was smaller than last years. Perhaps coordinating occurrence with the picnic (especially if we provide the food, vs. potluck) may increase participation. After discussions, it was generally thought a good idea to combine the two, but no vote was held. Was decided to defer to another meeting closer to the event.

10) 2009 Projects

- Scholarship Project – will need to have a subcommittee and assure fairness and need for any determination of recipient. Discussed whether it needed to be improving appearance or just helping a needy family. Was decided to postpone discussions on this till the next meeting.
- Modern Tour – Scott reported that PS Preservation has contacted him about whether we intend to have another home tours in 2010. The board discussed that it seemed like we would, but deferred additional discussions to another meeting. All agreed we need to get started earlier this year than last.
- Neighborhood City Signage audit – discussions around if there are enough speed limit signs on some streets (Starr given as example), another ex: being cul-d-sacs that are not identified as such and consistency. Also someone said tour buses headed for the Arial Tramway are using residential streets. Suggested a Subcommittee established to conduct the audit. Kurt and Scott volunteered to work on this street survey. The idea being we would present these findings to the city.
- Board will continue to look for 2009 project ideas.

11) Open Items – General Membership Comments

- Discussed terminology of what it means to be a “member”. PCNIC is planning to issue guidance shortly. Basic understanding is that everyone within the boundaries is automatically a “member” just living in the defined area. This means that for our required twice annual meetings, that the notification goes to “all”. The distinction comes when defining “due paying” or “voting” members (term unclear, what is that, how is it defined and how is it applied). The thoughts are at minimum, dues or not, this would be individuals that filled out an application for RCENO. We need to revisit criteria and terminology as we get insight from pending PCNIC guidance.
- Status of the pending development project for the empty lot on Indian Canyon at San Rafael (fronting the Wexler houses) was presented. The current plan is for 51 moderate income 2/3 bedroom units (target sell price at \$239-269k, with down payment assistance for \$80k) to be built on the lot by a developer. It will not be a gated community. The project has gone to the city architectural committee after a redesign was required from a prior review. The redesign was approved. The next step is to the Planning Commission, currently on the docket for 7/22. One week before the meeting, residents within 400 feet of the proposed structure will be advised of the planning committee date if they wish to participate. If the planning committee approves, it will most likely go to the city for approval in September. The time for any citizens to participate would be the 7/22 meeting to be included in any consideration for the architectural /tract map approval process outcomes.
- Board discussed having a newsletter similar to other neighborhood associations, like Las Palmas, perhaps quarterly. Discussions centered on communication methods, website vs. email vs. postal mailings pros and cons. Ron and Ney agreed they will work on this and target for quarterly newsletter that will be

hardcopy distributed.

- Discussed payment of membership “dues”, timing, if annual or not and how to manage this. No resolution from this discussion. Ney is familiar of a way to facilitate this notification going out “automatically” for reminders for members because we are all on different schedules when joined. Open item for future board meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 12pm and we all returned to our lives of excitement and beauty here in historic and wonderful Palm Springs.