

**Racquet Club Estates Neighborhood Organization
Minutes of October 13, 2012
General Membership Meeting and Picnic
By, Joseph May**

Welcome and Introductions

Robert Perry called the meeting to order at 10:00AM. Board members in attendance were: Rick Villa, Robert Perry, Dean Nicastro, Barbara Maccarillo, Joseph May, Bob Merliss, Lauren Scarbro, Donna Chaban-Delmas, Scott Kennedy and Terry Towne. Many neighbors were present. Introductions were made by all.

Financial Report

Dean reported that we have \$19,158.03.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from September were approved but it was agreed that we needed to review past minutes and approve them.

Officer Reports

Vista Del Monte Elementary School Grant- Principal Joe Scudder

Robert presented Mr. Scudder with a \$3,000 check. Mr. Scudder spoke about the program that our donation funds and introduced us to a couple past recipients of the grant who showed us their bikes and presented us with a thank you card. Photos were taken.

PSNIC Report

Terry gave the report:

- nextdoor.com is up and running and neighbors were encouraged to use it
- Palm Springs Sustainability- an eatable landscape program is being initiated and there will be more to come on this; a lawn buy-back program where residents can get \$500 grants to replace their lawns with desert landscape has started applications are on the city website; on October 27th at the Farmers Market there will be a sustainability fair.
- Desert Aids project DAP is having their 25th AIDS walk on 11/14, see pride website for details
- Lee Bono said hello and thanked us for carrying the 25 foot snowman in the Festival of Lights parade on December 1.

2013 Home Tour

Robert announced that we have four homes and that Paul Kaplan is helping us to secure homes for the tour. Neighbors interested in showing their homes were encouraged to let us know.

Charitable Donation Forms

Terry described the process to neighbors. This is to benefit our neighborhood and applications are available at the registration desk and our website. Projects to be funded are due May 1 and awards will be made in the fall.

RCENO Website

John Russell, who has been designated our webmaster, will upload the revised website soon. He asked neighbors for pictures particularly pictures that depict before and after renovations.

Guest Speaker- Sergeant Reed, Palm Springs Police Department

- If anyone sees any suspicious behavior around the neighborhood do not hesitate to call
- Property crime statistics for our neighborhood, last six months: 4 residential burglaries, 2 car break-ins, 1 auto theft, 1 vandalism
- Citizens police academy is a great way to see police work from the perspective of the police, residents are strongly urged to participate
- Firearms safety course is offered, 12 hours of instruction, firearms owners are strongly urged to take the course. Shooting is involved.
- News talk KPSI @ 6:00PM, 920 AM, Tuesdays is a police call-in show. Guests appear and if anyone from our organization wants to appear they are welcome.
- Q&A for Sergeant Reed: a few questions were asked and answered.

New Business

- Measure J applications are available for Neighborhood Organizations. There are several million dollars available. Rick suggested we apply for a grant to landscape the median strips that runs along Avenida Caballeros and Racquet Club; a grant to retrofit gas and waterlines was also suggested; underground power lines were suggested; fence replacement between the park and school was suggested.
- At our September meeting it was agreed that we would honor board member Scott Kennedy for all of his hard work and dedication to Racquet Club Estates Neighborhood Organization. Scott was instrumental in getting the organization off the ground and has been an extremely active board member ever since. Scott has worked tirelessly on many projects from coordinating the reception (cooking most of the food himself) for our first home tour to grilling hamburgers at our first picnic. He has coordinated the selection of the homes for several of our extremely successful home tours and has acted as our resident historian. In addition to all of this he has walked and driven every inch of the neighborhood documenting areas of need and participated in counting and mapping out all of the street signs for our sign blades. Scott is a much-loved member of our board, our neighborhood and Palm Springs. He was awarded a plaque and a cash grant.

Picnic

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 AM and everyone was invited to eat from a potluck buffet that in this reporter's opinion was by far the best selection of food we have ever had at our annual picnic.

BOA Meetings Hosting Schedule for 2012

Here is the hosting schedule for our meetings for 2012:

- *April 14—Bob Merlis*
- *May 12—Vista Del Monte*
- *June 9—Terry Towne*
- *July—Dark, no meeting*
- *August 11—Joseph May*
- *September 8—Rick Villa*
- *October 13—Picnic and general membership meeting*
- *November 10 - Lauren Scarbro*
- *December 8 – Ron Oliver*