

## ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES; October 16, 2017, 6:00m p.m. Mitchell Elementary School

**Present:** **Board Members:** President Dan Jones, Treasurer Cynthia Klaila, Secretary Carol Driscoll (Scribe) Vice-President Margaret Johnson was ill and unable to attend.  
**Residents:** Howard Benson, Faye Ingle, Bill & Kathy Koch, Lori Parenti, Joan Reynolds, Barb Saya  
**Speaker:** Officer Francisco Hernandez, APD Foothills Command Crime Prevention presentation

### Opening and Introductions:

President Dan Jones opened the meeting with self-introductions; Board Members, guest speaker and residents who were invited to state how long they have lived here. Even in such a small assembly the degree of longevity is quite stunning with several people having lived here for more than 30 years.

### APD Crime Prevention Presentation:

Dan introduced Officer Francisco Hernandez who gave some basic information about crime in the city of Albuquerque stating that property crimes are higher than they ever have been. New Mexico ranks second in the US for stolen vehicles. He also spoke of a bank's decision to close one of its branches here in the Heights due to having been robbed of significant amounts of money recently.

Officer Hernandez shared a tip used by his grandfather for keeping his home safe when nobody was home. He **always** left a radio on. That simple act seemed to act as a deterrent against break-ins and thus far has worked for the officer and his family. Always report break-ins, theft or any violation against you or any of your personal property. Other practical suggestions are:

- ✧ Always make sure your home is secure whether you are or are not present; doors and windows locked.
- ✧ Try to give the house a lived-in appearance even when you're not there. Do not allow mail or litter to pile up on the front yard or porch.
- ✧ Do not leave valuables where they can be seen from windows.
- ✧ Make sure vehicles left outside are secured; all doors and windows locked.
- ✧ Garage door opener should not be left in the vehicle.
- ✧ Do not leave tempting items in plain sight; everything is tempting. A gun was recently acquired by a thief who stole the vehicle in which it was kept.
- ✧ Do not leave any documents that show names or any identifying information, including registration, insurance or emissions information. Thieves now know where you live, and if the garage door opener was in the vehicle, they have access to your home.
- ✧ Check the back of your vehicles frequently to make certain you still have a marker plate.

One resident stated that there are 3 hours a day when the Northeast Heights has no police coverage. Another resident reported having called 911 regarding to a violent argument between two neighbors. Five hours later an officer came by to check on things and was unable to do anything. The resident asked if it was ever okay for a citizen to intercede and was strongly advised by Officer Hernandez to stay out of the fray. He suggested that the resident call 911 again and again if circumstances indicated. He went on to explain that teams of officers riding in pairs, are dispatched when emergency calls are received which could have 6 officers working on one emergency. Last year six officers covered the entire night shift for the Foothills Command which represents I40 to Paseo Del Norte and Eubank to the mountains. The conversation lead to the fact that the number of police officers is about 1/3 lower than recommended.

**Post Meeting Note:** In August Lt Fernando Aragon, who is an advocate of Police and Community Together (PACT) was appointed as Foothills Commander. One of his goals is to build partnerships with the community and help solve community issues and concerns. Another is to add 6 officers to the PACT unit. He would also like to bring bicycle patrols back to the command.

### **Officers Reports:**

Dan presented the **Annual Report** which is attached to these minutes. The highlights included creation of a new event entitled the SGANA Meet and Greet which featured gift certificates to two neighborhood businesses, free treats from Pop-Pops Italian ice and the city's rock climbing wall. The new commander of the APD Foothills Command, Fernando Aragon, was invited but unable to attend. He sent officers who attended and stayed for some time visiting with adults, playing with the children and enjoying the frozen ice treats.

Another highlight was the creation of a new user-friendly and very informative SGANA website by President Jones. Access is [sangabrielareana.org](http://sangabrielareana.org).

Cynthia presented the **Treasurer's Report** which is also attached to these minutes. Balance at the time of the meeting was \$####.##. Cynthia pointed out that since the association cut back on the frequency of newsletter deliveries residents were not being reminded as often of the opportunity to pay their association dues. The association also spent some money to host the August 27 Meet and Greet.

Carol offered residents the opportunity to accept the **Secretary's Report** as written rather than sit through a reading of 2016 minutes. She explained that the minutes are available in both written and electronic format. So and so moved that the minutes be accepted as written; so and so seconded; motion was passed unanimously.

### **Open Forum:**

Residents inquired about resolution of the problems associated with the Marble Brew Pub. The upset seems to have diminished but that may be a result of residents finding their own solutions to problems such as parking and inappropriate behavior on Pitt Street. For example leaving solid waste trash bins at the curb all the time reduces the amount of space available for parking. No one knew if Rose Arnell was even staying in her house since her husband Del passed away earlier this year. President Dan has not been contacted by residents, Marble management or city officials and has no information about construction of the promised more-effective sound wall. The issue seems to have faded away which does not mean that it is resolved.

Someone raised the issue about the earlier start time for the meeting. Cynthia explained that Mitchell has established new guidelines which require that people reserving the facility must be out of the building by 8:00 p.m. which means that we had to start earlier to complete our Agenda.

### **Election of Officers:**

Carol Driscoll, who has been Secretary and newsletter editor for 13 years announced that circumstances have made it impossible for her to meet her responsibilities and she is resigning. This creates a second opportunity for someone to step in since there is already a vacancy in the Member At Large position. Dan, Cynthia and Margaret are all willing to continue serving on the Board though Margaret and Cynthia both expect that to be for a limited number of terms since retirement and/or relocation are on the horizon for both of them.

Howard Benson, who lives in the home formerly owned by his deceased father Paul at the corner of San Gabriel and Santa Maria Court, self-nominated himself for a position on the Board inquiring about the duties of the Member At Large. His offer was accepted, seconded by Bob Koch and passed unanimously. Joan Reynolds moved to accept the slate of Dan Jones, Margaret Johnson, Cynthia Klaila and Howard Benson. Barb Saya seconded; the motion passed unanimously. Positions will be named at the first board meeting according to SGANA ByLaws.

Motion was made by Carol Driscoll to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Joan Reynolds . President Jones adjourned the 2017 Annual Meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Attachments: Annual Report, Treasurers Report