

ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Saturday, September 21, 2019 :: Larry's House

Call To Order and Roll Call Meeting called to order at 12:40. Attending were Stan Sartor, Pam Keating, Shannon Metcalf, Larry Johnson, Jim High and Brent Apt.

Acceptance of Agenda Approved Yes 5 No 0

Review and Approval of Minutes of July 20, 2019 (see handout) Approved Yes 5 No 0

Public Comments

There were no formal public comments.

Election of Brent Apt to the Advisory Board to fill a vacancy

After attending our last Advisory Board, neighborhood resident Brent Apt has indicated his interest in serving on the Board. He introduced himself and why he wanted to serve on the Board. All the members of the current Board did self-introductions. Everyone was thrilled that Brent was interesting in joining the Board. It was M/S/C to elect Brent Apt to fill out the remaining term of one of the three current vacancies on the Board. **Approved Yes 5 No 0** It was noted that, per the By-Laws, at the next General Membership meeting, his name will be presented to the membership for a simple majority vote of approval.

Treasurer's Report

Larry Johnson reviewed the current Financial Statement as of September 20, 2019. Total income for the year to date is \$49,483.08. Expenditures for the year were \$20,133.01, leaving a balance of \$29,350.01.

Approval of proposed changes to the 2019 TPNO Budget

The Finance Committee is recommending the following minor adjustments to the 3/19/2019 version of the approved 2019 Budget: Membership meetings—Reduce by \$528, Misc., Printing/Postage—Increase by \$28, and Community Grants—Increase by \$500. Larry Johnson, chair of the Finance Committee, said that the primary reason for these changes was to allow the Board to consider approving the pending Alexander Star Grant application. The reduction in membership meeting will still leave sufficient funds for the November meeting. The increase in postage will allow us to pay for the next 6 months of our PO Box rental fee.

It was M/S/C to approved the three recommended changes in the 2019 TPNO Budget. **Approved Yes 6 No 0,**

Reports/Updates (Committees, Task Groups, Projects)

Fire Station opening celebration debrief

The Board discussed the recent Fire Station reopening celebration. Brent, Stan and Larry all shared their positive thoughts about the event. All City Council members were present. Larry Johnson and Eric Chiel were given a place on the agenda to present the Community Grant for the built in BBQ.

Alexander Family Star Community Grant Application

Larry Johnson, volunteer grants coordinator, distributed to the Board a summary of the results of the review of the Community Grant application for \$1,000 for the Alexander Star on the Palm Springs Walk of Stars. In all, 4 grant review advisory members, and 5 Advisory Board members reviewed the proposal. All 9 raters recommended full funding. The overall rating score was 93.3 out of a possible 100 points. Larry shared with the Board some of the positive comments made by several of the reviewers. After discussion, it was M/S/C to approve a \$1,000 Community Grant to the Alexander Family Star application. **Approved Yes 6 No 0**

Neighborhood Entry Sign

Progress is being made on the first Neighborhood Entry sign. Larry Johnson reported that the Palm Springs Planning Commission approve earlier this month our application for the sign to be built at the corner of Via Aguila and Twin Palms Drive. This was the culmination of several months of work with City staff preparing the application. The next step is to prepare a Covenant that the Twin Palms HOA needs to submit assuming responsibility for maintenance of the sign. Then we can apply for a building permit and then schedule installation. Larry thanked John Lacombe, a member of the Twin Palms HOA Board, for his hard work and dedication to gaining the support of the association's owners for placement of this entry sign on their condominium's property.

2019 Modernism Week

Stan Sartor, 2020 Modernism Week Chair, reported that planning is going very well for the 2020 Twin Palms Neighborhood Tour on February 17, 2020. We now have commitments for 7 homes, all of which are new to the tour. Stan described each of the houses. He thanked Alan Beardslee for his work in helping to secure these homes, and also for his efforts to secure a period appropriate car to be in front of each house on the tour.

This year we will be offering 400 tickets at \$80 each. We will also be updating the brochure. Stan said we will be giving each ticket holder a bag, but we will not be giving out a gift this year. Sign in will be at Stan's house on La Jolla. There will also be a party for all the volunteers and tour homeowner after the tour.

Jim High suggested that we offer 2 free tickets to any homeowner that offer to include their home in the 2021 tour. Everyone agreed this was a great idea.

Stan said he is working on the materials to submit to Modernism Week for our tour listing on their Website. Tickets go on sale November 1, 2019.

Stan and all his committee members were thanked for all their hard work in putting together what looks like are most exciting tour to date.

Enhancing our Social Media Profile

Related to Modernism Week, the Board continued its ongoing discussion of ways to improve and expand on Twin Palms social media profile. Shannon Metcalf said that we need to gather material to post on our Instagram account. We need pictures of the neighborhood. Maybe pictures of the interiors of some of the homes on the tour. One suggestion was to use Next Door to solicit pictures from

residents. Jim High said he would follow up on a lead for a local photographer who has expressed interest in volunteering his time to take pictures of our neighborhood.

Krisel Exhibit

No new showings have been scheduled. At the next meeting there will be an update on plans to expand the exhibit before the 2020 Twin Palms Neighborhood Tour.

Home and Resident Survey

Two additional residents have been recruited to participate in the survey pilot. John Lacombe has offered to take the lead in surveying the 33 homeowners in the Twin Palms Condominium complex where he resides. Brent Apt will be surveying the homeowners on Yucca, the street he lives on. An update on findings to date will be on the agenda for the next Advisory Board meeting.

Exploring our options for promoting undergrounding of electrical poles/wires

At the last meeting, the idea of undergrounding the electrical poles in the older portions of the neighborhood was discussed. One issue raised was how many poles are there in the neighborhood and where are they located. Brent Apt and his partner took the initiative to produce a map which he distributed to the Board. There are 75 poles. Everyone was very impressed with the map and how professional it looked. They were thanked for this effort which really does help to visualize the issue.

Larry Johnson said that he had done some research on the issue. He contacted Edison. He said that the staff person he spoke with said he was not aware of any neighborhood that had successfully undergrounded their electrical and cable wires. He said that they can do a study and produce a plan for undergrounding the poles. The cost is \$600 a pole, so that would be about \$45,000. The plan would have to be completed within one year, or the study would have to be updated and paid for again.

He raised several issues that we would need to be aware of. If one homeowner objected to paying their share of the cost, the whole plan could not be done. He also stated that undergrounding is now only done under the street. This adds significantly to the cost. Another step would be to approach the City of Palm Springs that would have to approve the project including street closures for construction.

He noted that Edison has no funding available to help pay for any of the costs related to undergrounding poles and wires. He also noted that we would have to approach the cable companies directly to learn what their processes are to underground their wires.

While the Edison staff person would not state a projected cost, he agreed that we were talking millions of dollars.

For all these reasons, Larry said that this looked like a project that was well beyond anything he felt we could realistically consider taking on. Shannon Metcalf said that the Ocotillo Lodge is considering installing solar power. She said she would contact that company to see if they were interested in proposing a plan to replace our neighborhood's electrical grid with a solar system.

Planning for Fall Membership Meeting at Fire Station

At the last meeting, it was agreed that we would hold our annual social event in November at the Fire

Station. A BBQ luncheon was proposed. Larry Johnson reported that the Fire Department is fully on Board with this idea.

We will need to rent tables and chairs. The fire department said we can set up in the main bay of the Fire Station. We can buy the fixings for the hamburgers and hot dogs. The rest of the food and desserts can be purchased at Aspen Mills. We will announce the social event on Next Door, and follow up with emails as needed.

New Business

Status of property at La Verne and Twin Palms

Larry Johnson reported on the small piece of property that was for sale on the north-east corner of La Verne and Twin Palms. This non-Indian land lot was left over in the 70's or 80's when Twin Palms was extended south to link in with La Verne. Given the odd shape of the lot, it is not likely that anything can ever be built on it. The owners approached the Smoke Tree HOA to see if they were interested in buying the land. They are not.

Larry said he thought this would be a perfect place for a mini public park. There is room for some seating and a trellis. He suggested we might suggest it be named Krisel/Alexander Neighborhood Park or Twin Palms Mini Park. Assuming the land is still for sale, he asked if members liked the idea. If so, he said he would pursue outreach to the City and also the Prop J Commission to see if the City would be interested in considering this idea.

The reaction of the Board was positive. Larry was asked to collect more information and to report back to the Board. Based on further information, the Board will be in a better position to discuss whether this is a project the Board wants to endorse.

Neighborhood Beautification Initiative Idea

Larry Johnson said that several residents have approached him to inquire if TPNO would be able to help individual homeowners that need assistance in making repairs or cleanup of exteriors of their homes. This idea has come up several times over the past few years. One reason this idea has never been pursued is how we would decide who to help. What criteria would we use? Is this an appropriate use of our funds.

Larry suggested that we could consider a neighborhood beautification initiative. Funds could be set aside from time to time to be used to reduce eye sores in the neighborhood. To make it fair, we could have ideas submitted to an ad hoc committee. They would review written requests and recommend how funds would be used.

Board members raised a number of questions. The general consensus was that this was not a high priority for TPNO funds. While it was acknowledged that there may be homeowners that are not able to maintain their homes, this was not seen by several members as our responsibility. One suggestion was that we consider an annual cleanup day where we organize residents to help their neighbors.

Due to the time, it was decided to table this item for further discussion at the next meeting.

Next Meetings

Advisory Board

Saturday November 2nd or Saturday November 9th were suggested. Shannon Metcalf asked if we could consider having some meetings during the week. Jim High said that would not work for him due to his employment commitments. He also noted that he could not make either the 2nd or 9th. Current members in attendance were OK with these dates. It was agreed to ask Alan Beardslee if he could make either of these 2 midweek dates. If not, then we will set the date by email.

Fall General Membership Social Meeting

Saturday November 16th or 23rd were suggested as dates for the BBQ. Either was fine with the Board members in attendance. Larry Johnson said he would recontact the Fire Department and see if they have a preference. He said he would notify the Board once the final date is confirmed.

Adjournment Meeting adjourned at 2:20 pm.

APPROVED