Palo Verde Park

Neighborhood Association

<http://paloverdeparkneighborhood.com/>

**Minutes, January 16, 2019 regular meeting**

Present:

*Norma Coffman, President*

*Mike Southworth, Vice President*

*Andy Weiss, Treasurer*

*Rhonda Bodfield, Secretary*

*Ariel Gilbert-Knight, zone delegate, Old Pueblo and Thomas Bengford, alternate*

*Toni Lopez Krause, zone delegate, Manana Vista*

*Gina Gant, zone delegate, Miramonte*

**Regular order of business:** Meeting was gaveled to order at 6:32 p.m. and roll call was taken.

The code of conduct was shared and gratitude expressed to our hosts, Fountain of Life Church. Neighbors were asked to spend three minutes meeting someone they did not know.

**President’s/officer’s report:** Norma shared we are proceeding with planning for ParkFest and are collecting resources if anyone is interested in participating.

Norma shared she has been appointed to the City of Tucson Parks Commission as the Ward 2 representative.

Treasurer Andy Weiss was approved by the Council to open a new checking account with BBVA Compass Bank for PVPNA. In addition to the Treasurer, other Council members with authorized access on the account include the President (Norma Coffman); Vice President (Mike Southworth); Secretary (Rhonda Bodfield.) In accordance with our bylaws, expenditure of neighborhood association funds shall only be made with the signatures of at least: two voting members of the Neighborhood Council and the Treasurer.

**Minute approval:** September minutes were unanimously approved and it was Approval of sponsorships/donations: In-kind donations of equipment, materials for wellness event and holiday contest were unanimously accepted from Mike Southworth, Toni Lopez Krause and Rhonda Bodfield.

**Elections**: It was shared that the existing slate was running unopposed so a motion was accepted from the floor to approve the existing Council. Cathy Cromwell was nominated from the floor to serve as the Glen Heather zone delegate, with her husband Matt Russell serving as an alternate. The motion was unanimously approved.

Zone delegate positions are still open for Riviera and Yale Estates.

Guest presentation: Sgt Mitchell, a 13-year veteran with the Tucson Police Department shared crime statistics and trends.

Sgt. Mitchell reported that the No. 1 reason police reported to the area were for collisions - 188 times in the last six months. He surmised that is because Palo Verde Park Neighborhood is surrounded by major arterials on all sides.

There were a number of larceny reports, but largely because of the businesses located along Broadway.

Sgt. Mitchell also noted there were 86 calls for suspicious activity, which is an indication that neighbors are engaged and recognize when something is out of place or something doesn’t feel right.

A participant noted that trash is building up at and around Oxford Plaza now the Albertson’s store front is closed. It was suggested that neighbors reach out directly to the owner of the building to get that resolved.

There were 9 burglaries in a six month period, he reported. Burglaries typically occur weekdays between 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.. Typical burglars are often on a bike looking for small valuables to stuff in a backpack.

Sgt. Mitchell shared a few prevention tips:

* Always lock doors to your home and your vehicle.
* Don’t leave purses on your car seat or valuables sitting in plain view from a door or window.
* Trim vegetation to limit hiding places.
* Know your neighbors.
* If someone rings bell, at least acknowledge them because they’re often trying to determine if the home is occupied.
* Cameras and dogs can be deterrents
* Call 911 if something doesn’t feel right.

Call to the audience:

Norma fielded a question about donations: Palo Verde Park is set up to accept donations. Our priorities continue to be to purchase street signs. Street signs are $250 each, which includes two signs front to back and installation by the city. That can be hard for one family to purchase, but one suggestion might be to collect from several neighbors. Norma reported the Council will also work to establish a Go Fund Me type of account that would also allow neighbors to contribute toward a street sign.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.