

South Los Altos Neighborhood Association
Albuquerque, NM
<http://www.slananm.org>

Open Board Meeting
Tuesday Dec 8, 2015
Hawthorne Elementary School Library

Minutes

Meeting was opened by our President Eileen Jessen at 6pm.

Board Members Present: Eileen Jessen (President), Bill Reineche (Vice President), Allen Osborne (Treasurer), Jim Ahrend (secretary), Fred Rodriguez, Penelope Buschardt, Arthur Bazan, Philip Yeats

Also Present: Representative from APD Sandy Martinez-Pinot, NM House Representative Idalia Lechuga-Tena, City Councilor Pat Davis + Policy Analyst Sean Foran, plus 8 other residents for a **total of 20 persons present.**

Minutes were approved from our last meeting on 9/22/2015.

Report of President: State Senator Mimi Stewart was in Washington but sent remarks about the new \$13 million library & technical school to be built in International Zone. Police Appreciation Day rescheduled for 12/10 at Veteran's Memorial. New medians are in on Wyoming and look beautiful. New Park on Copper on target for ground breaking sometime in the next couple of months. Sentiments expressed about naming the new park in memory of officer Daniel Webster.

APD: Our city mourns the loss of Officer Daniel Webster who was shot and killed last month on the South East corner of our neighborhood. City was unified in tribute for a week or so, but more is needed to sow seeds of goodwill toward APD on an ongoing basis. Neighborhood watch program was discussed and encouraged; needed: block captains (1 hr/month commitment), initial meeting with APD beat officer, and \$45 per sign if those are desired. Importance of using 311 for all non-emergency matters stressed, and that even if they cannot directly help, they are helpful in directing your request to agency that can help. Sandy will follow up with Eileen regarding a speed trailer along Copper.

Pat Davis: Our new City Councilor to replace Rey Garduno introduced himself. Pat is a former police officer and D.A. office worker, and is friend/colleague with Mimi Stewart, Idalia Lechuga-Tena, and Commissioner Maggie Hart Stebbins, and has been involved with helping students get involved politically. Subjects discussed included new library (including the location to be where Caravan East is currently, the business innovation

aspects, bilingual emphasis, etc.), new medians, sidewalk issues (especially the narrowness along Copper and need to widen), the new APD substation going up on Louisiana, the New Park on Copper, and repeated emphasis of the use of 311.

Concerns were heard about sidewalk/bike path on Copper, and the working of cars on streets in our neighborhood. Repairing cars in streets is illegal, but more code changes may be needed to prevent chronic front-yard car repairs. Comment by Pat made about "bundling" multiple complaints to City---more likely to get attention/action.

Penelope Buschardt (Principal Hawthorne Elementary): Hawthorne has been designated as a "Community School"---meaning the school is the "hub" of a community. Albuquerque (APS) to host National Community School Conference this year for the first time ever. VOLUNTEERS needed for many activities at the school, including classrooms, clerk, technology lab, field trips, answering phones, custodial, etc. etc. etc. Background check required for volunteering takes about 10 days. ESL classes are coming up soon, and perhaps GED classes, and food pantry. Parking lot renovation to improve traffic flow and safety. While security is a concern, consensus was expressed about not making Hawthorne look "closed" or "prison-like" with things like barbed wire, window bars, too many fences, etc.---but rather create an inviting environment seeking to expand to broader community.

Idalia Lechuga-Tena: Our new State Representative introduced herself. Idalia grew up in the International District, graduated from Highland H.S., and speaks 4 languages. She begins her new term on a "listening" campaign with Neighborhood Associations to canvas their needs/desires for her to take back to the next state session which starts January 19, 2016. Idalia would like to help "re-brand" the image of the International District, including emphasis on diversity as a strong asset, and public safety for families and kids. As state session will no doubt focus on the driver license/passport issue, strong consensus was expressed by all to fix problem with two different types of licenses for citizens/non-citizens RATHER than requiring everyone to get a passport, which punishes citizens unfairly. Other concerns shared included a "half-way house" on General Stillwell, and various other boarded up buildings along Central.

Ana Beall (President Emeritus, not present): The APS Teacher's Congress is having its first gathering on December 10, 5-8pm. For more info contact Ana at 505-275-7955 or anabeall777@gmail.com.

Next meeting will be: Tuesday February 23, 2016 at 6pm. This will be our annual meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jim Ahrend, Secretary