

**Midtown: The Garden District
Regular Business Meeting
October 21, 2003
John B. Wright Elementary School Cafeteria**

President Brad Holland called the meeting to order at 7PM. Minutes were accepted. Brad's thumbnail sketch of our neighborhood showed us to be one mile square, the boundaries being Grant on the north, Speedway on the south, Alvernon on the west and Swan on the east.

Treasurer David Kha presented the monthly treasurer's report.

Cash on hand	Deposit	Expenses	Balance
1916.93	3374.92	3656.73	1635.12

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Wright School

Principal Lisa Langford was happy to report that Wright's School rating went up to iperformingl. Other news: parent conferences were the week of October 20; Friday, October 24 was the Halloween Festival; Brad's carpet sale fund raiser in the school cafeteria brought in \$250 for the school and \$250 for Midtown.

Library Learning Center

Annamarie Patti reported her concerns that there may be a problem relating to Midtown's unimpeded use of the learning center space, and if in fact will there be a learning center as was originally planned. Brad assured us that there is opportunity for a dialogue to continue on these issues. Meanwhile a motion was made and passed to send a letter to the Library Planning Commission confirming the original design plan that a neighborhood learning center be included in the library.

Code Talkers

This is a new committee formed to keep us apprised of the changing codes for building and land use. Neighbors, Peter and MaryYates-Hodshon will attend land use meetings and report to the association. Community involvement will help keep our neighborhood safe because changing codes may have an adverse effect on our neighborhood.

Bike Club

David Kha is selling clocks made from bike parts as a fund raiser for the club. Clocks cost \$25 each and they are wonderfully creative and beautiful.

Lego Club

The club received a \$10,000 grant. There is an advanced lego level which will be competing nationally in Lego technology and the advanced members will have two more meetings each month.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Natalie Olsen is the new community liaison representative from the Tucson Police Department. The neighborhood crime statistics for the period from 9/15 to 10/15 show the biggest trends in crime to be shoplifting (especially Circle K) and larceny from motor vehicles. Officer Olsen reminded us not to leave anything in plain view in our auto. She feels we have a

good partnership with the police because we watch our neighborhood and call when we suspect something. Sadly, because of budget cuts, neighborhood watch crime prevention units were eliminated. The police department is spread thin and has become reactive rather than proactive.

Sal Guerrero, along with a group of about 27 individuals from Shady Haven Trailer Park, is a new addition to our neighborhood association. This group evolved as a response to combat problems at his residence.

Sean Fitzpatrick spoke about the Voices Program. As Project Director he works with Tucson youth in a collaborative relationship with mentor journalists to publish community stories. Their magazine, 110 degrees, is a wonderful result of this effort. For more information you can reach Sean at 622-7458, email, seanftz@yahoo.com, or check out the web site, www.voicesinc.org

Nathan from Fit Center, at 5555 E. 5th St (NE corner of Craycroft and 5th), 571-7000, encouraged the use of the gym and offered each member at the meeting a guest pass. He pointed out that it is possible that you might be eligible for free membership if you have HealthNet or Secure Horizons supplemental insurance to Medicare.

Brad closed the meeting by taking a vote on whether or not our association should endorse a political candidate or political issues. After some discussion the vote was not to endorse.

REMINDERS

Bring something to give away at the sharing freecycle table and take back what is not taken.

Next meeting: Tuesday, November 18, 2003, 7 pm, pot luck 6:30

Ida Plotkin, Secretary