

OFNA ANNUAL MEETING

September 13, 2008
Dove of Peace Lutheran Church
Minutes

Registration and Coffee Hour Neighbors met for coffee, pastries and conversation. Supervisor Ann Day joined us to meet with residents on an informal basis. Wildflower seed packets, prepared by Jesse Wood and Richard Schwartz, were distributed to all attendees. Neighbors were also asked to sign in on the Neighborhood Watch attendance list.

Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 9:10am by president Camille Zachmeier.

Supervisor Day was introduced to the meeting by Carole DeAngeli. Ann spoke briefly about what a pleasure it is to work with our neighborhood and with OFNA. She emphasized that she is always available to hear our concerns and work on issues that affect us.

Camille gave an overview of the issues and accomplishments of the past year. She spoke about working on implementing CC&R's, the issue of manufactured housing in the foothills, an entry monument at First Avenue and the installation of the Mutt Mitts.

Flood Plain Maps Jay DeAngeli discussed the FEMA remapping of the flood plain and the effect on our neighborhood. He indicated the large maps available for all to view. The new maps will be approved in a couple of weeks. Those neighbors who are no longer in the flood plain will receive a letter which can be taken to their mortgage company. This will relieve them from paying flood insurance on their property. Contact Jay for more information on this project.

Treasurer's Report As Treasurer, Jay then presented the Treasurer's report. Cash on hand as of 8/31/08 - \$13,427. OFNA income is from dues and a few donations; major expenses include the picnic, annual meeting, newsletter and neighborhood beautification projects. Copies of the report are available on the back table.

Membership Report – Jay DeAngeli reported that there are 260 homes covered by the association. Last year membership reached approximately 120. As of 9/12/08 there are about 95 members. Jay indicated that, as Hospitality Chairman, Carole attempts to meet all new neighbors, taking them a package of information as well as one of Bill Broyles' books as a gift.

Audit Karl Oxnam presented the audit report. On 9/10/08 the audit committee – Karl and Becky Spencer – met to review the Association treasurer's books. The committee found the books in good order, including the checkbook, reconciliation reports, and all receipts.

Water Harvesting Carole DeAngeli introduced guest speaker Kathryn Hahne, of the Pima County Agricultural Extension's Smart Scape program who presented a program on water harvesting. Water harvesting has been around for thousands of years. There are basically two types: Active water collection using cisterns, or Passive harvesting – creating earthworks and shallow basins to direct water

for immediate use, not storage. The purpose of harvesting water is not for drinking or household use, but for landscape maintenance. Increasing your use of water harvesting can reduce your dependence on municipal water. Kathryn spoke of stormwater remediation, (using the runoff) and bio-retention to filter water. Water can be stored in cisterns – which can be anything from large galvanized pipes to 50-gallon barrels. Using the principles of xeriscape and thoughtful, intelligent water harvesting can make you independent of municipal water for landscape purposes. For the best success, start small and watch where water flows. Start with downspouts from your roof, directing water to a cistern or to high-water-use plants. Experience is best teacher. Classes at the extension service are free thanks to sponsors. Brochures are available on the back table.

Wildlife Certification Jesse Wood presented information on the Wildlife Certification Program of the National Wildlife Federation. As with many of us, Jesse chose to live in Oracle Foothills because of the preponderance of native plants and wildlife. He has become concerned with the trend of declining number of birds and bird species as reported by the Audubon Society Christmas Bird Count which centers on River and Oracle. Jesse feels that if more people provide food and habitat for birds, the decline can be reversed. NWF provides guidelines and emphasizes a holistic approach. The certification focuses on providing native plants for seed, nectar, cover, as well as the horticulture aspects of gardening such as creating rain gardens (a garden solely dependent on rainwater). The NWF back yard certification program is nationwide. Their 2nd program includes certifying entire neighborhoods if a certain percentage of yards in the area are certified. One of few in such certifications in the nation is right here in Tucson - Sweetwater in Foothills, which got local and national coverage. Jesse indicated that certifying an entire neighborhood would not be easy, but quoted Thomas Edison –“Lots of people miss opportunity because it comes dressed in overalls and looks like work.” If you are interested in individual or neighborhood certification, get in touch with Jesse. Questions from the audience: 1) What does certification mean for a neighborhood? Jesse suggested that we start with individuals. It entails meeting 5 criteria – food, water, shelter, cover for raising young and sustainable gardening. You apply for certification, pay a \$15 fee and receive a nice plaque. For a neighborhood – 15-20% of the homes must be certified in addition to two public areas and public outreach. 2) What species have declined and how is it determined? A one-day sample is taken annually by volunteers, counting the number of birds per species sighted.

Website Jesse Wood also spoke on the OFNA Website. Although it was functional in past, it is currently dormant. The future is up to the membership. Jesse and Richard Schwartz are looking for volunteers to work on one page. Travis Wheeler will oversee and do instruction. Suggestions for pages: moms; board of directors; newsletter, both current and archived; calendar of events; Reaters, recommendations; photos; Neighborhood Watch; picnic. We pay \$10 per year to maintain the domain name. Input is needed from neighbors. Contact Jesse or Richard.

Secure Mailboxes Richard Schwartz introduced Al and Betty Davis who sell secure mailboxes. Al stated that Arizona is number 1 in the country in identity theft. We are most vulnerable where mail is delivered. Their mailbox is a passive security device, requiring no electricity. Mail drops to bottom and is retrieved through a locking door. Cost is approximately \$515. These units are extremely durable, made

of steel and weighing over 50lbs. Their company is local, located in Sahuarita. Delivery takes 8-10 days. Models and brochures were available.

CCR'S Richard Schwartz covered the issue of CCR's. The ones currently being prepared are designed to address one issue only – manufactured homes. These restrictions would not affect anything currently in existence. The Board is working on an exception for storage units, 144 sq. ft or less. The Board will need volunteer help for getting signatures. Each signature must be notarized. The Board will probably divide names and get neighbors together to sign. Enforcement will be by legal action. These CCR's will protect your property on neighborhood basis. The Genematas family attorney has been providing legal service on this project at no charge to OFNA.

Manufactured Housing Carole DeAngeli discussed her work on the Pima County Manufactured and Affordable Housing Strategy Committee. The Committee consists of representatives from all Supervisor districts as well as stakeholders from manufactured housing, neighborhoods, affordable housing non-profits, and Pima County planning staff. Any recommendations made by the committee must be approved by Planning and Zoning and then the Board of Supervisors. The committee has eliminated CR-1 zoning from consideration for manufactured housing and is now considering options for smaller properties in CR-3, 4 & 5. The first areas selected will most likely not be in Ann Day's district. Carole will continue to keep us updated on the progress of the committee. She emphasized that there is no guarantee that manufactured housing will not be legalized in our zoning in the future.

Neighborhood Watch Carolyn Hoenig introduced herself as the Neighborhood Watch Area Leader and asked to be contacted by anyone with questions, concerns or crime reports, 887-3815. She will answer questions, follow up on burglary cases, determine who to contact and then follow the disposition of cases. She emphasized the importance of letting neighbors know when you're away, and of also watching their house in return.

Neighborhood Picnic As this year's picnic coordinator, Camille, announced the date, welcomed all neighbors to come and asked for volunteers. This year the picnic will be on Saturday, October 25th, in the wash next to 220 E. Yvon Drive.

Board of Directors Election Jay DeAngeli, this year's nominations chairman, introduced the current board of directors, and then spoke of those who would be retiring. Sig Eisner, the longest serving director, Barbara Schuessler, Greg Smith, Gene Isaac and Travis Wheeler will all be leaving the board this year. The slate for '09 includes three new candidates – George Grimm, Angelo Dellacona and Marianne Richardson. Jay then called for nominations from floor. Don DeYoung volunteered to serve. Don lives on Canyon View Drive and is a recently retired veterinarian. It was moved and seconded that the slate be accepted. The voice vote in favor was unanimous. The new Board of Directors for 2009 (which begins as of this date) will be: Jay DeAngeli, Angelo Dellacona, Don DeYoung, George Grimm, Sharon Laird, Scott Odom, Karl Oxnam, Carolyn Redmore, Marianne Richardson, Tom Scarborough, Richard Schwartz, Becky Spencer, Jesse Wood and Camille Zachmeier.

Comments from neighbors Diane Foray said she would like to recognize Carole DeAngeli for all her contributions, and especially the weekly e-mails.

Drawing: The raffle prizes were won by: Karl Oxnam - \$100 at Vivace ; Phil Williams \$40 at Metro Restaurants; Angelo Dellacona - \$40 at Metro; Jesse Wood -\$40 at Metro; Leo Roop – 2 ASDM passes + Bill Broyles’ book; Marge Pellegrino – 2 ASDM passes + Bill Broyles’ book; MaryEllen Reynolds -Tohono Chul Membership; Jay DeAngeli – Bob Zachmeier’ book. Carole said that raffle prizes are either donated outright or are provided at a greatly reduced price.

Carolyn Redmore offered thanks to Camille for her term as president.

The Meeting was adjourned at 11:20am

Carole DeAngeli, Recording Secretary