

BANA General Meeting 4/24/2017

**Bel Air Neighborhood Association
General meeting, Vortex Theater
April 24, 2017 7:00 PM**

Board members present- Amy Henne, Barb Johnson, Jeanene Witt, Hart Lewis, Kelly Price, Rose Nava
Board members absent- Chris Trujillo

Prior to the meeting, a question and answer session was held. Topics included: neighborhood watch, increasing vandalism of homes and vehicles, the importance of knowing our neighbors, cleaning up the neighborhood, and business sponsorships.

Meeting called to order at 7:03

Secretary's report- it was moved and seconded that the minutes of the last general meeting held 4/18/16 be accepted. All agreed.

Treasurer report – Amy passed out copies of the budget for this year. Projected expenses are \$1450 so need 150 members to cover this. We have already received 41 memberships and 14 of these are new members. We have a contingency fund of about \$1200 and it is planned that we will keep that balance and fund expenses year to year. A member suggested that we include a list of what could be done by BANA if we had more dues-paying members.

President's report- The calendar of BANA events is similar to last year's calendar. Clean-up days continue to be the third Saturday of the month from May- Sept. The date for newsletter publishing, assembling and delivering have been set. The major change is the neighborhood picnic has been moved to September 23 due to the heat at last July's event. The Board meetings are held at Erna Fergusson library and the newsletter assembly is at Christian Fellowship Church.

All of the board members present introduced themselves and gave their reasons for their participation. Diane Gibson, our city councilor, spoke about issues we have been addressing. The 311 signs for the medians at San Mateo and Menaul and at Carlisle and Menaul are in place. It is hoped that these will discourage panhandling by limiting the number of drivers handing out cash. We will not be installing a sharps container at the park. If there are a number of used syringes, it is better to call 311 as it is dangerous to handle these. These issues are tied to Opioid addiction and the city has established a HOPE team to try to limit the numbers. Members were invited to ask questions. A neighbor asked about the halfway house that has opened on Montclair. Barb is working with the city to make sure they are in compliance. Another neighbor asked about the tent city at park near San Mateo and I-40. Diane said the city is aware of it and several agencies as well as APD have been working on it.

Committee reports

Park watch and Richmond Business Organization - Barb reports that the issues from last year's park

problems have not carried into this year so far. The numbers of homeless and use of drugs/alcohol have been less. She reminded us that we all need to monitor the park activity and call 311 or 911 as appropriate. It is hoped that the 311 median signs will discourage the gathering in the park. Amy mentioned that she has been working with Walgreens corporate office to clean up the Walgreens on Menaul. There is trash and graffiti in front of the store and more security has been suggested. Blakes has organized a Richmond business watch to try to reduce the vandalism in that area. They are posting signs and trying to make some areas parking by permit only to reduce the number of campers and vagrants. A representative from McKinley neighborhood association informed us that Walmart is changing their camping policy for their parking lot by limiting the number of days a vehicle can stay and recording the license plates. It was also mentioned that Walmart now has carts that lock up when they are taken beyond the store's parking lot. This should reduce the number of carts found in the neighborhood.

Old Business- none

New Business – Elections

The terms of Amy Henne, Barb Johnson, Hart Lewis, and Jeanene Witt are up. All four are willing to serve another term. It was moved, seconded and approved that these board member continue to serve another term from 2017 to 2019. Rose Nava and Kelly Price will serve as interim board members and their terms as well as Chris Trujillo's will be up in 2018.

Motion to adjourn at 8:00, seconded, and all members agreed.

Respectfully submitted

Jeanene Witt, BANA secretary