

## Annual General Meeting Minutes

Meeting held April 30, 2023, at the enchantment dancing studio, 337 San Pedro Dr. NE

### In attendance:

Eric Sutton; Board Member, Katherine Turner; Board Member & Past President, Paul Sanchez, Vice President & Past President, James Farmin; Board Member & Past President, Kathleen Jackson; Board Member, Hilary Malu; Board Member, Anita Shenkman; Board Member, Mary Ryland; Founding member of FWNA, Roger Flegel; Past Treasurer, Dorothy Kerwin; Parks Committee Chair & Past President, Tim Newel; Past President, Richard Wood; Past President; Steven Easton, Joyce Stephens, Mathew Maddox, Laura Bathke, Paula Donahue, Nick Hamill

1. Call to Order @ 1:00 pm and Quorum Established with seven of twelve board members in attendance.
2. No motion to approve agenda or past board minutes for 5/16/21 were proposed. Past minutes will need to be approved at the next meeting and "Draft" removed from document on <https://abqfairwest.org/agendas-and-minutes/>.
3. President's Report by Sharon Lawson
  - a. Eric Sutton reported that Ms. Lawson was recovering from a health issue and could not attend the meeting. He gave thanks to the current president, Sharon Lawson, for all her dedicated work during her 2022-2023 term including organizing the Scaring Supper, writing the grant that provided resources for the Fox Park renovations, and saving Scary Supper from being canceled in October 2022.
4. Vice President's Report by Paul Sanchez
  - a. Mr. Sanchez had nothing to report.
5. Treasure's Report by Colton Dearn— Read by Eric Sutton.
  - a. FWNA has \$1,188.75 in assets and no debts.
  - b. Discussion: Katherine Turner reminded the board that they do have debts including money needed to pay for our online presence, our dues to the D6 committee, and our annual contribution to APD. These do not include money needed for our annual event: Ice cream social, Neighborhood Night Out, and Scary Supper.
  - c. The Treasurer report also stated that Colton Dean has scanned all the historic treasurers' records. Where they will be stored was not discussed.
6. Secretary's Report by Nick Roehrmann
  - a. Mr. Roehrmann could not attend due to work demands. He did not have anything to report and asked Katherine Turner to take note for this meeting that he would write up and submit to the committee.
7. Election of Officers
  - a. A motion to elect officers was proposed by Katherine Turner and seconded by Kathleen Jackson.
  - b. Discussion:
    - i. Eric Sutton was nominated by Katherine Turner to be president.

- ii. Katherine Turner was nominated to by Vice President by Eric Sutton
- iii. A vote was taken by all FWNA members and passed unanimously.
- iv. Nick Roehrmann and Colton Dean will serve their second term as secretary and treasurer in 2023-2024 as defined by the current FWNA bylaws.

8. Election of 6 (six) end of term Board seats

- a. Seats to be voted on included:
  - i. Hillary Malu
  - ii. Shawna Araiza
  - iii. Katherine Turner – Since she will now take a seat as Vice President.
  - iv. Nick Roehrmann
  - v. Paul Sanchez – Since he is stepping down as Vice President.
  - vi. Eric Sutton – Since he will now take a seat as President.
  - vii. Nick Hamill – Taking the seat vacated by Sharon Lawson
- b. All current board members nominated themselves to continue in their board seat. Sharon Lawson was nominated to take Katherine Turner's seat and Steven Eaton, 800 block of Valencia.
- c. Move to Election proposed by Kathleen Jackson and Seconded by Katherine Turner
  - i. A vote was taken by all FWNA members and passed unanimously.

9. Eric Sutton proposed a motion to vote that he be ratified as the interim president from April 1<sup>st</sup>, when Sharon Lawson had to step down, for health reasons to the time of this meeting, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023. It was seconded by Paul Sanchez.

- a. Call for discussion resulted in no discussion.
- b. A vote was taken by all FWNA members and passed unanimously.

10. Dorothy Kerwin presented an update on Marion Fox Park renovations.

- a. Will Moses was supposed to present information on the creation of the but he was not hired by the city because of a conflict of interest.
- b. Ms. Kerwin said that the last time the park was renovated was 25 years ago and it needed to be updated.
- c. She said that the catalyst for the capital outlay money from the state came from a request by past president, Katherine Turner, to the Parks Department for a three-sided Kiosk in the park to give two sides of information, one for walkers and one for drivers and a third side for history of the neighborhood and its FWNA representatives. The parks department suggested writing a request for capital outlay in 2022. Sharon Lawson, with help from Sean Forman, Policy Analyst for City Councilor Pat Davis; Laurie Firor, ABQ Parks & Recreation division manager in the department of PRD strategic Planning & Design; and David J. Simon, Director of ABQ Parks and Recreation.
- d. City moving forward and park planning has been enacted.
- e. During the last meeting of the park committee members expressed a desire to move forward without a planning document because of the cost and the limited funds available to do the renovation. But the parks department insisted that they need a consultant group to create a plan.
- f. During the last state legislative session, Fox park was awarded more money to cover the cost of a plan.

- g. The city hired a consultant group and once the plan is ready it will be present to the committee for approval.
- h. The things the committee said they wanted included:
  - i. New garbage cans - these should be coming soon and will not come out of the renovation budget. It may be Easter before we see the new garbage cans.
  - ii. Sidewalk repairs – these are stated to be done and will not come out of the renovation budget. The city responded to a 311-reporting campaign started at the last park meeting. Members called and used the APP to report dangerous sidewalk issues.
  - iii. Redo the playground equipment to include shade but keep high swing set.
  - iv. Fix or upgrade picnic tables or benches.
  - v. Landscaping
  - vi. Tennis court surfacing
  - vii. Basketball court
  - viii. Kiosk
  - ix. Lighting -- a discussion ensued. One side talked about the problems with lighting bringing undesirable activity and shine into neighbors' homes disrupting their homelife. The other side suggested that lighting may deter undesirable activity and allow for safety for late night dog walker and increased aesthetics. Rich Wood suggested that certain lighting can kill the trees. This is a highly charged subject with opinions on both sides.
  - x. Eric Sutton reminded the parks committee about a request for sidewalks on all sides of the park but said that ADA requirements only require one side to be compliant. Dorothy said that the concern is that the more sidewalk the more upheaval to repair. She suggested that there may be other solutions for the walk around path that are less susceptible to tree root destruction.
  - xi. Dorothy said there are no recommendations yet and anyone who want to weight in is encouraged to contact the committee to do so.
  - xii. Paul Sanchez asked how much money the renovation has to spend and how we access those funds. Dorothy said we have \$150,000; \$75,000 from state outlay in and \$75,00 matching funds from the city (Pat Davis) from 2022 and then another \$150,00 from state outlay in 2023. Thus \$300,000. We have a couple of years to use it before we lose it.
  - xiii. Our Parks & Rec consultant is Veronica Blunt
  - xiv. Paul Sanchez asked when the next meeting would be held. Dorothy Kerwin said she would call the next meeting when something happens. People interested in joining the committee were asked to star their name on the sign in sheet and their names would be given to Dorothy to contact them.
- i. Park discussion led to discussion about the park sign.
  - i. The members of FWNA applauded Rick Huff for the excellent work he has done with the information sign over the years.
  - ii. Rick requested more letters for the sign. Paul Sanchez said he would donate letters and give them to Rick.
- j. National Night Out

- i. There was a discussion about who would organize our next event. Katherine Turner asked if anyone would be interested it being the new Event Coordinator, a position held by our past president Sharon Lawson and our board member Hillary Malu. Neither of them is able to continue in this role. Tim Newell, past president, raised his hand to fill the vacancy.
- ii. Katherine Turner was asked to report on the Revitalize San Pedro Partnership
  1. The Revitalize San Pedro Partnership, RSPP, is an over 18-year effort by Mile High, Mark Twain, Alvarado, and Fair west neighborhood associations working together to improve the San Pedro corridor from Indian School to Central. It was awarded an Urban Neighborhood Designation by New Mexico Main Street in 2021. With the help of their Main street consultant, Amy Barnhart, they are currently excited to be considered for an Accelerator designation that may lead to a nationally recognized Main Street designation. The Accelerator designation will come with many additional resources to help them achieve the Main Street designation goal. City Counselors Tammy Feibelkorn, D7 and Pat Davis, D6 support these efforts. They have succeeded in street calming, lighting, signage and will soon have sidewalk widening north of Lomas. Efforts south of Lomas have been slow because they are still in the planning phase, paid for by Pat Davis' office. Successes have also included quarterly business meeting at the Navajo Elks Lodge, 525 San Pedro Drive last held Feb 15, 2023. These meetings have speakers to address the concerns voiced by businesses along the corridor. In addition, they received a grant from the NMRA Resilient Communities in 2022– they have Pop Up furnishings to lend to businesses or organizations who want to have an outdoor event. The first of these events was held on November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023.
- iii. Katherine Turner was asked to report on Lomas Community Vision
  1. Lomas Community Vision, LCV, is a newly formed group that seeks to revitalize the Lomas corridor from Montclaire to San Pedro. They have been fortunate to receive support from the Assistance League of Albuquerque. They are interested in a Main Street designation. They had a very successful first meeting for stakeholders along the corridor at the Assistance League of Albuquerque with speakers addressing Crime Prevention through Environmental Design. Nick Roehrmann is also on this board.

11. Bylaws revision committee

- a. Eric Sutton addressed changes that the ABQ Office Neighborhood Coordination require FWNA make to their bylaws to stay in compliance as a recognized neighborhood association. The Bylaws committee consists of Mr. Sutton, Colton Dean, and Anita Shenkman. Nick Roehrmann and Katherine Turner are also interested in joining this committee if need be. The changes are due ASAP.

12. Zoning

- a. Eric Sutton led a conversation on new zoning laws that will increase housing in ABQ by allowing people to build casitas on their property. He stated that we have a 30,000 residential shortage. He said that studies show that this new law, if passed by the city council on May 15th, will address this need, and encourage growth. "I think that it is great and welcome the zoning change." He encourages FWNA members to attend the hearings. The change may also bring taller buildings. One neighbor suggested that this could jeopardize neighbors' views. Mathew Maddox stated that he supports the increase in housing stock. Laura Bathke also voiced her support. Paul Sanchez asked how they are vetting the builders who will build these casitas and higher buildings. Eric said that MFA and Federal agencies will give small loans to those interested in building and they are controlled. Dorothy Kerwin said that she was concerned that they will not build affordable housing. Eric said that there are elements that address affordable housing. Paula Donahue voiced concern about low-income single efficiency apartments impact on the neighborhood. Paul Sanchez voiced concern about out of state developers. Greg cautioned about casitas being rented for short terms like Airbnb.
- b. Katherine moved to create a building and zoning committee. Anita Shenkman seconded. A vote was taken by all FWNA members and passed unanimously.
- c. Eric Sutton agreed to chair the new committee. Mathew Maddox and Laura Bathkey agreed to be on the new committee.

13. Joyce Stephens brought up a discussion about nuisance properties.

- a. Joyce questions what could be done about neighbors who have trash in their yards. Eric said that he also has an issue with nuance properties in the neighborhood, namely vacancies. He has reported to 311 with no results. One neighbor brought up junk cars on neighbors' properties. 301 Laguayra was brought up as a problem. The neighbor tried to contact the owner. Anita Shenkman said tracing down owners can be difficult. Dorothy Kerwin asked about the best route to take to address these issues. Katherine Turner suggested that she could call Jeromy Keiser, a friend to FWNA and the newly appointed director of property and zoning enforcement. Mary Ryland told terrible stories of her property being broken into several times and getting no help from APD. The new Albuquerque Community Resources department was suggested to help with encampments but they can only help people who consent to help. Mary Ryland gave the committee a copy of a "YOU CANNOT CAMP HERE" sign put up at 125 Valencia NE by the city with a tracking number but no department listing or contact information. Katherine Turner said she would investigate who posted it. Rich Wood said Martin Heinrich told him that zoning had implemented a restriction from any more car dealerships on Lomas.
- b. A motion to adjourn was proposed by Eric Sutton. Anita Shenkman seconded it. A vote was taken by all FWNA members and passed unanimously. (one neighbor opposed in jest.)