

Minutes from Fair West Neighborhood Association Board Member Meeting

Friday, March 27th, 2026 at 6:30pm at Enchantment Dancing, 337 San Pedro NE

Board members present included Nick Hamill - President, Barbara Hroza - Vice President, Hillary Malu - Secretary, Joseline Loera, Emily Stafford, Jim Farmer.

Agenda/goals:

1. 1hr to 1.25 hr meeting
2. Why be a board member? Set expectations and intentions for the next year
3. Discuss reducing board size
4. Annual Meeting Elections. Officers term of one year. Board members 2 years, alternating
5. Identify future re-election interest: Pres, VP, treasurer, secretary
6. Structured general meetings
7. Board members only meetings
8. Committees - which ones exist? who leads each? what support do they need?
 - a) Events / Membership / Funds
 - b) Fairgrounds
 - c) Neighborhood Cleanup
 - d) Public safety
 - e) Property & Zoning
 - f) Marion L. Fox Park
 - g) 501-3C, grants, funding
 - h) Neighborhood history

VP Barbara opened the meeting at 6:30 pm.

Agenda item 1 - discussion occurred, and all agreed to keep the general meetings to 1 hour. Attendees could engage in informal discussion before and after the meeting.

Agenda items 2, 3, 4 - Board elections are due at April's Annual meeting. Nick, Barbara, and Steve's 2-year board positions are up. Discussion occurred regarding reducing the number of board members, possibly from 11 to 9. It was noted that there are a few board members who rarely attend meetings, nor engage in projects and activities. Some board members felt that when board members don't attend meetings regularly, it can be demoralizing for those members that do. It was suggested that it would be appropriate to ask those members to share their current level of interest and availability; and to request they either step-up to board involvement, or step-down, making space for potential board members who do have interest and availability. Discussion occurred re: the pros and cons. Hillary agreed to reach out to each board member not present, regarding the above, and to report back to the board. Then the board can vote on board member size. Potential new members could affect the board size as well.

Annual Meeting - Board members agreed to have the annual meeting and potluck on Thursday April 23rd, at 6:00, with Meeting from 6:15 - 7:30. Nick agreed to research a venue. All agreed a potluck draws neighbors, builds community, with potential new members' involvement. Barb and Joseline will plan the meeting, and Joseline will reach out to others who may be willing to assist.

Agenda item 5 - Board members present shared their current interests, see Addendum below.

Agenda item 6 - discussion occurred regarding bringing more structure to monthly meetings. It seems they have become somewhat unstructured, and overly long, with discussions going off topic and long-winded. We agreed on the various suggestions below, and most importantly, to keep discussion to agenda item topics during the meeting. Attendees could bring up other issues of interest during a New Items period at the end of the meeting, to be added to the next general meeting's agenda. The attendee would have 3-4 minutes to present their item. Another suggestion was to ask neighbors to write their New Item on paper and submit it just before the meeting. A further suggestion was to state that Doors Open at 6:00 for Set-up and Visiting, and Meeting starts at 6:15. And another was that a New Item could be submitted for the Agenda well in advance of the meeting. All members present agreed that a strong meeting facilitator was essential, keeping speakers on point and within time limits. We agreed that the role could be rotated, and that this structure is for the benefit of the whole group.

Agenda item 7 - discussed and agreed to have Board Members only meeting every quarter. No general meeting would occur that month. It could be held via Zoom. Dates TBD.

Discussion occurred whether to change meeting night from Friday. Wednesday was proposed, though another venue would need to be found. All members present agreed weeknights only, no weekends. It was suggested we alternate nights every other month, this would depend on venue availability. Our current meeting venue, Enchantment Dancing Studio, is available Mon, Fri, Sat, Sun evenings.. Nick and Hillary agreed to research another venue for possible Tues, Wed, or Thurs evening options.

Next meeting Agenda for the Annual Meeting
Board Elections
Fairground development update
Outreach update
Upcoming events

The meeting adjourned at approx. 8:00 pm.

Minutes submitted by Hillary Malu, FWNA Secretary