

2010 UHA Annual Meeting
January 31, 2010
Outpost Performance Space

Attendees: 20 neighborhood residents, Councilor Ike Benton, Joyce Pullen (mayor's office), Tom Guralnick (Outpost Performance Space), Maggie Seeley (facilitator)

1. Everyone introduced themselves.

2. Vice President Sherry Smith gave a summary of 2009 activities.

* Lead & Coal – UHA participates in a task force that includes Nob Hill, Silver Hill, Sycamore, and Huning Highland neighborhood associations that meets approximately monthly to provide input into the Lead/Coal renovation. Construction should begin in the spring. Joseph Aquirre can provide more details.

Trees – 24 trees were trimmed or removed on 21 properties in the spring and Trees planted on 13 properties in June, from state money obtained by Rep. Gail Chasey and administered by the City of Albuquerque. Remaining funds could plant 25 to 30 or more trees.

Neighborhood Clean Up – June 6 with support of City Solid Waste Department.

Crime and Safe Cities – trying to improve San Mateo/Central area

324 Vassar – discussions with property owner, burned out shell now demolished

Gilchrist House – Nothing happened, Build New Mexico blames various roadblocks

Block Party – Held on September 12, with about 150 people attending. Parking permits were issued, food and drink, music, and informational exhibits were provided.

Newsletters – More than 800 distributed door to door

Website – www.uhanm.org - people are encouraged to use it to find out what's going on and to pass on information to the Board

UNM Master Plan - UHA board met with UNM staff at July 7 board meeting, made written comments, attended public meetings, and efforts to stop parking garage by Spruce Park Neighborhood. Participating in new student housing planning..

3. Councilor Ike Benton discussed various issues and answered questions.

UNM relations not so cooperative with the City and neighborhoods; he's working on it. He has a bill tomorrow at the Council to set up a transportation planning study, involving the city, UNM and CNM. City Council has contract traffic engineering consultants.

The Lead-Coal project is moving forward with \$25 million from the state and \$6 million from City of Albuquerque, which will be a big improvement.

He's supporting bicycling, including on Lead, Coal, and Silver. He's trying to make bicycle improvements at Silver and University. He'll look into the suggestion for better signage on Silver.

Speed bumps aren't likely way to reduce/slow traffic.

Gilchrist house – new administration will have to look at. City landmark status was discussed. He'd encourage UNM Sustainability Program to look at the property. If there are intruders or other problems, people should call the police so that there is a record of calls for service. He doesn't think it will work for Workforce housing.

Traffic lights were discussed, especially lack of light at Columbia and Coal. He suggests that there be a neighborhood task force to look at traffic issues and talk with Traffic Engineering. He encourages those interested in buying houses to talk with Sawmill or La Mesa about their affordable housing projects.

Kara Shair-Rosenfield, is his assistant: 768-3186 or karasr@cabq.gov

4. What is our vision/goals for 2010? Four subgroups met and made recommendations:

Improve safety – Jennifer Simpson. Concern about vagrants, need more police patrols in alleys.

Improve enforcement against speeding on Lead and Coal

Gilchrist house – Ethan Brown – more communication with Mr. Trump, meeting with city officials, consider assessment district to acquire/renovate the property

Silver traffic and signage – Jimmy Harper – contact city about better signage, enforcement, education about the speed limit.

Homeownership – Sherry Smith – will talk with Kara and get information about what Sawmill and La Mesa are doing.

Two other activities will be Lead and Coal and new UNM student housing on the central campus.