

May 4, 2016

El Gheko neighborhood meeting

Called to order at 6:15 p.m. in the Hudlow School cafeteria

Attending: Lyle Steffe, Debra Barnes (Hudlow), June and Clem Chase, Officer Sandy Perez (TPD), Amanda Taylor (Tucson Police Foundation), Sam Turner, Jonetta Trued, Rich Krale, Jerry and Rita Tulino, Virginia Salzman, Pat Dunham, Kathy Cowgill, Al ?, Judy Hagler, Betsy Smullen

Debra Barnes spoke on behalf of Hudlow. They have decided that they would place a community garden in the kindergarten courtyard and hope to involve the neighborhood in helping to develop it, work with the students, etc. Rita Tulino noted that there has to be 100% agreement for the funds to be given to Hudlow. Monies should be in the \$15000 to \$18000 range. The Green Hills people are working on getting that done.

Amanda Taylor invited everyone to get involved with the work of the Tucson Police Foundation. All proceeds are used to support the Tucson Police Department. The next event is "Thank a Cop" on May 19th.

Officer Perez noted that new detectives and patrolmen are coming on line and that both burglaries and car thefts are down.

The Association is considering making El Gheko t-shirts. The Hudlow design was shown as a sample. We would have to place a minimum order.

We would like to post "bandit" signs will have the website and neighborhood information on them.

Tom asked about home security company who wanted to work through the El Gheko Association. Rita Tulino noted that if we work with one business we will get more businesses asking to work with us. Pat Dunham noted that if we did this they could use our name for their promotion. No one expressed any interest in working with a business.

It was recommended that we might create a neighborhood community service event. For example, to find a resident in need of help and provide cleanup and repair for the house and yard. Officer Perez noted that we could ask Target if they would send people to help as they do community service. There may be residents who need help with electric bills, etc. and it would be nice to have the means of knowing who needs assistance. It was noted that old cars are parked at various residences and are a code violation. Weed growth and lack of maintenance is also problematic. The feeling was that we should address problems so they don't increase. Officer Perez said that it might be possible for new police personnel involved in field training might be able to note code violations and also help find neighbors in need. She emphasized that reporting code violations is anonymous.

Rita asked about the city was going to do the traffic count at Rosewood. Tom said that the City will begin working with the survey data sometime this month.

The status of the Kingston Knolls pool was raised and no one had much information. Rita volunteered to see if she can find out more.

Tom suggested that we include neighborhood across Kolb on some issues. We could invite them to attend our meetings and work together on common issues.

Officer reported BB gun shooting of car windows in the neighborhood. Enough cars were damaged in our neighborhood plus more in the Avenida Ricardo Small so this received news coverage. It was also discussed that we need to make our neighbors more aware of possible scams like phony IRS phone calls. Officer Perez reported on a scam where men posing as TEP employees "inspected" homes and then one person would draw the homeowner away from house to look at something and second person would steal things.

Sam talked to t-shirt man will talk to T-shirt company and gather more information, but believes the minimum order would be 20.

Prizes drawn.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:20.

Special thanks to Officer Perez for remaining after the meeting to discuss individual concerns and answer questions.