



Fisher Park Neighborhood Association

April 21, 2021 General Meeting Minutes

Attended

- Board Members: Nancy Collins, Rick Collins, Ryan Murphy, Marcela, Salomeh, Paul Sanford, Les Hall
 - Residents: Todd, Bob, Charles Walter, John Gauthier, Maria Martinez, Barbara Russell, Petra, AnnabelleLiz, Randy Muster, Ryan Martin, Barbara Russell, Carla Martinez, Erica Moir, Jason, Kyle Kingston, Randy Musser, Carol Cossaboom
 - City Staff: Scott Kutner, Margarita, Alyssa Ventura, Sgt. Juan Montiel, Corporal Danny Carrillo, Captain Horner, Daisy Perez, Mayor Sarmiento, Michelle Micallef, William Galvez, Nibal Saba
 - Unknown: 7143631231 (Chief Henry), 6577348331
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Planned Agenda

- Welcome
 - Treasurer's report
 - NEW! Mayor Sarmiento joins to present Santa Ana's plans to use the funds from the recently passed American Rescue Act Plan.
 - Staff from the City of Santa Ana will talk about the brand-new Neighborhood Block Beautification Contest which recently began and ends on May 21
 - Landscape architect, Ryan Martin from Jonquil Road, will join to share tips and tricks for getting your garden or yard ready for spring
 - Learn more about the following planned pandemic-friendly neighborhood activities:
 - May 5 – Neighborhood Watch Meeting – Virtual!
 - May 15 – Floral Park Movie Night
 - June 12 – Crop Exchange, first in a new series
 - June 19 – Open Garden Day
 - Paul Sanford from River Lane will update everyone about ongoing utility work by AT&T in the neighborhood
 - Open discussion
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Call to Order

- The meeting began at 7:02 pm

Special guests - Mayor Sarmiento, Nabil Saba, Michelle Michalief, William Galvez, Daisy Perez

No review of quarterly meeting minutes, please look on the website for those from January.

Treasurer's Report

- \$5173.16 at the moment

Mayor's Presentation

- \$142-\$143 million being received by Santa Ana.
- We're very pleased because we can not only build back better, but stronger and more thoughtfully and intelligently. And hopefully make a difference.
- Will be focused on COVID-19 recovery, assistance programs, public health & safety, critical infrastructure and city fiscal health.
- Haven't received any guidelines from the federal government but hope to receive those soon.
- Have gone to about 10-12 NA meetings so far, just to get their feedback
- Send feedback to:
 - santa-ana.org/revive-santa-ana
 - revive@santa-ana-org
 - Text 714-805-8392
- There is no deadline to receive comments but the sooner, the better.
- We really do want to help address those who were most impacted by the pandemic.

NBBC - Nabil Saba, Director of Public Works Agency

- Wanted to find ways to build community within the neighborhoods.
- This is the first year for this contest.
- Neighbors should coordinate and designate a block coordinator for doing beautification of their properties.
- Before and after pictures will be required for each property as part of the submission.
- The contest begins May 1 and ends May 21.
- Applications will be reviewed between May 21 and 31.
- July signs will be installed for the winning blocks.

- Does every house on the block have to participate? Not required especially because it's the first year. Minimum of 50% of the homes to participate.
- You're looking for a before/after? Yes. A little improvement is better than none, even if the homes are already beautiful as is. A score card will be used.
- Can we see a copy of the score card? We can share it with you. Absolutely.
- Do the improvements have to be started and completed during the entry period, or could they have started 6 months ago and completed during the time period? I don't think the commission will be too picky.

- Will there be more advanced notice for next year since a three week entry period with little notice seems a bit shorter? Yes, we expect next year to have more planning in advance.
- Does the city have any flyers to pass out besides virtual? Will defer to Michelle. You can go to the public works website to get the material. Michelle is more than happy to make packets to give out to the neighborhoods.
- Do we keep the sign? Yes, it will be permanently mounted.
- How much has the city budgeted for the whole process? It's all authorized. Did not provide the specific number.

Announcements

- Real important that everyone be aware that we are resurrecting the neighborhood watch program. There will be a Zoom meeting for May 5 at 6:30 pm. Mark your calendars. Ask us if there's anything specific you want to have PD address. How does one become part of the neighborhood watch? "You live here". It'll be more of a re-introduction.
- Floral Park has a fun event happening, May 15 at Santiago Park, Will have a movie night. They got a permit from the city. Will be showing Field of Dreams on the baseball field. No charge to the event. Bring your own lawn chairs. Not sure if there will be any food. Unsure of time but probably after 7 pm.
- Open Garden Day - June 19. One of the most fun things the neighborhood does with West Floral Park.
- Crop Exchange - June 12 from 11 to 12. Bring the spoils from your garden to give away or trade excess foods.

Paul Sanford

- AT&T will be installing better bandwidth lines via a contractor to address demand that they've seen during the pandemic.
- They've been doing door-to-door to get access to the backyard to do the work. It was poorly organized.
- There are easements along our backyard, 5 feet near the telephone poles. Most of the easements were set in 1947. There are no easements going into the side yards.
- If you see any strange markings on your street or in your yard, reach out to Paul so he can follow up with the appropriate contacts.

Ryan Martin

- Landscape designer. Got a degree in landscape architecture from Cal Poly Pomona. Work for a landscape architect doing jobs all over the state, Nevada and Arizona.
- Why do we do this in the spring? Dead plant material helps protect the living plant material from the cold during fall and winter, and helps insects and small animals. Look for bug activity. Be careful of cocoons and chrysalis.
- Where to start? Pull weeds, deep clean garden tools, remove dead annuals, remove dead growth from perennials.
- Consider starting a compost pile. It's great for fruit trees.
- What's next? Edge any planting beds so that grass can't encroach. Using a very sharp tool with a blade or hand trowel that can go down 3-4 inches can help eliminate that grass. Plus it looks good aesthetically. Device and transplant shrubs like birds of

paradise or daylilies. Test your soil by getting a kit online or at Home Depot to test the percentages of the fertilizer.

- Prepare your planter. Remove any ground covering, remove excess leaf/mulch from the fall, add organic mulch (no rubber mulch). Plan to have a 2-3 inch layer of mulch, as it conserves water, cools plants roots, feeds the soil and smothers weeds.
- Time to prune. Do research on what trees you have. Dormant trees will do well with spring trimming. Do Google research on the best way to prune to avoid doing damage. Do not prune early blooming shrubs as you'll lose those flowers and fruits. Pruning triggers and encourages new growth as well as preventing disease.
- Where do we find these cocoons? One very important plant is the milkweed. Milkweed should be pruned automatically by the monarch butterflies but if it gets out of control you can prune it back to what looks best.
- Some cities provide composting containers, does Santa Ana do that? Unsure whether the city provides that. There was a program at the Fullerton Arboretum.
- Soil test kits, what do they tell you and how frequently do you sample? You do the test yourself and it'll tell you what elements are missing from the soil, e.g. add more nitrogen-based fertilizer.

Open Discussion

- Carol was interested in talking with people in our block about getting trees in our green strip/parkway. The city said that Myrtle trees would be appropriate if the neighbors would be okay with it. The city said they would leave the palm trees. They need buy-off from the neighbors in the area, along with the association. The city said the Crepe Myrtle would be the kind that stops at 15 feet and would not interfere with the palm canopy.

Adjournment

- Meeting ended at 8:40 pm