



Community Services Department
PO Box 27210
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DUNBAR/SPRING NEIGHBORHOOD

Dated Material

DSNA President: Ian Fritz
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Vice President: Natasha Winnik
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Secretary: Lisa Scoblink
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Treasurer: Sky Jacobs
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Parliamentarian: Vince Pawlowski

Newsletter: Kight Pruszyński
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Dunbar Coalition: Lisa Scoblink
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Ward One, Councilwoman Regina Romero
791-4040 ✉ regina.romero@tucsonaz.gov

Dunbar/Spring Website:
<http://www.dunbarspring.org/>

Dunbar/Spring Email Listserv:
groups.yahoo.com/group/DunbarSpring

Upcoming DSNA Meetings:
General meetings are held the third Monday of each month from 7-9 p.m. at the Dunbar auditorium (325 W. 2nd St.).

Next meetings: June 15, July 20

Dunbar/Spring Website Debuts: www.dunbarspring.org

In May, 2009, Ian Johnson published an interactive website for the Dunbar/Spring community. The website includes current events and neighborhood news, a calendar, history about Dunbar/Spring, an archive of recent Dunbar/Spring newsletters and more. Recent additions include information about the BICAS warehouse rent



hikes crisis, notes from the Dunbar Spring Neighborhood Association meeting, an article about the 138-kv Research Trip, and an update on the Spay/Neuter effort. Users can comment on articles and may soon be able to add content. Visit www.dunbarspring.org to participate in this exciting new neighborhood venue.



BICAS is in Trouble!
We Need Help Now!

BICAS has been housed in the basement of the Citizens Warehouse building since 1996, but quickly escalating rent costs (two increases in the last 6 months alone have tripled our rent), road construction, and the shifting landscape of downtown redevelopment have put us on shaky ground both financially and physically.

Our current space is no longer sustainable. BICAS needs to change our current renting situation as soon as possible. We would like to either buy a building, acquire and renovate our current building as part of an artists' collective, or acquire a suitable, affordable, and permanent home for BICAS through some other means. Our goal is to ensure that we may continue to serve our community as we have been doing for the last 20 years.

BICAS is a central part of the Dunbar Spring Neighborhood, Ward 1, and the whole of Downtown Tucson. Our relationship with the communities that we serve and people and organizations that we collaborate with is one of partnership and mutual aid. It is vital for us to remain in the heart of downtown where we can continue to be a hub for bicycle action and advocacy, a community gathering space, and an accessible center for meeting the transportation needs of Tucson citizens of all walks of life.

For BICAS to continue serving this community, we need a secure, long-term building plan. We are asking for your support to move to a comparable, affordable building in Ward 1 or to remain in the Citizens Warehouse, operating through an artist-led coalition. We know that with the support of the community we can continue our mission to provide cheap, reliable, pedal-powered transportation far into the future. We have the desire and dedication to grow into an increasingly valuable resource to the people of Tucson and we ask your help to do so.

Here are some ways you can help:
▶ Encourage City Council to help us: Contact Regina Romero and let her know that you love BICAS and you want her to help us find a new home in Ward 1. Her contact info is ward1@tucsonaz.gov or 520-791-4040. If you live in outside of Ward 1 contact your own city council person as well.

▶ Spread the word: Forward this E-mail. Talk to people. Let everyone know that WE ARE IN TROUBLE.



BICAS is important to the community!

☞ For 20 years BICAS has been serving Central Tucson and surrounding communities	☞ We have received the Governor's Arts Award, 2 years standing.
☞ We provide affordable transportation options and resources for everyone.	☞ Over 5,000 unduplicated people come through our doors each year.
☞ The youth work force can develop skills and training through our Earn-A-Bike Program and work trade and community service opportunities.	☞ We have participated in Weed and Seed since its founding, and collaborated with the Tucson Police Department through W&S.
☞ We received the Meyer and Libby Marmis Humanitarian Award from the Jewish Federation of Southern Arizona for our significant and lasting contributions in the fields of human welfare and social reform.	☞ We have collaborated with a diverse group of community organizations such as: El Grupo, City High School, Davis Elementary, Iron Horse Neighborhood, Dunbar Spring Community Garden, All Souls Procession, Parade of Lights, Ghost Bike Project, etc.
☞ BICAS contributes to the vibrant art culture and community festivities for which Downtown Tucson is known.	☞ BICAS is known as a leader among community bicycle organizations, both nationally and internationally.
☞ Over 5,100 hours of work-trade are traded for bicycles and services each year.	☞ We are the second oldest community bike project, still in existence, in the US.
☞ Over 2,200 hours of community service hours are completed each year at BICAS.	☞ BICAS employs 13 people.

Rent increases will soon affect our operations, a soon to be built roadway may displace us, and downtown redevelopment will soon make our home of 13 years unrecognizable.

▶ Help us raise money: If you know any potential major contributors send them our way. The friend of a distant relative of your co-worker who happens to have lots of money they don't know what to do with..... the president of a foundation who your aunt went to high school with...we want to talk to them!

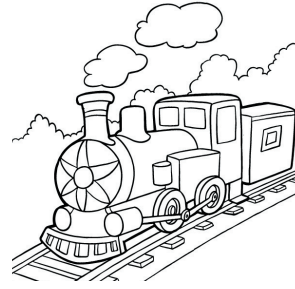
▶ Keep an eye out for buildings: If you see any vacant warehouses in our area let us know.

▶ No matter what the future brings, monetary resources and public support will be the primary factors ensuring that we come out of our current situation intact. Donations can be made in person, by mail, or via credit card- visit WWW.BICAS.ORG and click "donate" for directions. We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit charity. All donations are tax-deductible. If you are a major contributor or philanthropist, or have information regarding available and suitable buildings, please contact us at bicas@bicas.org. Thanks!

-BICAS

BICAS (Bicycle Inter-Community Action & Salvage) is a 501(c)(3) collectively-run community education and recycling center for bicycles that welcomes people of all ages and walks of life.

Minutes from DSNA General Membership Meeting of May 18, 2009



I. CALL TO ORDER (Natasha Winnik, facilitator)

- Introductions and Sign-in
- **Ian Fritz makes a MOTION to change the regular order of business to approve minutes at the end of the meeting and not require the secretary to read the minutes aloud. Will pass written copy for people to read Ian Johnson seconds. The motion passes-14 yeas / 1 abstention.**

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Ian Fritz reminds everyone that in addition to the Safe Power Lines website, the Dunbar/ Spring Neighborhood website is up and running at dunbarspring.org. Anyone may add to the content, history or photos to this informative site.
- Ian Fritz provides motion sheets to hopefully ease the process for people making motions.
- No official Treasurer's Report this meeting. Sky Jacobs mentions that the bill of \$55.49 for the new basketball hoop has been supplied to him.

III. DISCUSSION

NeighborFest 2009

Lori Boston, the president of WUNA, announces the upcoming "NeighborFest 2009" on October 25th from 1-4:30 p.m. at 4th Ave. and University. It will be a free multi-neighborhood event with tethered hot air balloon rides, live local music, free trolley rides, local food vendors, city council candidates, youth activities, volunteer info and sustainable living info. Flyer was passed out and we will post.

MOTION to sponsor the NeighborFest 2009 was made by Vince Pawlowski and seconded by Ian Fritz. It was unanimously approved. We will support and disseminate information for this event.

Downtown Links Update

Ian Fritz filled in for Daniela. It was sparsely attended. Presentation by Mike Barton of HDR recapped: Haven't met w/ADOT and U of A regarding current section they are working on- the west section, from Church, on St. Mary's to the Frontage Rd. and the 8th St. underground culverts drainage element. Ground-breaking for the 8th street drainage possibly after April 2010.

The El Paso / SW Greenway Crossing was discussed. Signal is problematic because of the close proximity to the signal at the Frontage Rd. Negative response to moving the crossing 100 feet east. Feedback was that pedestrians and bicyclists wouldn't go the extra trek and have to back-track. They are going back to look into alternatives regarding the design with that crossing at St. Mary's.

Discussed the redesign of Main St. and the railroad closing and of the left turn access at 4th St., the sweeping curve going south on Main. Will put in a big "pork chop" median to prevent left-turn and cut-through traffic, or move it up to University. No dates given. Jim Glock (TDOT) and Mike Barton (HDR) assure us that there is an imminent plan to construct the double left turn lanes from Oracle/Main going south onto Speedway to direct downtown traffic to Stone. No date for beginning of construction. Will be finalizing links to the downtown roadway in Dec. 2009. Jan. 2010 will begin design of rest of the roadway, a two year process.

The next Downtown Links meeting will be in the second week in July.

Karen wondered whether Corky Poster's announced retirement from Corky Poster Frost will have any effect. Natasha reports that he has made

his recommendations and that his portion of Downtown Links is finished.

There was some discussion about the new 6' bike lanes under the St. Mary's underpass. No one was impressed. May add rumble strips. Susan may write letter to Jim Glock that in the future they should construct separate bicycle underpasses.

Natasha said that they reiterated that the crossing at old Main will get a similar treatment as the crossing at Church and the library. No signal or hawk crossing as we requested, but changes in the pavement.

5th St. and Railroad Crossing Closure to Motor Vehicles

Natasha reported that there will be European gates with arms that fully close off the roads at the 4 crossings in our neighborhood allowing for a no whistle/quiet zone. There will also be a median along Main at 4th to prevent cars from cutting through the neighborhood. Discussion was regarding whether or not to close off the access to motor vehicle traffic while keeping the intersection open to pedestrians and bicycles. The time line is projected for 2012.

We must give our recommendations to HDR soon as they will be designing this intersection. This choice will have no effect on the decision to build El Paso/SW Greenway underpass.

Cons: Much of our southern vehicle access will be blocked off by the new Aviation/ Downtown Links as those plans progress. This will negatively affect the businesses existing in the southern portion of Dunbar/Spring by forcing commercial tractor trailers making deliveries to drive through the neighborhood. The southern portion of Dunbar/Spring will become a virtual cul-de-sac. There are also concerns about emergency vehicles entry into our neighborhood. Based on discussions a couple years back when the U of A discussed closing that street, many neighbors in that area were opposed.

Pros: Closing 5th St. to vehicles will go toward the vision of the Greenway and the Building Bridges Project along Main. Ian F. mentions that while we appreciate the businesses we have, and keeping to the residential aspect of our neighborhood, it may be in our best interest to keep the businesses to the perimeters of our neighborhood. Keeping the interior safer and slower, less places to be moved through and more places to be lived in would be a positive step. Cyclists appreciate having less vehicle traffic. Commercial delivery trucks may use Stone Ave. more. There will still be quite a bit of access to Dunbar/Spring.

Discussion concerns: What are the plans for the University owned land on the other side of the tracks? Emily Yetman wondered if this will affect the already shady transient population? Are there traffic studies/simulations to predict/anticipate the traffic flow? We could ask Mike Barton. Should we look into the feedback from the residents in WUNA regarding their limited access roads? Ian F. has heard only positive feedback. Can we get some consideration from the city requesting traffic diversions? **The MOTION to support the closure to motor vehicles of 5th Street Railroad Crossing was made by Ian Fritz and seconded by Sky Jacobs. Vote was 4 supporting, 6 opposed and 5 abstentions. Motion does not carry.** Vince brings up the option in Parliamentary procedure that allows for a reconsideration of the vote in the future if anyone says something

convincing.

TEP Position Statement

Ian Johnson announced that for various reasons, instead of the negative reference of Fight the Power Line, they will refer to the group in terms of promoting positive placement of power lines, and not limit this to the Dunbar/Spring neighborhood.

Ian J. read the modified position statement which may be found in it's entirety along with maps and photos at: www.safepowerlines.org/our-position/ or at dunbarspring.org. **MOTION to officially endorse the safepowerlines.org position statement was made by Ian Johnson and seconded by Paul Buckwalter. It passed unanimously.** Everyone is encouraged to sign the petition either online or the paper copies brought door to door in the neighborhood, and other neighborhoods. Over 100 signatures so far just on website. Turtle was assured that they will translate it to Spanish.

Ian J. and Ian F. are working on multi-neighborhood support. Plan to meet with El Presidio, Barrio Anita, WUNA, Barrio Blue Moon, Pasqua Yaqui, and more for support and endorsements. Citizens for Safe Power will be the united group. Meeting with Regina Romero upcoming, no final date.

The meeting with Ed Beck/ Power Line Siter for TEP last month to discuss our neighborhood's redundant power lines met with mixed opinions. Vince wonders whether the redundant lines could be used by our solar homes to put power back into the grid. Ian J. felt that they were already doing some upgrading and that they seemed to be "throwing us a bone". Four of the 5 questions asked at that meeting of Mr. Beck have been answered and are up on the website.

Upcoming meetings (Community Working Group and Open Houses) to be announced. TEP will speak at our next DSNA meeting on June 15th, Regina Romero and Diana Rhodes will be invited.

TEP must get approval from the ACC for this project. The Line-Site Committee is the citizens group with a PR company that makes recommendations, but Vince suggests that the ACC discourages us from contacting this committee directly. Ian F. thinks it's premature.

Paul would like us to prepare many arguments, as TEP will come after us and try to pick us apart. Maria LaGarra wonders whether the historic aspect of our older neighborhoods have any clout. She also brings up the possibility of the Pasqua Yaqui village being protected. Paul states that they are a federally recognized village, not a reservation. Not clear cut. Details of the upcoming meeting with the Pasqua Yaqui Tribe will be important and forthcoming. We should contact SHPO as they have input in the Line Site Committee.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

• **Community Garden:** The new basketball rim needs to be installed. Vince will look into re-attaching the sundial to its base. Only 1/4 of the available plots are being gardened. The table has been fixed.

• **DNARC:** Meeting May 21 at Tucson High @ 6:30 -8:00 p.m. Discussions to include: Downtown Links, 4th Avenue Underpass, Streetcar, Infrastructure and UA Student Housing. Meetings will be twice a year.

• **Dunbar Coalition:** The Golf Tournament has been canceled this year, economy issues. Due to a recent isolated case of violence in the parking lot after an event, required security must be hired through reputable agencies. The Dunbar Coalition has two that they recommend. TEP has been helpful with solar panels and donations, so they

will keep out of our issues.

• **Trap/Neuter/Return:** Jessica is working with the kittens in the entire city. Turtle will actively work in the Dunbar/Spring neighborhood on individual basis. One of the focuses is the Splinter Brothers warehouse. Lots of cats in foster homes looking to be adopted, contact Turtle.

BEES MAY VISIT IN SEARCH OF A NEW HOME

This is the time of year when bees venture out looking for a new home. This includes wild bees and beekeepers' bees that need more room. They will inhabit a tree or yard for a few days while looking for a permanent home. They are very docile and gentle during this period, so do not be alarmed.

If you see a swarm of bees in a tree somewhere or in your yard, please call Jonathan Crowe and he will come by to remove (collect) them free of charge. If they are inside your house or hidden, he will probably not be able to collect them. But if they are in a mass hanging off a branch, anywhere, please let him know!

Contact: Jonathan Crowe, 624-0759



Recess for Grown Folk

Fridays at 6:00 p.m. at Estevan Park

A recent Pro Neighborhoods grant recipient, Recess for Grown Folk is an informal group of adults who play games such as Ultimate Frisbee, Capture the Flag, Kickball, Steal the Bacon, and other playground follies



right here at our Estevan Park. We meet every week at the park field and play whatever it is that tickles our fancy at the time. Bring a toy and a friend to play with!