

General Meeting Notes

March 19, 2009

Civano Neighborhood Center

Attendance: ~45 people

Meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Simmons Buntin, Association Spokesperson.

Simmons Buntin, Civano Neighborhood Spokesperson, introduced himself, welcomed people, and began the meeting announcements:

- Civano Soup Supper and Speakers Series: March 22
- Civano Welcome Breakfast: April 4
- Civano Community-wide Garage Sale: April 4/5
- Earth Day Rummage Sale @ Civano Community School, April 18, 7 a.m. – noon
- 5th Annual Civano Quilt and Art Show @ the Inn at Civano, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- 9th Annual Civano Picnic @ Civano Neighborhood Center, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., free lunch from the grill at noon
- Café D’Auria, located in the Civano Neighborhood Center former activity center (which was formerly, back in 2000, Le Buzz Café), plans to open by May 1, beginning with breakfast and lunch and expanding eventually to include dinner service
- The Civano 10th Anniversary celebration will be held on October 17, 2009
- Renderings of the forthcoming Valero Corner Store/Gas Station on Drexel and Houghton are available for review (and will be added to the CivanoNeighbors.com website)

Speakers

Officer Jellesman, Tucson Police Department

- Noted the broad geographic area of the east-side coverage by Tucson Police Department served by a limited number of officers.
- Noted that vandalism and other calls are very low in the Civano/Sierra Morado area compared to other East-side locations, including Rita Ranch.
- Suggested that if a crime including vandalism is seen/caught in action, call 911 (does not have to be a life-threatening situation to call 911).
- For vandalism and related crimes after the fact, call the TPD East substation at 791-5059
- We should research the “justification clause” on what residents can and cannot do when confronting/constraining someone committing an act such as vandalism.

Calvin Baker, Vail School District Superintendent

- Simmons introduced Calvin, noting that the district’s tagline of “Where Education is a Community Effort” speaks volumes about Calvin’s approach to community-involved education.
- Calvin noted that VSD is the largest school district in Arizona in which all schools meet Annual Yearly Performance and all are rated as Excelling.
- Calvin said that he is puzzled by the K-12 budget concerns for this and next year, because the federal stimulus package makes it clear that the state legislature, if it takes the stimulus (and Jan Brewer has said she will), cannot but budget levels below 2006 budget levels; the stimulus provides additional funding for two years—so Calvin is concerned about the budget two years from now, when the legislature is likely to drastically cut funding but the stimulus package will not be available to offset those cuts.
- There is no state money for new schools, which is a challenge for districts like VSD which continue to grow even in the down economy.
- Calvin also introduced Connie Erickson, principal of Senita Valley Elementary, Kevin Carney, principal of Rincon Vista Middle School (opening in July), and Pam Bateman, school marm of Civano Community School. Each provided updates.
- Jill Sim, coordinator of the Little Green Schoolhouse Cooperative, an initiative that aims to raise funding for the construction of a multiuse room and kitchen at Civano Community School, also updated folks about the Cooperative’s efforts.

Community Visioning

- Simmons provided an overview of the community visioning process, which was initially referenced in his “Per Simmons” editorial in the March/April 2009 issue of *The Town Crier*.
- The process will be facilitated by Civano neighbors and moderators Tahnee Robertson and Jenny Finch, and will be oriented at developing overall community objectives for the next 2, 5, and 10 years (as an example) with measurable goals and actions.
- A notecard and pencil was placed on each site, and audience members were asked to answer the following question on the card, then turn it in before leaving: What 5 things would really improve our community?
- Simmons also announced that responses to that question (with no minimum or maximum number required) may be submitted online at www.civanoneighbors.com/vision.

Meeting concluded at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Simmons Buntin.