

W3NA Annual Meeting Minutes
Saturday, January 16, 2016, 10:30 am
St James United Methodist Church
3255 N Campbell Ave, Metro Center

Board Members Present: John Kovacik, Pres; Bill Crouse, VP; Sandy Miller, Sec/Treas;
Carlos Nagel; Lois Miller

Board Members Absent: Pastor Bob Holliday

The meeting was called to order at 10:45 am by John Kovacik, President.

Introductions:

Each of the board members introduced themselves, said what neighborhood they were from, and described their involvement with W3NA. Carlos Nagel from Limberlost, Chair of the Fundraising Committee; Sandy Miller from Richland Heights East, Secretary/Treasurer, Head of the Communication Committee; John Kovacik from RillitoBend, President; Bill Crouse from Mountain View, VP; and Lois Miller from Coronado Heights, Chair of the Program Committee. Each of the audience members introduced themselves and said what neighborhood they were from. Balboa Heights, Richland Heights East and Silverbell Terrace were represented in the audience. There was some discussion about the boundaries of Ward 3. It includes areas from east of Alvernon to Silverbell, from Speedway to north of River Rd. There is a map on the City website at www.tucsonaz.gov/files/pdsd/Ward3new.pdf.

Where we've been:

John talked about what W3NA has done over the last year. He felt the two most important things were:

- Communications, including creation of an email list for information dispersal, and the creation of a website (see attached Communications Committee Report for further detail).
- Approval from the IRS of 501c3 status in June 2015.

He mentioned very briefly the work of the Program committee.

Where we're going:

John talked about where he thinks the Alliance should concentrate its energy in the coming year. He discussed the Strategic Planning Workshop that was held in April 2015 and shared the four strategic directions that were suggested:

1. Further our partnerships within the community.
2. Promote capacity building opportunities through the community.
3. Build a sense of community throughout Ward 3.
4. Promote, coordinate and participate in community projects.

John concentrated his remarks on **Capacity**, and our two most important priorities for the coming year both involve it. The first is **Capacity Building**, which the W3NA Programs both past and future have as their primary purpose. But W3NA also should have **Capacity Coordination** as a priority.

John believes that a great deal of Capacity already exists in our community, but what we're missing is **Capacity Coordination** – the bringing together of the Capacity that already exists. His ultimate conclusion was that community members and groups in Ward 3 (neighborhoods, businesses, etc) need a “place to go” where they can coordinate needs and goals and that provides information and resources (such as our 501c3 status). That's what an Alliance is for. To do this, we need to enlarge participation in the Alliance.

Enhancement and development of W3NA's Communication methods and abilities are crucial to this. In summary, besides enlarged participation, we need to continue to bring forth ideas that can be brought to action. He mentioned that the Program Committee has ideas for ways to build Capacity Coordination (see attached Program Committee report).

Lois added that at the current time, the main focus of W3NA is on providing informational Programs, and in expanding utilization of its 501c3 status.

Election of Board Members:

The terms of two board members, John Kovacik and Bill Crouse, ended this year. They both were interested in serving another term. Nominations were solicited from the floor, but none were forthcoming. A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to elect both John and Bill to another 3-year term.

Input & Discussion:

The board members and audience held a discussion that included descriptions of positive things accomplished in their neighborhoods, problems faced by their neighborhoods, how W3NA has helped, ideas and suggestions of projects W3NA take on, and things W3NA needs to fulfill its mission. Topics included:

- One neighborhood has a problem with illegal dumping. This is a significant problem in areas with a high percentage of rentals. How could W3NA help with this issue? (The Program Committee is planning a Program on this topic.)
- One neighborhood is using W3NA to offer a tax deduction for donations to fund the creation of a mural on a wall that is currently a frequent target of graffiti.
- One neighborhood needs help with fundraising for things like traffic circles, park improvements, parking control.
- One neighborhood is using W3NA to offer a tax deduction for donations to fund the publication of their quarterly newsletter.
- Another neighborhood is considering using W3NA to offer a tax deduction for donations to erect a shade structure in their local park.
- W3NA can endorse projects, like Bob's Metro Center and Carlos' planned Collaboration Workshop.
- Discussion of the benefits of email lists and Nextdoor to neighborhoods.
- W3NA needs people with knowledge of non-profits to ensure that we don't do anything that would endanger our non-profit status.
- W3NA needs people to help with the Programs, including providing new ideas, planning, and administering the Programs.
- W3NA needs people with financial experience, fundraising experience, grant writing and/or grant management experience, and eventually, experience with project prioritization and management.
- A wish is that W3NA can eventually write grants to fund neighborhood improvement projects.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandy Miller, Secretary

Handouts available for attendees, and attached to these minutes, include:

- Treasurer's report
- Committee reports

Ward 3 Neighbors Alliance, Inc
Treasurer's Report
November 1, 2014 – December 31, 2015

Beginning Balance – 11/1/14 **\$ 101.14**

Income

Group member dues	\$ 150.00
Donations:	\$ 600.00
Fundraising:	\$ 79.47
Dividends:	\$.12
From share acct:	\$ 50.11

Total Income: **\$ 879.70**

Expenditures

Business expenses	\$ 10.00
Neighborhood Support	\$ 400.00

Total Expenditures: **\$ 410.00**

Ending Balance – 12/31/15 **\$ 570.84**

Submitted by
Sandy Miller, W3NA Treasurer
January 16, 2016

Program Committee

The Program Committee has come up with a tentative program schedule for the first half of 2016, to be held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Topics include: Illegal Dumping, State of the Ward, Urban Agriculture, and Disaster Preparedness. We are also considering a series of weekend events, including a Party in a Park, Summer Programs for Kids, Tenants' Rights Workshop, and Capacity Building Workshops.

We are looking for folks that can help us plan and organize our programs.

Lois Miller, Program Committee Chair

Fundraising Committee

The Fundraising Committee took advantage of an opportunity offered by BJ's Restaurant to generate funds by inviting people to enjoy a meal at BJ's and present a coupon from W3NA. BJ's donated 15% of the cost of these meals to W3NA. We raised \$79.47. With a very small effort we provided an opportunity for many of our W3NA members, and our friends, to enjoy a fine meal while providing benefits for W3NA.

In addition, W3NA has endorsed a Collaborative Workshop to be presented on January 23, with a portion of the proceeds of registration fees to benefit our organization.

Carlos Nagel, Fundraising Committee Chair

Communications Committee

The Communication Committee accomplished two major goals over the last year:

First we created a Google Group that we use as an email list, which is used to disperse information about Programs, Board Meetings, and Fundraising events. The 157 members can use it to share information that may be of interest to other members. Second, we built a website. You can see it at <http://www.w3na.org>.

We could use suggestions for content on the website and someone to help with development & maintenance. We could also use help setting up & managing Facebook and Twitter accounts for W3NA.

Sandy Miller, Communications Committee Chair

Minutes of last year's Annual Meeting

Available on the [W3NA website](#).