

El Gheko Neighborhood Meeting

Wednesday, May 3rd

Called to order at 6 p.m.

Councilman Paul Cunningham addressed the group:

- Improvements are being made to eastside parks. Fort Lowell Park waterfall will be restored. Palo Verde Park upgrades will be next.
- There was a surplus in the water budget so the City may forego an increase, but an increase may happen and be used for improvements.
- Bus fare went up to \$1.75 for one ride – low income now 75cents. This was done to stop money from coming out of general fund to support buses.
- Palo Verde Park pool will be improved and probably will be free this summer. Donations may be collected if people want to give.
- One-half cent sales tax up for vote to play catch-up for police, fire and roads.
- Broadway street repairs are running 3 years ahead of schedule. Century Link hub needs to be moved from Camino Seco area but work should be completed by 2019.
- Question from for neighbors: Green Hills Pool didn't have the capital to revitalize. Neighborhood members noted that currently only one home built. Caribe Pool is a confusing situation, but up for sale. Property tax needs to be paid if sold. Paul to look into both situations, including see if money from Green Hills sale was donated to Hudlow school.
- Sewer rates are based on water usage. Auxiliary water meters to separate water that goes in sewer and water used for landscaping are available for a fee.
- Neighbors noted that Speedway has very fast drivers and drag racing after 10 p.m. Paul said that 911 had a serious response load, but it has improved. There have also been complications with merge of 911 for fire/police and in and out of county calls. Drag racing law has changed and now City can confiscate car for the night. This includes motorcycle.

Crime statistics were given by TPD. They included 55 larcenies – mostly at Kmart or theft by family member, 11 burglaries in last 6 months and 1500 calls overall.

In response to question about homeless living is wash it was explained that when they are removed, they often return and that there is a need for notice before their things can be moved. Homeless can be moved off private property immediately.

Diane reported that the Tucson MLS only has about 4300 properties available. This makes it a seller market. A balanced market would be about 6000 homes for sale. Tucson statistics include Green Valley, Vail, etc. In the last 6 months, the average selling price in the neighborhood has been \$177,886 for single family homes and \$151,000 for town-homes. The average number of days on market is 32 days, but 2 weeks for updated home in move-in condition. Per square foot price averages \$108 per sq. ft. for homes and \$105 from town-homes. Sellers are getting about 98% of asking price. The abandoned house of Kingston was brought up and Diane said she would try to check on it since it decreases adjoining home values.

Next meeting will be 6 months from today on the first Wednesday of November.

Tom asked if there was anyone else who could secure raffle prizes.

Drawing held and meeting adjourned at 7:25.