Deaun Lewis

Subject:

FW: General Meeting 04/29/2010

SRMNA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING April 29th, 2010

The General Meeting of the SRMNA was called to order on a very windy Thursday, April 29th, 2010 AT 6:30 pm for the first time in the new SRM School Cafeteria.

Due to the strong winds and TV and radio announcements to stay indoors, coupled with the fact that the doors to the school were locked after most of the board members and guests and a few neighbors had entered, the turnout was very small.

We do not know how many neighbors had tried to attend but found themselves locked out. One board member and a couple of neighbors did manage to come later. This was our smallest General Meeting since the inception of SRMNA.

In attendance were Deaun Lewis, President, Annette Gonzales, Vice president, Jan Wilson, Board member, Lucy Angel, Board Member and Renate Sanders, Secretary.

Invited guests were:

Tom Sams, COO at the Bernalillo County Assessor's Office (tsams@bernco.gov), ph# 222-3700.

Loretta Naranjo Lopez, Democratic candidate for District 1 County Commission
Dan Serrano, Democratic candidate for District 1 County Commission
Michelle Lujan Grisham, Democratice candidate for District 1 County Commission
Pete Gelabert, Crime Prevention specialist, NW Area Command
Bernadette Sanchez, State Senator
Antonio "Mo" Maestas, State Representative

The president welcomed the quests and the few neighbors.

She gave a brief update on upcoming events.

On May 15th will be Clean-up Trash day. The city will pick up green waste for the next couple of weeks at curbside during regular trash pickup days. We were reminded to keep trees and weeds trimmed beyond fences and cinderblock walls.

The weeds along Coors-Ladera will be cleaned up by the city.

Complaints have come in regarding dog waste not being picked up. Please call 311.

The Bell Tower at Coors and IHOP is scheduled to go up to advertise the many small businesses around the Walmart shopping center. SRMNA will be allowed to use the signage to announce events as well.

The Peter and Paul church on Ouray has applied to the city to build a Multi-use Center behind the church towards Miami, and zoning was approved.

We are trying to get a Growers Market on the Westside. To that effect a survey questionnaire was handed out.

The SRMNA is planning a Neighborhood -wide garage sale from 06/11/2010 through 06/13/2010. We will be announcing it on our signs and we will also place an ad in the paper.

Each guest was given 5 minutes to speak. Questions and answers were to be held until after all the guests spoke for more in depth and on one talks.

Michelle Lujan Grisham spoke of her political and government experiences and exposure in various capacities dating back from 1999 to present to make her the ideal candidate for County Commissioner.

Her major professional accomplishment: reforming Long Term Care. She has a positive vision for the county, is very knowledgable and knows that in collaboration with other entities much more can be accomplished. She worked under 3 Governors and has great interest in Health and Aging and Home Care. She advocated and established school-based health centers and helped create centers to treat heroin, alcohol and prescriptrion drug abuse.

Tom Sams from the Bernalillo County Assessor's Office reminded us of the importance to review the property tax estimates for 2011 that were just sent out; to check for VA deductions, if applicable and encouraged us to contact his offices for any questions and concerns. The rate increase for 2011 should not exceed 3% compared to last year.

Pete Gelabert commended our area for the relatively low crime and theft rate since January. Times of occurences are between 8:00 am and 3:00 pm. Days when most burglaries occur are Mondays and Wednesdays. Most stolen items are flat screen TVs, electronics and weapons. 50% of entries occur via the front door.

He emphasized the importance of neighborhood watches and encouraged us to call the Neighborhood Watch Program at 924-3600 to have an officer come to your home and assess the safety and also create a neighborhood watch on our streets.

Mayor Berry has made crime prevention a top priority. For non emergencies call 242-COPS, for events in progress, call 911.

Loretta Naranjo Lopez then asked for our vote for District 1 Commissioner.

She retired from the City of Albuquerque after 18 years, having served in various functions, including city planner and union president. She is very passionate about serving the community.

Dan Serrano, a self employed business owner then spoke of his positions he serve in, in varous public committees. He is passionate abbut children, himself being a father of 3 with a fourth on the way. He is involved in reducing youth crime and gang activity. He was instrumental in getting the Gang Prevention Act implemented 2 years ago. Education is very important to him.

State Senator Bernadette Sanchez gave a run down of the legislative session events, the budget shortfall and ways how to mitigate it without too much pain; however, cuts in mental health services and services for children will have to be made. The City budget uses 75% for jails and court costs as well as for District Attorneys and Public Defenders. She mentioned a study by the Robert Wood Foundation regarding a tax for drug and alcohol that is being conducted.

She discussed the possible creation of the New Westside School District and encouraged us to vote in favor of it. The Westside School performance is low and needs our support. The tax base for the new schooll district is about 46% to 47%.

State Representative "Mo" Maestas briefly touched on his dealings during this legislative session, calling it one of the toughest due to the budget shortfall.

After all guests spoke, the floor was opened for questions and answers.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.