

NEIGHBORS OF THE WOOD STREETS  
NOTES FROM MEETING January 15, 2015

Meeting was called to order by Co-Chairman Charles Slaughter at 6:30 P.M. in conference room on 7<sup>th</sup> floor of City Hall.

Treasurer's Report:

In the absence of Treasurer, Marge Barr, Charles Slaughter stated that after an addition of \$103.00 for recycled materials, the balance in the account is \$1,077.43.

Meet and Greet Committee Report:

April Glatzel of the Meet and Greet Committee reported they have hired someone to help this committee gather and prepare items for "Welcome Baskets." They then deliver the baskets to people who have recently moved into the Wood Streets area.

Council Person Mike Gardner's Report:

Pillars: The Riverside Public Works Department has applied for a grant from the federal government under the title of Historic Preservation Funds. A committee within the city has been established to administer those funds which are estimated to be \$.5 million. Each project is eligible for \$25,000 and the city department will request funds from this grant for this project. A Nows representative can attend the meetings. Decisions for the various projects should be made in April.

Street Lights – The city will be in litigation with the company that has done street light work in the Wood Streets – they are in disagreement on a variety of issues. The next phase between Magnolia and Brockton will be done by a different company. If you have any concerns regarding the street lights that have been installed, such as too much light, shields that protect offensive lights can be installed. Please contact Mike Gardner by e-mail at [mgardner@riversideca.gov](mailto:mgardner@riversideca.gov) with your concerns.

Tree Trimming – Nows would like tree trimming to occur more often than in the past. Concern has also been expressed that the recent tree trimming still has issues to resolve. Mr. Gardner offered to set up a meeting between a Nows representative and Public Works regarding the trees. He did state that everyone

on the city council would like to trim the trees more often, but that is governed by demands of the Public Works Department budget.

Development Committee meets next week and will vote on the two large Victorian houses on Olivewood. It will be a staff recommendation to sell them to a purchaser who will rehabilitate the houses and then sell them to someone who will live in them. If you have concerns regarding this issue, again, please express them to Mr. Gardner by e-mail at [mgardner@riversideca.gov](mailto:mgardner@riversideca.gov).

#### Riverside Police Department Report:

NOWS welcomed RPD Lt. Bruce Blomdahl to the meeting. He shared that all crimes in the area are down except car thefts – so be sure to lock your car and remove anything of value before you leave your vehicle.

MAIL THEFT is up all over the city so be aware! This is a federal crime – for updates go to the city website to access current information.

[www.riversideca.gov](http://www.riversideca.gov).

#### RIVERSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD PROJECT (RNP) Report:

NOWS welcomed two new representatives to RNP – Lisa Henry at (951) 323-8243 [leicalisa@gmail.com](mailto:leicalisa@gmail.com) and Tom Podgorski at (951) 990-2914 [thepods@att.net](mailto:thepods@att.net). Their next event will be in the La Sierra area on January 25, 2015 and the one in the Wood Streets will be in May, 2015.

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#### Tree Squirrels –

The Wood Streets (and many other parts of the city) have been inundated with tree squirrels because vector control states they have no natural enemies.

Currently, it is against the law to do anything to them. Ground squirrels can be eliminated because they can have serious diseases. If you would like to know more about tree squirrels, Mr. Gardner brought an article that was very informative. You can access that article at

<http://ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn74122.html>. Currently, it is not legal to shoot tree squirrels with a BB gun or any other firearm.

We can change the city ordinance that protects the tree squirrels. Mr. Gardner will introduce an amendment to the municipal code to allow citizens to use kill traps to control the tree squirrels.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS;**

NOWS is looking for a place for our April yard sale fund raiser. If you have an idea, or we could use your front yard, please contact us through the website or e-mail. Also, please start saving items for our yard sale. We appreciate your help!

March 19, 2015 – NOWS MEETING

April 25, 2015 – NOWS Yard Sale

May 21, 2015 – NOWS Meeting

Our website: [www.nowsriverside.com](http://www.nowsriverside.com)

E-mail: [nowsnews1@gmail.com](mailto:nowsnews1@gmail.com)