

Albuquerque Downtown Neighborhoods Association

Meeting Notes, July 14, 2025

1. Board President, Sylvia Holguin, Downtown Neighborhoods Association **called the meeting to order.**
2. **Attending** the meeting: Sylvia Holguin, Eric Carson, Glen Salas, Beverly Salas, Kristin Shiplet, Nancy Magnusson, Kelly Hogeland, Karen Foss, Ben Bean, Danny Senn, Susan Dieschel, Margaret Connolly, Sammy Ma'ayan, Emet Ma'ayan, Mark Bailon.
3. **Minutes** from the May meeting were approved as presented via email.
4. **Treasurer's report:** Current balance \$11,217. The Treasurer asked for a vote to switch to a local bank, Rio Grande Credit Union. Reason: The Bank of Albuquerque, where the DNA had its account, is actually owned by a bank in Oklahoma. The change of banks was unanimously approved.
5. **Update from Mayor's office:** Markela Clinton absent from meeting.
6. **Community Trees Update;** As stated in the DNA's July Newsletter: our collaboration with the RANA neighborhood was very successful. Six of our Board members and five of theirs, plus other neighbors, including children, painted tree bark "ornaments" and hung them on three trees lining Gold St. Nancy requested \$100 from the Board to buy more paints for the National Night Out, (NNO) ornament painting activity. Unanimously approved.
7. **Zoning Committee Report:** Eric, Danny, Susan are on the Zoning Committee. Eric showed attendees email notices he receives from ABQ City about proposed changes to neighborhood properties and businesses. He and the Zoning Committee will summarize CABQ notifications at each board meeting. He is available for questions on particular notifications if desired.

Eric also requested an email directed to Councilor Baca regarding *grandfathered commercial properties reverting to residential* be approved to send to Baca and ABQ City. It was approved by the DNA.

The 16th Street dispute with Rembe builders continues with a # of emails back and

forth between the parties. Martin asks DNA to ask the City about the status of building permits for the project. DNA approves this request.

8. **Block Party** – need to be on the MRA map. Because only two blocks in our association are on the map, we have decided not to apply for a grant.
9. **Strong Towns (ST)** – Board member Ben Bean reporting as a member of Strong Towns gave a slide presentation of ST's mission, goals, and accomplishments. (for more info see ST [website](https://www.strongtownsabq.org) <https://www.strongtownsabq.org>). Strong Towns is local, though it is also national. Meets at Orpheum Theater on Wednesday, at 6 PM.

Beverly wonders if we should contact ST about the CommUnity Trees initiative?

10. **NNO Event** - going forward as planned with a *Welcoming* table for new people.
 - New DNA stickers will be given to each new neighbor.
 - Kristin will person the table for newcomers.
 - We will be passing out books relevant to the DNA, collecting donations, and distributing the adopt-an-alley flyer at the newcomers table.
 - Need an announcer telling the public what is happening, and where it is happening in the park.
 - \$1,000 in expenses approved for NNO – to be spent on food, band, paints, Dog Parade, etc.
 - Hello Darlin' will play for two hours. \$300 was approved as compensation to the band.
 - We added a couple of new events for kids to help attract young families. Kids are welcome to paint their word of encouragement on bark and then help hang it on the fence. **For kids of all ages**, the water balloon toss organized by Danny will be fun!
 - **NNO Dog Parade** – Takes place from 5:30 – 6:00 pm. Danny will put together a playlist of doggie themed songs. We might have the mayor block off our streets. Rather than a bagpiper, Danny is going to record dog themed songs and blast them over speakers at the park. Karen has already cut and sewn additional dog bandanas for a total of 37 with leftover fabric. Nancy needs to print and paste the 'First Prize' sticker. We are not doing enrollment on our web site this year, just at the table.

11. **Mary Fox Park** – City Parks and Rec will trim the wisteria before our NNO event.

12. **New Business** – Danny asked that the DNA focus on the alleys for clean-up. Nancy suggested the theme of “Adopt an Alley.” Danny wants to make fliers to be placed on the table at NNO; Box at NNO “Nominate your alley” (for clean-up). Encourage people to use 311 for grading of the alley. 27th of September is the official ABQ Clean-Up.

13. **Adjournment**