



Town Hall Meeting

November 10, 2009

The first Town Hall meeting was well attended, and the audience's endurance was sorely tested. The meeting was long but necessary as many subjects were covered.

Mary Schmit gave a slide presentation outlining the many summer projects carried out during the summer months, such as completion of two pickle ball courts, sewing room addition, ceramics handicapped entrance, lawn bowling green, fitness center rewiring, dog run stairs, shuffleboard shelter, and many more. Mary also brought us up to date on the two major projects that we hoped would be done last summer. We still have not been able to get our needed permits from the City of Mesa, as they have laid off many of the people in the city planning and permits departments and the staff are not up to speed. It has been infuriating; however it seems to be to our advantage as the cost of materials has declined. Concrete is half the price today that it was when we built the center, and the major cost for both projects will be concrete, so we are hoping to get good bids.

Gordy Klofstad gave a presentation on the ongoing saga with SRP. Gordy pointed out that with a chronological history prepared by Mary Schmit from all the accumulated data we had on SRP, a letter was prepared and sent to SRP's board of directors. The letter triggered a meeting with SRP's number two man in their organization. We were finally talking to a man that could make a decision. He offered to survey the utility easements at **their cost**, pay the cost of any transformers that are out of easement, and to negotiate the moving of all the others needed to comply with hazard designation. He also was willing to give VO adequate time to bring the easements back into compliance. The major part of the agreement that related to VO is to **clear the easements**. I asked him if SRP's infrastructure can deliver the needed power to us with the service they have. His answer was "yes", and after transformers are taken care of we are done.

Bill Robinson talked about the lack of rain and the stress on many of the trees and plants in the park. Bill made it clear that many of us are killing our own plants by paving too close to them, not watering properly, improper trimming, possible chemical damage, and a host of other problems. VO used more water this summer than in the past to offset the lack of rain, but without proper care of plants, it is to no avail. Bill has been going to residents properties to help them figure out what to do about their plants.

Denta Persinger gave a historical presentation. She took us from the beginning of VO to where we are headed. The history lesson is pertinent as the turnover in residents is very high and many are not aware of what has happened. Many were not here at the time the Community Center was built. Denta pointed out that the increase in values of our residences was around 50% after the Community Center was built. She was able to show us that the continued improvements and updating in the park allows us to have a premiere park and maintain our residences' values as outside our park places are in decline. Denta also talked about the scaling back of the Community Center and not adding on the recreation part of original building due to the high cost at the time. She said it is time to finish the Community Center and move recreation back into the Center as the costs have declined. Denta will be holding sessions with residents to gather information.

Remember list and sell your homes through VO's real estate office (the blue & white signs) as it helps pay your condo fees.

The Architectural Committee is asking for a volunteer as Vern Jackson has resigned. Thanks for the service Vern! This is an important committee for the park and volunteers should have some experience in the building trades, architecture, etc. Call Russ Morfeld 480-830-5846 or Gordy Klofstad 480-854-8883.

Boise State 10-0

Gary Robbins, Condo Board President