

@WESTMARC

August/September 2008

Positions Taken on Ballot Propositions

SUPPORT

Conserving Arizona's Water & Land
State Trust Land Reform BOARD

Stop Illegal Hiring
Employer Sanctions Reform BOARD

T.I.M.E. Act BOARD

OPPOSE

Arizona Civil Rights Initiative
No Anti-Affirmative Action EXEC

Homeowners' Bill of Rights EXEC

Majority Rules
Let the People Decide EXEC

Medical Choice for Arizona EXEC

Payday Loan Reform Act EXEC

School District Unification BOARD

NEUTRAL

No New Home Taxes
No Real Estate Transfer Taxes BOARD

WESTMARC has taken positions on ballot propositions addressing issues of importance relative to our mission and the West Valley. After an exhaustive committee review process, the ballot initiatives were brought before the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors in consecutive special meetings held Thursday July 10, 2008.

Most of the West Valley municipalities abstained from voting on each of the items, stating that their respective councils had not had an opportunity to discuss or vote on positions.

Due to time constraints, the Board of Directors was unable to address every initiative and in those instances the final positions were determined by the vote the Executive Committee had taken. The Executive Committee is authorized to act on behalf of the Board.

Nine of the ballot arguments were filed with the Secretary of State by the July 11 deadline. The tenth argument regarding School District Unification was filed with the Maricopa County School Superintendent by their deadline of August 6, 2008.

New Board Member: Michelle Lehman

Michelle Lehman, Community Development Manager, APS, has been selected to replace the retiring Art Othon as APS's representative on the WESTMARC Board of Directors.

Michelle Lehman is a former member of the WESTMARC Board of Directors, the Executive Committee, and served as Board Secretary and

Chair of the Transportation Committee.

With prior Board approval, Art Othon remains on the Board and Executive Committee as a representative of El Bravo Restaurants. He currently serves as Board Secretary and is also Co-chair of the Public Affairs Committee.



Michelle Lehman, APS

WESTMARC Membership Advantage: Upcoming Events

With more than half of 2008 behind us, WESTMARC has been busy and productive - and our busiest season is still to come!

So far this year, WESTMARC has hosted the governor, held our annual meeting and economic forecast event and engaged in numerous public policy issues, including serving as co-founder of the TIME Coalition.

An unplanned staffing change in February altered

the composition of WESTMARC's A-Team, but based upon a hiring recommendation from a member, our team is now A-plus! In addition to Darah, we also have Desaree answering phones and helping out around the office to better serve our members. Amity and Amber remain the backbone of the team.

2008 will continue to be very busy with a full schedule of member events, including a WESTMARC Member Reception in August followed by the Board Retreat in early September. The 16th Annual Best of the West Awards will be held in October, and November brings both a Health Care Summit and an Economic Development Symposium.

Finally, our 4th Annual Golf Tournament is scheduled for December. In addition, our on-going key initiative committees will resume monthly meetings after their brief summer hiatus.

These events provide the value of WESTMARC to our members with a variety of opportunities to promote and market their businesses. Committee participation allows members to gain vital information and insight into relevant issues facing the West Valley; if you are not already part of a WESTMARC committee, I encourage you to attend an up-coming meeting that most interests you.

Jack

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

A note from
Jack Lunsford
President/CEO



August/September 2008 Meeting Schedule:

Education	Aug 13	Wed	7:30 am
Executive	Aug 14	Thur	7:30 am
Health Care	Aug 19	Tues	8:00 am
Workforce Task Force	Aug 19	Tues	2:00 pm
Transportation	Aug 21	Thur	7:30 am
Water	- no August meeting -		

Water	Sept 2	Tues	3:30 pm
WMEZ Commission	Sept 4	Thur	10:00 am
Board Retreat*	Sept 5	Fri	8:00 am
Education	Sept 10	Wed	7:30 am
Executive	Sept 11	Thur	7:00 am
Health Care	Sept 16	Tues	8:00 am
Transportation	Sept 18	Thur	7:30 am
Board of Directors**	Sept 24	Wed	7:30 am
Econ. Development	Sept 25	Thur	8:00 am

All Meetings held at WESTMARC unless noted otherwise. Committee members will be sent a reminder by email prior to the meeting date, and will be notified in the event of a meeting change/cancellation.

*Tuscany Falls Country Club, Pebble Creek
**Western International University

Palm Valley Plumbing Hosting WESTMARC Member Reception

Hazelle Fessenden, WESTMARC Board member and principal of Palm Valley Plumbing, announces that PVP will host a WESTMARC Member Reception on August 21, 2008.

WESTMARC is once again featured in Arizona Business Magazine's August issue, and Palm Valley Plumbing is celebrating that fact with an informal happy hour which will include live entertainment.

The reception will be held at their new location, 7952 W. Gold Dust Avenue in Peoria from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Please RSVP by calling Palm Valley Plumbing directly at 623-298-5019 or RSVP via email to: RSVP@palmvalleyplumbing.com.

16th Annual Best of the West

Thanks to all who have submitted entries for our 16th Annual Best of the West Awards. We have quite a few entries which will make the judges work quite difficult, but is certainly a testament to the tremendous selection of people, organizations and businesses deserving recognition in Western Maricopa County.

Best of the West continues to grow and we expect approximately 800 attendees at this year's event. To add to the fun, this year we're having a semi-formal event with a masquerade theme (costumes optional). Be sure to reserve your tables early.

As the region's premier event, Best of the West offers a unique opportunity to showcase your support for the ingenuity, creativity, entrepreneurship, leadership and community spirit of the wonderful West Valley; don't miss this chance to be included as a sponsor. Contact Amity Bravo at 623-435-0431 ext. 202, or amity@westmarc.org. Sponsorship/Reservation forms are also available online at westmarc.org.

WESTMARC STAFF

Jack Lunsford, President, CEO

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Amber Botamer, Director of Member Services & Public Affairs

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Darah Mann, Director of Marketing & Communications

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On the Horizon:

Member Reception

Hosted by Palm Valley Plumbing
7952 W. Gold Dust Avenue, Peoria
Thursday, August 21, 2008
4:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Annual Board Retreat

Tuscany Falls Country Club, Pebble Creek
16222 Clubhouse Drive, Goodyear
Friday, September 5, 2008
8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
WESTMARC's Annual Board Retreat

16th Annual

Best of the West Awards
Renaissance Glendale Hotel, Glendale
Thursday, October 30, 2008

5:30 Reception

7:30 Dinner/Awards

Join us for our Signature Event! Contact our office for Reservation Forms and Sponsorship Opportunities

Economic Development Symposium

Avondale City Hall

November 6, 2008

7:30-noon

Workforce Task Force Survey roll-out and annual updates from our West Valley Communities

Health Summit

Renaissance Glendale Hotel, Glendale

November 17, 2008

Vital information on Health Care. Topics will include Worksite Wellness, De-mystifying Premiums, and much more