

Minutes Neighborhood Advisory Commission January 7, 2015

Minutes of the Neighborhood Advisory Commission (NAC) held on January 7, 2015 5:30-6:10 p.m., at 3rd Floor Conference Room of City Hall, 31 East 5th Street, Tempe, Arizona.

(MEMBERS) Present: Nancy Buell, Cole Hickman, Matt Korbeck, Kiyomi Kurooka, Nancy Lesko, Josephine McNamara, Bill Munch, Julie Ramsey, Scott Smas, Christopher Ware.

(MEMBERS) Excused Absences: Karen Adams, Arlene Chin, Robert Miller, Russ Plieseis, Joaquin Rios.

City Staff Present: Elizabeth Thomas, Neighborhood Services Specialist; Shauna Warner, Neighborhood Services Director

Guests Present:

None.

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Agenda Item 2 – Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Agenda Item 3 – Nominations for and election of Chair and Vice Chair

Commissioner McNamara confirmed with staff that Chair Miller was interested in continuing to serve as Chair. There were no other nominations for Chair. Commissioner Lesko made a motion that Commissioner Miller again be elected the Chair which was seconded by Commissioner Munch and passed unanimously. Nominations were sought for Vice Chair. Commissioner McNamara made a motion that Commissioner Munch be elected Vice Chair which was seconded by Commissioner Smas and passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 4 - Consideration of Minutes: November 5, 2014

Commissioner Ware made a motion to approve the November 5, 2014 minutes and Commissioner Munch seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 5 – Recognition of outgoing members and introduction of new member

As of December 2014, Commissioner Wagner completed his service to the commission and Commissioner Mulford completed his first term and chose not to be considered for reappointment. Members expressed appreciation for their years of service.

New member Matt Korbeck was welcomed to the commission. Commissioner Korbeck, a twenty year Tempe resident from zip code 85284, introduced himself and noted his passion for and pride in the city. Each member, in turn, introduced themselves and provided a little background information.

Agenda Item 6 - Zoning and Development Code PAD Amendment Status and Language Update

After hearing from a significant number of local residents and Developers at the hearing, the final adopted language for the PAD amendment was adopted as provided in the meeting packet. Prior to adoption, the final ordinance language was amended to include a 1 year review for the ordinance adoption to evaluate the process and procedures outlined. This review is anticipated to take place sometime in January 2016.

Commission members shared their appreciation and requested that their comments noted below be shared with Mayor and Council as well as Community Development staff:

- Thank you for listening to and taking our recommendations seriously.
- Thank you for being inclusive and allowing us the opportunity to be heard early on and throughout the process.
- We feel like we are part of this ordinance.
- We participated in a collaborative effort and are a vested partner.

Staff noted that the ordinance also contains modifications to the required public meeting and notification requirements. These approved amendments align with those made to the Tempe Involving the Public (TIP) manual by the Commission.

Agenda Item 7 – Character Areas Update

Some commission members who participated in the prior process offered praise for the multiple opportunities and means for comments and feedback and the thorough analysis which captured the level of importance and concern surrounding some issues. The Corona/South Tempe and Kiwanis/The Lakes Character Area Plans will go before the City Council on January 8, 2015 for review and adoption.

The next two character areas are Central City and Apache. The map provided in the packet defines the boundaries for each. The first workshops will be held on Saturday, April 18 as a component of the State of the Neighborhoods Awards and Workshops. Prior to the April 18 workshops, there will be some targeted stakeholder and business outreach. The planner(s) leading the effort will come to a future NAC meeting to discuss the process and provide updates.

Agenda Item 8 – Discussion of 2015 State of the Neighborhoods/Neighborhood Workshop and Awards

This year marks the second year that the State of the Neighborhoods address will lead off the Neighborhood Awards and Workshops event. Salt River Project has again agreed to be a sponsor.

Staff is also reaching out to Whole Foods and Association Assistant, both businesses sponsored last year's event.

The Central City and the Apache Character Areas will be two of the four featured workshops. The remaining two will need to compliment the Character Area offerings but be topics with broad appeal, rather than centered on a specific area of the community. Members were asked for their input. There was agreement that community garden demonstrations or tours and making your neighborhood more sustainable type topics are always well received. Members liked the idea of hearing from some chairs that are coordinating innovative, community building efforts in their neighborhoods. They suggested a panel format composed of NA and HOA representatives (maybe two of each). Commissioner McNamara also offered to contact a work associate who lives in Tempe and leads residential and community garden workshops about a potential workshop on gardening with wood pallets. In keeping with a sustainability or nourish your neighborhood theme, event giveaway items could include seed packets, seedlings and compost bags.

Staff agreed to forward the neighborhood awards application and flyer to commissioners. Commissioners were encouraged to spread the word and to consider nominating a person or property prior to the February 13 deadline.

Agenda Item 9 – Date/timeframe options for joint meeting with Historic Commission

John Southard, new Historic Preservation Officer offered to come to an upcoming NAC meeting along with the Historic Preservation Chair/Vice Chair to provide a commission overview, scope and top priorities. NAC members agreed this would be helpful information. In addition, a joint meeting of the groups is also being discussed. Commission members suggested that maybe this could happen as a component of the June retreat assuming there is one in June. Staff will continue following up.

Agenda Item 10 – Proposed Agenda Items for February or Future Meeting

- Tempe Arts Plan
- Leave of absence
- Feral cats ordinance update

Agenda Item 10 –Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Prepared by: Elizabeth Thomas, Neighborhood Services Specialist
Reviewed by: Shauna Warner, Neighborhood Services Manager