

## **Minutes Neighborhood Advisory Commission March 1, 2017**

**Minutes of the Neighborhood Advisory Commission (NAC) held on March 1, 2017, at the City Hall, 3rd Floor Conference Room, 31 E. 5th Street, Tempe, Arizona.**

**(MEMBERS) Present:** Karen Adams, Jack Escobar, Jonathan Gelbart, Barb Harris, Matt Korbeck, Kiyomi Kurooka, Nancy Lesko, Candyce Lindsay, Bill Munch, Julie Ramsey, Daniel Schugurensky

**(MEMBERS) Absent:** Carol Shixue Hu, Emily Leppert, Josephine McNamara

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

**Guests Present:** None.

### **Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m.

### **Agenda Item 2 – Public Comment**

None.

### **Agenda Item 3 – Consideration of Minutes: February 1, 2017**

Commissioner Lesko made a motion to approve the February 1 minutes as presented, Commissioner Adams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **Agenda Item 4 – Neighborhood Award Nominations Group Review and Selection of Award Recipients**

Eighteen nominations total were received this year. Eight were for Neighbor of the Year consideration, seven were Property Beautification nominees and three were Alley Upkeep submissions.

Commissioners were reminded that nominations can come in from individuals as well as neighborhood or homeowners associations or groups. In addition, Neighbor of the Year nomination criteria allows eligibility for individuals, associations, businesses or groups who demonstrate neighborliness, creativity and community building qualities. Staff added that all nominees are publicly recognized, both award winners and honorable mentions are provided framed certificates and professional photographs are taken with Mayor and Council.

After initial votes were tallied, commissioner discussion based on the contents of provided nomination materials followed. Nominators are responsible for telling nominee stories. Commissioner Lesko made a motion that Justin Stewart be nominated as the Chuck Malpede Neighbor of the Year Award recipient which was seconded by Commissioner Escobar and passed by a unanimous vote. Commissioner Lesko then made a motion for Clark Park Farmers Market to be the Neighbor of the Year Award winner which was seconded by Commissioner Harris and passed by a unanimous vote.

Commissioner Schugurensky noted his challenges with comparing Neighbor of the Year nominations for individuals with those for groups. He inquired if any thought has been given to separating them. This idea has come up in the past but NAC members discussed and chose not to create separate Neighbor of the Year categories. Groups and businesses have won Neighbor of the Year awards including the Tempe Neighbors Helping Neighbors. Staff advised that this topic can be part of the April or May 2017 nomination cycle wrap up discussion which will also encompass the awards background information, nomination and rater forms.

Staff reminded commissioners that per Property Beautification nomination eligibility criteria, this award category encompasses landscape improvements, new builds, exterior renovations, sustained impeccable maintenance and holiday décor. Initial votes were then tallied for all Property Beautification nominees. Commissioners discussed candidates and again reviewed before (when available) and after pictures. Commissioner Schugurensky made a motion for the 10th St. property to be the Golden Shovel Award winner which was seconded by Commissioner Gelbart and passed unanimously. Commissioner Escobar made a motion for the Robert Rd. property to be the Property Beautification Award Winner which was seconded by Commissioner Korbeck and passed unanimously.

The Alley Upkeep nominee photos were then reviewed and the votes were tallied. Commissioner Korbeck made a motion to award the Elm and Juniper alley with the Golden Rake award, the motion was seconded by Commissioner Escobar and passed unanimously. Commissioner Korbeck suggested inviting Solid Waste Department to have a presence or to help present the award since they advocated for this award category. Staff advised that traditionally Mayor and Council present all of the awards. Solid Waste staff and management are often present for the State of the Neighborhoods event and this suggestion can be passed along.

#### **Agenda Item 5 – 2017 State of the Neighborhoods, Neighborhood Awards and Workshop Planning Update**

Event flyers and promotional materials will be available at the April meeting for commissioners to take and share in their Tempe neighborhoods, work places, churches, groups, etc. The March edition of Tempe Today will include an article about this year's State of the Neighborhoods Awards and Workshop. In addition, the April edition of Tempe Today will include a half-page color flyer insert reminding residents about the event and encouraging rsvp's.

Staff noted that thanks to keeping things simple and with the help of generous sponsors including Association Assistant, Donut Parlor, Whole Foods and SRP, the event is nearly cost neutral. Chair Lindsay asked if staff will need commissioner help with day of set up activities. Staff will share any needs at the April meeting and emphasized the importance of commissioners telling others about the event and encouraging them to attend.

#### **Agenda Item 6 – Meeting Start Time discussion**

Chair Lindsay noted the regular monthly meeting is on the first Wednesday of each month (unless otherwise noted) and is scheduled to begin at 5:30 p.m. Members were provided this information when they accepted their commission member appointment and the date and timeframe of the meeting has been constant for many years. Chair Lindsay then asked commissioners if they are having trouble making this start time. Commissioner Gelbart noted that it can be hard for him to leave work prior to 5 p.m. so he sometimes will be 5 to 10 minutes late. Chair Lindsay suggested that if this current start time becomes an issue, it can be revisited as part of the discussion during the annual commission retreat in August. She added that if the meeting were to start later, it would end later as well.

**Agenda Item 7-Proposed Agenda Items for April or Future meeting**

- Tempe Streetcar Update (April)
- 2017 State of the Neighborhoods Event Update (April – tbd nomination process and forms may also be discussed in April and/or depending on speakers we have coming may be included in May event wrap up)
- Urban Forest Workshop & Tree Expo Event Follow Up, Draft Plan Review (April or May)
- Council Priorities Update when available

**Agenda Item 10 – Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

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