

Minutes Neighborhood Advisory Commission January 6, 2010

Minutes of the Neighborhood Advisory Commission (NAC) held on January 6, 2010, 5:30 p.m. – 6:40 p.m., at City Hall, 31 E. 5th Street, 3rd Floor Conference Room, Tempe, Arizona.

(MEMBERS) Present: Don Calender, Tom Catlaw, Pete De Mott, Andy Hall, Kevin Kaesberg, Ira King, Joe Pospicil, Lisa Roach, John Sanborn, Jason Short, Michael Wasko, Woody Wilson.

(MEMBERS) Excused Absences: Maureen Decindis, Joochul Kim, William Wagner.

(MEMBERS) Unexcused Absences: Jeffrey Sheppard,

City Staff Present: Shauna Warner, Neighborhood Services Director; Elizabeth Thomas, Neighborhood Services Specialist, John Osgood, Deputy Public Works Manager Field Operations, 480-350-8949 or john_osgood@tempe.gov.

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order

Vice Chair Wasko called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. without a quorum.

A quorum was achieved at 5:50 p.m.

Agenda Item 2 – Public Comment

There was none.

Agenda Item 3 – Consideration of Minutes: December 2, 2009

Commissioner Calender moved that the December 2, 2009 minutes be approved as written. Commissioner Wilson seconded the motion. The motion passed with two abstentions due to absence from the December 2, 2009 meeting.

Agenda Item 4 – Election of Officers

Vice Chair Wasko provided the opportunity for additional nominations, there were none. Commissioner Wilson made a motion to approve the slate of officers as presented, Chair Kaesberg as Chair and Vice Chair Wasko as Vice Chair. Commissioner Calender seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 5 – Discussion of Solid Waste Ordinance Revisions

John Osgood, Deputy Public Works Manager – Field Operations, provided an update to the Solid Waste Code proposed revisions initially discussed at the September 9 NAC meeting. The language for these changes is now being reviewed by the City Attorney's Office for clarifications and minor language and grammar revisions. The draft is more of a rewrite than a revision and is anticipated to be ready for further review by NAC, the Quality of Life Council Committee and Solid Waste and Code Compliance staff in about two weeks. The revised code will then be taken through the public hearing process for adoption.

John emphasized that the changes to the code are designed to clarify, strengthen and improve efficiencies with the code, making it more useful and simple for residents, businesses and staff to use. Another primary goal was to align it with the Nuisance Code's penalties for non-compliance and habitual offenders of notices of violation. The Solid Waste Code offenses include alley

conditions and public rights of way, addressing overgrown vegetation from private property into public rights of way, strengthening recycling participation requirements and potential limits on uncontained/bulky item monthly pick up. An example was provided and discussed at length. Currently, the cost to arrange for more than one pick up of a black can per month is lower than the cost to order an additional black can which can then be picked up at the same time. This extra pick up of monthly trash is costly and this practice will be discouraged by increasing the fees to do so.

The introduction of a pilot green waste/compost program is a new and exciting element being introduced to the code. For the pilot, the city will provide green cans in order to separate out clean green waste from trash. Initially, all green waste will be acceptable with the exception of palm fronds as they present problems. The high quality organic compost created by this partnership effort with Singh farms will then be purchased by the city at a reduced cost in order to take care of lawn and shrubbery areas in local parks. These materials would otherwise go in the landfill. The pilot will provide the opportunity to work out operational details prior to launching the green waste/compost program on a larger scale.

There was some additional discussion and questions related to solid waste. Commissioner Wasko commented that his HOA pays for the water bill for all owners. Therefore, when visiting the Sky Harbor Regional transfer Station, the requirement to show both a driver's license and a water bill presents a problem. He requested that an alternative form of proof of Tempe residency such as a utility bill should be permitted. John agreed to follow up on this matter.

Several commissioners inquired if the City of Tempe takes old black garbage cans and makes compost containers out of them as some of the other local cities do. There seems to be some misinformation regarding if the city does or does not out there. John stated that they do and noted that he will ensure that this information is on the solid waste/recycling website and instructors for Parks and Recreations composting classes are advised. The suggestion was made to think about having a compost container filled with Singh Farms compost along with some plants or flowers as a Neighborhood Workshop raffle prize of some sort. Staff will explore this idea.

Agenda Item 6 – Neighborhood Day at the State Legislature

Shauna referenced the invitation to the February 3 Neighborhood Day at the State Legislature provided in the packet materials. She encouraged all NAC members consider attending this informational session with Mayor, Council and legislators to meet their representatives, learn about the city's legislative program firsthand and take a tour of the Arizona House of Representatives and State Senate. Commissioners Calender, Wasko and Wilson plan to attend. Once all rsvp's are in, NAC members can work together to arrange carpools or take the light rail and then transfer to Dash as alternatives to driving down alone. February 1 is the deadline for rsvp's. Shauna will email out a reminder to all NAC members closer to the event date.

Agenda Item 7 – 2010 Neighborhood Workshop and Awards Planning

Elizabeth provided a brief update regarding event planning. Per some NAC member suggestions at the December meeting, she explored the possibility of the Saturday, April 10 Neighborhood Workshop and Awards being held at this location. The Madcap does have an opening for that date but there are fees involved for facility usage and beverages that must be purchased at Madcap. The logistics of needing parking close by or in an adjacent structure also likely would pose challenges. Elizabeth noted that it is certainly a possibility worth exploring for future workshops when there is sufficient time for organizing, fundraising and promoting. The suggestion was made to specifically ask on the post workshop survey this year if a downtown event location would be desired or acceptable to determine interest. A new location could mean new faces as well.

Some of the workshop speakers are still being determined and sought such as the ones to best address the Shop Tempe: It's All Here and It All Comes Back to You session.

Neighbor of the Year applications have been distributed to all neighborhood contacts. Commissioners requested staff confirm that the Neighbor of the Year application is advertised on Channel 11. Commission members were encouraged to help get the word out. The application deadline is February 18 and applications will be reviewed at the March 3 NAC meeting.

Agenda Item 8 – Committee Reports and Consideration of Minutes

- A. **Codes Committee** – No meeting was held since the last commission meeting.
- B. **Housing Committee** – No meeting was held since the last commission meeting.
- C. **Outreach Committee** – No meeting was held since the last commission meeting.

Proposed Agenda Items for February 3, 2010 Meeting

- 2010 Neighborhood Workshop and Awards Planning
- Water Utilities Overview
- Valley of the Sun United Way Housing Program Overview
- Committee Reports
- City of Tempe Budget (March or future meeting)
- Police Department Alzheimer's Program Concept (future meeting)

Agenda Item 9 – Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

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