

Minutes Neighborhood Advisory Commission Retreat June 7, 2008

Minutes of the Neighborhood Advisory Commission (NAC) held on June 7, 2008, 8:30 a.m. - noon at the Apache Boulevard Police Substation Community Room, 1855 East Apache Boulevard, Tempe, Arizona.

(MEMBERS) Present: Erik Anthony Aldrete, Don Calender, Tom Catlaw, Pete De Mott, Andy Hall, Kevin Kaesberg, Ira King, Susan Knudson, Alex Podressoff, Joe Pospicil, Lisa Roach, John Sanborn, Jeffrey Sheppard, Jason Short, Michael Wasko, Woody Wilson.

(MEMBERS) Excused Absences: Greg Ellison, Faye Farmer, William Wagner.

(MEMBERS) Unexcused Absences: Bill Weigele.

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

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order

Vice Chair Wasko called the meeting to order at 8:38 a.m.

Agenda Item 2 – Public Comment

There was none.

Agenda Item 3 – Consideration of Minutes: May 7, 2008 Meeting

The May 7, 2008 minutes were considered for approval. Commissioner Wilson moved that the minutes be approved as submitted. Commissioner Calender seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 4 – Zoning Code Amendments

The Commission reviewed proposed Zoning and Development Code amendments pertaining to Sec. 4-706 wall height, Sec. 4-202 building setback and Sec. 6-402 neighborhood meetings. After some discussion regarding the proposed amendments followed by agreement regarding the need for clarification, members suggested that illustrations of the allowable wall heights be added next to the new text.

Commissioner Calender then moved that the Commission support the proposed Zoning and Development Code amendments. Commissioner Roach seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Neighborhood staff will inform Planning staff of the action as well as the suggested need for illustrations.

Agenda Item 5 – Recap of Past Year

Commissioners reviewed their accomplishments from August 2007 to May 2008. This review was followed by a general discussion regarding the purview and mission of the Commission. Members read aloud excerpts of the ordinance that created the commission. Some members expressed a desire to set goals taking into consideration defined means of measurement where applicable. These goals would be targeted to reaching more concrete accomplishments.

Chair Kaesberg requested that the commission mission be added across the top of each meeting agenda to remind all members of the commission of their advisory role when they receive and review their packets and as they work together to make decisions.

Agenda Item 6– Neighborhood Workshop and Awards

Staff distributed a packet of information highlighting and demonstrating the advertisement of the workshop and awards. Commissioners discussed the purpose and intent of the event at length. In regards to the Neighbor of the Year portion, they decided that there needed to be a separate category for group nominations.

Commissioners also discussed the exploration of corporate sponsorships for the event. Commissioner Calender moved that the Commission pursue the availability of obtaining corporate sponsorship for the 2009 workshop. Commissioner Knudson seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 12 in favor and 4 opposed.

Commissioner Calender moved that 2009 workshop have a primary speaker prior to breakout sessions. Commissioner Wilson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 7 – Goals for Next Year

The Commission brainstormed on possible goals for the coming year and suggested the following:

1. Better committee participation (4 votes)
2. More engaged with the community (7 votes)
3. Tempe Involving the Public Manual follow up (0 votes)
4. Green (11 votes)
5. Metro transportation (5 votes)
6. Rentals, enforcement and current conditions (8 votes)
7. Present at least 5 actions/recommendations to Council - proactive and reactive (10 votes)
8. Home based businesses in current economy (4 votes)
9. Broaden Commission representation, such as adding a member from a mobile home community (7 votes)
10. Affordable housing – NAC role and support (10 votes)
11. A successful workshop and awards program (14 votes)
12. Crime Prevention (2 votes)
13. Historic Preservation (3 votes)

Each Commissioner was asked to vote a total of 6 times to prioritize the goals that most interested them as a group. The number in parentheses indicates the final vote tally. Commissioner Calender moved that the Commission accept #'s 4, 6, 7, 9, 10 and 11 as the six goals. Commissioner Wilson seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 15 in favor and 1 opposed.

Agenda Item 8 – Committee Structure

The Commission discussed the need for committees to look into items. They reviewed the existing committees and decided to create committees that correlate to the set goals while eliminating any that no longer have been identified as high priorities or those that have accomplished their goals. The Codes Committee and Outreach Committee already exist. Committees will set their own meeting days and times.

Commissioner Calender moved that the Commission disband the Transportation Committee. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 15 in favor and 1 opposed.

Commissioner Kaesberg moved that the Commission disband the Business Committee. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 9 in favor, 4 opposed and 3 abstaining.

Commissioner Knudson moved that the Commission create a Green/Sustainability Committee to review current actions being taken, study best practices and to set actionable items to forward to the Commission and City Council. Commissioner Sheppard seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Hall moved that the Commission create a Housing Committee to encourage the development of affordable housing. Commissioner De Mott seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 9 – Agenda Topics for August 6, 2008

Committee Reports, Goals and Members; Neighborhood Grant Recommendations; Tempe Involving the Public (TIP) Update; Residential Permit Parking; South Corridor Study and Citizen Satisfaction Survey.

Agenda Item 10 - Adjournment

Commissioner Calender moved that the meeting be adjourned. Commissioner Wilson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

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