
Minutes Neighborhood Advisory Commission May 1, 2013

Minutes of the Neighborhood Advisory Commission (NAC) held on May 1, 2013 5:35 p.m. – 6:35 p.m., at City Hall, 31 E. 5th Street, 3rd Floor Conference Room, Tempe, Arizona.

(MEMBERS) Present: Karen Adams, Nancy Buell, John Chester, Kiyomi Kurooka, Nancy Lesko, Josephine McNamara, Jon Mulford, Russ Plieseis, John Sanborn, Scott Smas, Bill Wagner, Christopher Ware.

(MEMBERS) Excused Absences: Ann Lynn DiDomenico, Robert Miller, Bill Munch, Mary Robinson

(MEMBERS) Unexcused Absences: Julie Ramsey

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

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order

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

Agenda Item 2 – Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Agenda Item 3 – Consideration of Minutes: March 6, 2013

Commissioner Ware made a motion to approve the March 6, 2013 minutes and Commissioner Buell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 4 – Proposed Text Amendment to City Code regarding Nuisance Parties and Unlawful Gatherings

The highlights of the proposed text amendments are moving forward as written. Some of the changes model Tucson's successful program. The proposed text amendments include the following:

- Fees are changing from a cost base to a fee base structure. The old ordinance charged by the officer by the hour. The new ordinance will charge \$250 for a first offense, \$1000 for a second and \$1500 for a third.
- Officers may cite nuisance parties on the first offense if appropriate.

- Any person at the nuisance party engaged in the problematic behavior may now be in violation.
- Sponsors, hosts and organizers of a nuisance party (including entities) are now subject to nuisance party violations.
- Officers may now post the violation on the door of the residence if the resident refuses to answer the door.
- Notice to the owner/landlord shall be made via certified mail. (Owner/landlord will not be held responsible for the first PD response unless they are present at the nuisance party.)
- Aggravating factors such as minor in possession, minor in consumption, illegal drugs, weapons or other felonious conduct will increase the police service fee.

The proposed text amendments will go to City Council for a first hearing on May 9 followed by a second hearing on May 30. Commissioner Adams made a motion for the Neighborhood Advisory Commission to support the proposed changes as presented, Commissioner Plieseis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 5 – Tempe 311 Mobile App Launch

The Tempe 311 Mobile App officially launched in mid- January. In addition to being able to call in issues to 311 or report them online, residents can now use smart phone applications to request follow up for a variety of concerns such as street lights out, graffiti, downed trees or potholes. They can send photos, locations and descriptions at the touch of a screen. The smart phone application directly communicates with the Tempe 311 Citizen Request Management (CRM) system so that all requests are transparent and tracked and managed in the same place, regardless of contact method (app, web, email or by phone).

Thus far, the majority of application users are reporting Public Works issues such as potholes and graffiti. NAC members were encouraged to try the mobile app and to let staff know if they notice any common concerns that are missing or if they experience any challenges using it.

Agenda Item 6 – General Plan 2040 Community Working Group Update

Commissioner Ramsey, who is a member of the working group, was not present to provide an update. Shauna noted that the General Plan 2040 Community Working Group has been meeting regularly and working together diligently with staff from many different work areas to assemble the first draft of the General Plan 2040, which is more of an update than a complete rewrite. The first draft will be shared at community meetings on May 29 and June 1. Input will be sought regarding what is missing and what is needed or should be added. Shauna agreed to provide a pdf or a link once available to NAC members. There is a section specific to neighborhoods, as well as many areas that touch on neighborhoods.

Agenda Item 7 – 2013 Neighborhood Workshop and Awards Wrap Up

NAC members expressed enthusiasm and appreciation for this year's entire event including the pacing of the awards, Escalante venue site, mix of workshops and varied, knowledgeable speakers. Neighborhood Services staff complimented Keith Burke and his Escalante staff for their flexibility and helpfulness. Chair McNamara offered to get a card for the next NAC meeting so members can express their appreciation and thanks. NAC members agreed they wish to host next year's event at this same location.

Agenda Item 8 – Discussion of Commission Priorities and Goals

There was brief discussion. Some members commented that most of the issues discussed regarding commission purpose, mission and priorities towards the latter part of 2012 have improved. Upcoming meetings and/or a NAC Retreat will help to inform and craft commission priorities and goals.

For example, the number of opportunities to provide input on various issues potentially impacting neighborhoods seems to have increased and there has been additional communication with elected officials through some member participation in the Council Committee meetings and attendance at community and City Council meetings. Building relationships and encouraging ongoing dialogue with city staff and elected officials was noted as being important to the group.

Agenda Item 9 – Discussion of retreat date and topics

Members considered delaying a retreat until has new members have been appointed. Currently, there are openings in 85281 and 85282. After some additional discussion, it was decided to continue the tradition of a NAC June retreat. The date of Saturday, June 22 was chosen. Staff agreed to check availability of possible locations, the community room at the Eisendrath House is the preference if available.

Proposed Retreat agenda items were as follows:

- Overview of the Neighborhood Code Enforcement Residential Survey
- General Plan 2040 First Draft Review
- Update regarding proposed Zoning and Development Code Changes (dependent on timing)
- Commission priorities and goal setting

Agenda Item 10 - Proposed Agenda Items for June 5 or Future Meeting

See Agenda Item 9.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Prepared by: Elizabeth Thomas, Neighborhood Services Specialist

Reviewed by: Shauna Warner, Neighborhood Services Manager