

**DRAFT** Minutes  
Neighborhood Advisory Commission  
May 2, 2018



Minutes of the Neighborhood Advisory Commission (NAC) held on Wednesday, May 2, 2018, at the City Hall, 3rd Floor Conference Room, 31 E. 5th Street, Tempe, Arizona.

**(MEMBERS) Present:** Karen Adams, Hannah Moulton Belec, Mike D'Elena, Jonathan Gelbart, Stephanie Greenfield, Kiyomi Kurooka, Candyce Lindsay, Daniel Schugurensky

**(MEMBERS) Absent:** Michael Comstock, Jack Escobar, Barb Harris, Carol Shixue Hu, Matt Korbeck, Nancy Lesko, Bill Munch

**City Staff Present:** Elizabeth Thomas, Neighborhood Services Specialist; Shauna Warner, Neighborhood Services Manager, Ryan Levesque, Deputy Community Development Director-Planning, 480-858-2393, ryan\_levesque@tempe.gov, Braden Kay, Sustainability Program Manager, 480-350-8867, braden\_kay@tempe.gov

**Guests Present:** Bruce Ginsberg

**Agenda Item 1 - Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:37 p.m.

**Agenda Item 2 - Public Comment**

Bruce Ginsberg, Tempe resident, provided printed background information to each commission member and voiced his concerns regarding proposed amendments to Senate Bill (SB) 1387. These changes would limit municipality authority and allow Arizona homeowners to post business information in front of their homes, reduce Code Enforcement's ability to enforce code regulations, and allow a residential property to operate as a commercial use without the need for rezoning, license, permit, registration, variance, or prior approval. Mr. Ginsberg expressed strong concerns about possible numerous negative impacts to neighborhoods and urged residents to stay updated and informed and to contact their State Representatives to vote against SB 1387.

**Agenda Item 3 - Consideration of Minutes: March 7, 2018**

Commissioner Schugurensky made a motion to approve the March 7 minutes which was seconded by Commissioner Adams and passed unanimously.

**Agenda Item 4 - Update re: new code text amendment for PAD/ZONING EXTENSIONS**

Ryan Levesque, Deputy Community Development Director-Planning, stated that this PAD/ZONING EXTENSIONS amendment originated through the City Manager's Vacant Buildings Working Group after an October 2, 2017 public meeting, followed by City Council on October 19, 2017 directing the Working Group to proceed with a proposed ordinance. The Development Review Commission made a recommendation of approval at their March 13, 2018 meeting and the new code text amendment changes went

before City Council at their April 12th meeting and again on April 26th when final approval was secured.

This amendment changes the existing regulations requiring an administrative hearing with City Council before receiving a time extension for either a zoning map amendment or planned area development overlay. The updated process allows an applicant to select from a pre-approved list of acceptable temporary site improvements for consideration and evaluation by Planning staff. Projects that receive approved time extensions (with conditional temporary improvements) are then required to be completed within 60 calendar days of the extension approval.

For vacant sites, acceptable temporary site improvements can range from adding street trees to temporary pop-up park features to creating a community garden. Active building sites in use can maintain a majority of tenants (75%+ occupancy) within existing buildings and utilize public/private art murals in vacant tenant windows. Identified improvements to sites with abandoned buildings include: demolition, restricted access, public/private art in vacant tenant windows, wall mural, on-site sculpture or any other reasonable alternate improvement approved by the city. If selecting from a list of temporary options is not preferred, an applicant may still seek an alternate extension through the current procedures with City Council.

#### **Agenda Item 5 – Recommendation for Innovation Funding of Equity in Action**

The City of Tempe established a one-time, non-recurring Innovation Fund of \$500,000 within the 2017-18 fiscal year budget. This fund is intended to encourage and promote new and creative ideas to significantly improve our community and keep Tempe as the regional leader in innovation.

City Council asked that proposals be reviewed by city Boards and Commissions. Braden Kay, Sustainability Program Manager, noted that the Equity in Action proposal most aligned with neighborhoods and the work of the Neighborhood Advisory Commission so members were being asked to provide their input specific to this proposal. The Human Relations and Sustainability Commission's also reviewed the proposal and both are recommending funding.

Shauna Warner and Braden Kay gave an overview of the Equity in Action proposal for innovation funding. The proposal relates to 2 City Council priorities; 1) 2.15 Achieve ratings of "Very Satisfied" or "Satisfied" with the "feeling invited and welcomed to participate in city decision-making processes" greater than or equal to the national benchmark cities as measured in the Community Survey and 2) 3.13 Achieve a score of 100 on the self-assessment tool for "Disability Social Inclusion" in accordance with the Tempe Disability Inclusion Plan (T-DIP) and the National Council on Disability.

Cities like Portland, Oregon serve as examples of best practices when making transformational investments speaking to and considering shared values of health, prosperity, resilience and equity. Braden added that Tempe's infrastructure investments need to speak to our shared values and we need to hear from those we are not already hearing from.

The Equity in Action proposal calls for a request for proposals from social justice non-profits seeking their input, expertise and ideas for how to achieve greater equity and reach underrepresented audiences they have connections to through their boards, their clients and their outreach. The Innovation Fund request is for \$100,000 (\$50,000 of

which will be earmarked for pilot projects initiated by and lead by the selected non-profits) with Vitalyst Health Foundation serving as a partner with the city, helping with the criteria and selection of the participating non-profits and also contributing \$65,000. Vitalyst has consulted with other local cities regarding social justice measures but no collaborations have resulted to date.

There was a considerable amount of discussion and questions regarding the proposal. Braden is envisioning an Equity Commission, a coalition of non-profit representatives, that would meet every two weeks and move to identify and overcome barriers and obstacles to public involvement and participation, establish new connections for the city and help to build and grow relationships. Up to five participating non-profits would each identify a pilot project highlighting a change that happened or a program or process implemented so those engaged would quickly be affirmed that their involvement mattered.

The next step in the process is for each of eleven remaining innovation fund proposals to go before City Council with a five-minute timeframe offered to share additional information and details. Commission members expressed a desire to know additional information including more about who, what and how and also to provide feedback regarding development of the non-profit criteria to help ensure diversity, equity and inclusion. Commissioner Adams made a motion to support funding of the Equity in Action proposal with Commissioner Schugurensky seconding the motion. Six commissioners voted in favor with two commission members voting no citing lack of sufficient information at this time.

#### **Agenda Item 6 – State of the Neighborhoods Awards & Care Fair follow up**

Commissioners quickly and briefly remarked on the good event turn out, the joy of the award recipients, the positive and unexpected benefit of the Farmer's Market and the success of the inaugural Care Fair. Commissioner Belec inquired if young children were allowed to play in the Museum exhibit area prior to the Museum being open and staffed. Commissioners suggested considering having a children's activity table or area or portable crayons and coloring books available at sign in making it easier for parents with young children to keep them occupied during the Mayor's address and presentations. Chair Lindsay suggested including this agenda topic on the June meeting agenda and/or the August retreat agenda to allow more time for discussion.

#### **Agenda Item 7 – Discussion of potential dates for August Commission Retreat**

Staff shared that Saturday, August 18 is the only available Saturday at the Tempe History Museum community room. This is a central location and where the retreat meeting has been held in recent years. Commissioners present were asked if that date worked for them. All present save for Commissioner Gelbart indicated that date worked for them. Staff asked them to hold it on their calendars. Staff will also email those absent to confirm the date works for them as well.

#### **Agenda Item 8 – Proposed Agenda Items for Future Meetings**

- Proposed Pigeon Ordinance Update
- Affordable Housing Impact Statement - June
- Current status of SB1350, short-term rentals and boarding (AirBNB)
- GP2040 Progress, Urban Core and Rio Salado & Beach Park Masterplan - June
- Managing Growth, transportation (all modes) and parking safely and efficiently as Tempe builds up

- Residential and commercial home based, small scale businesses (which ones do not require a license?)
- Wrap up of this legislative session
- Streetcar construction update
- NAC Current Goals Update/Touch Base - June

**Agenda Item 7 - Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:08 pm