

Minutes Enhanced Services Commission April 19, 2021

Minutes of the Enhanced Services Commission held on April 20, 2021 at 8:36 AM by virtual meeting through Microsoft Teams due to COVID-19, Tempe, Arizona.

Members Present:

Patrick Panetta, Chairman, ASU Member
Marilyn DeRosa, President, Director - Eng/Trans
Will Creyer, Vice President Commission/Area 1 Rep
Ken Jones, Treasurer of the Commission/Fin. & IT Director
Shelly Seyler, Sec. of the Commission/CD Director Interim
Derek Flottum, Landowner Member 2
Ted Rabban, Landowner Member/Area 3 Rep
Keith Burke, Community Services Deputy Director
Lori Foster, Downtown Tempe Authority Member

City Staff Present:

Alex Smith, Dep. Comm. Dev. Dir. of Special Projects
Ryan Levesque, Dep. Comm. Dev. Dir. of Planning
Donna Sullivan-Hancock, Dep. Comm. Dev. Dir. Interim-BS
Roger Hallsted, Rio Salado Fin. Analyst Comm. Dev.
Craig Caggiano, Water Resources Manager
Shawn Wagner, Dep. Com. Svcs. Dir Parks & Rec
Craig Hayton, Dep. Com Svcs. Dir Parks & Rec
Sarah Adame, Executive Assistant, Comm. Dev.

Members Absent:

Gordon Cresswell, Public Member
Mark Clouch, At-Large Residential Property Owner

Guests Present:

None.

Meeting convened at 8:36 am.

Agenda Item 1 – Consideration of Meeting Minutes:

Regular meeting minutes from January 12, 2021

Mr. Patrick Panetta called for a motion to vote on approval of the regular meeting minutes.

MOTION: Will Creyer, Vice President Commission/Area 1 Rep, motioned to approve.

SECOND: Derek Flottum, Landowner Member 2, seconded the motion.

VOTE: Approved 8-1

AYES: Patrick Panetta, Chairman, ASU Member, Shelly Seyler, Secretary of the Commission/CD Director; Will Creyer, Vice President Commission/Area 1 Rep, Derek Flottum, Landowner Member 2, Ken Jones, Treasurer of the Commission/Fin. & IT Director, Ted Rabban, Landowner Member/Area 3 Rep; Derek Flottum, Landowner Member 2; Marilyn DeRosa, President, Director - Eng/Trans

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: 1 Absent (Gordon Cresswell, Public Member)

Agenda Item 2 – Public Appearances – None

Agenda Item 3 – Budget Update – Roger Hallsted

Expenses through the end of March – Security at the lake is paid up front early in the fiscal year. This includes the salary for police sergeant that we pay 50%, or the first half of the year, along with gas and maintenance costs for their vehicles. The electricity and replacement water expense are a little over \$2,000. There has been no need to have any water replacement done to the lake so far this year. The liability insurance premium was budgeted at \$22,000.00 but this year we were charged a little over \$44,000.00. The increase is due to insurance underwriters re-evaluating the coverage (the insurance is still less than when we had the rubber bladder dams). The O&M assessments from the private properties is \$721,000.00. The O&M assessments from the city is \$1.6 million for the full year.

Capital assessments have been collected from private entities and the city for the full year. The fund balance is at \$2.7 million. To prepare the budget for next year there has been a collaboration of better reducing the fund balance by working with other department that assist with the lake. The CFD budget has gone down by 4% (\$3,132,500). During this time of COVID-19, the income from the permits being sold is \$139,000.00. That is an increase of over \$50,000.00 from the previous year. The budget review and presentation were reviewed by the commission, but no formal action was taken. All questions were responded – affirmative.

The lake quality contract is up for renewal. The contract budget is included in this budget (water quality management). The renewal request will be going to Council in the upcoming meeting.

Agenda Item 4 – Special Events Update – Keith Burke, Shawn Wagner, and Craig Hayton

Special Events are starting to come back. Only small events are scheduled in the summer, and planning is being done for the fall. Special Events division has been working with the DTA and Tempe Tourism. The application process is undergoing some changes that will help in getting continued support of Tempe businesses. Mayor Woods has extended the duration of the proclamation that allows retail businesses, restaurants, and bars to expand their premise onto city or private property without incurring a fee through December 31, 2021. There are 26 permits issued throughout the city. Events have been helpful and useful for retail and restaurants.

An update on the Draft Parks & Recreation Master Plan was presented. Another presentation will be for the upcoming Council meeting.

Agenda Item 5 – Town Lake Operations – Marylin DeRosa / Craig Caggiano

Special Events at the lake are coming up again. Full body contact lake events should be approved soon. Confirmed that there has been no makeup water used so far this year. The lake does have a natural water quality for a man-made lake. There has been some cost for chemicals to correct the PH balance to support the full body contact events. One of the piers has a small hydraulic oil spill. The spill was from a hydraulic joint. The joint was cleaned and put back which took care of the spillage.

The floating dock replacement project is still ongoing. A survey is going to be sent out to lake users to collect data on the usage of the lake and the placement of the floating docks. An annual inspection was completed on the lake for an engineering project charter and for risk management. Another engineering project will begin to research the state of the aging materials and hydraulic systems that were used to build the dam.

Agenda Item 6 – Downtown Tempe Update – Lori Foster

The first quarter of 2021, one business closed permanently, while 20 new businesses opened. 13 of the 20 businesses were on the first floor of West 6 building. At the end of the first quarter, there are 165 street level businesses, of which, 70% are local and independently owned. There are 30 vacant spaces on the street level of the downtown district. 19 were vacant pre-COVID, and 11 are vacant due to COVID-19. Interest in the vacant spaces is high. The summertime will likely see some merchants seek better spaces while some will close due to ending their leases. Some merchants are waiting for the fall to reopen their businesses. Sales and revenue were very high this first quarter, including parking revenue on the weekends. Merchants are having concerns about hiring people. Merchants are hopeful for the office dwellers to return. Everyone is looking towards the fall for full recovery and advocating for large events, special vacation centers, and grants.

Agenda Item 7 – Public and Private Development Update – Ryan Levesque and Alex Smith

Joint Review Committee – The Novus project site Wentworth on the east side of Rio Salado for phase 1 and phase 2 was approved. Internally reviewing the development on lot 6 on the Pier development site. There are a couple of multi-family high-rise projects on that site.

The next meeting will be on August 17, 2021.

Meeting adjourned at 9:14 am.

Prepared by Sarah Adame
Reviewed by: Roger Hallsted

Shelly Seyler

Shelly Seyler
Community Development Director Interim
Secretary