Tempe

Minutes
Neighborhood Advisory Commission
April 1, 2009

Minutes of the Neighborhood Advisory Commission (NAC) held on April 1, 2009, 5:35 p.m. – 7:05 p.m. at City Hall, 31 E. 5th Street, 3rd Floor Conference Room, Tempe, Arizona.

(MEMBERS) Present: Don Calender, Tom Catlaw, Jimmye Dubuy, Kevin Kaesberg, Ira King, Susan Knudson, Joe Pospicil, Lisa Roach, John Sanborn, Jeffrey Sheppard, Jason Short, William Wagner, Michael Wasko, Woody Wilson.

(MEMBERS) Excused Absences: Andy Hall, Joochul Kim.

(MEMBERS) Unexcused Absences: Erik Anthony Aldrete, Pete De Mott, Don Peyton.

City Staff Present: Shauna Warner, Neighborhood Services Director; Elizabeth Thomas, Neighborhood Services Specialist, Ryan Levesque, Senior Planner, 480-858-2393, ryan_levesque@tempe.gov

Guests Present:
Chad Beus, ASU Student, Awais Kahn, ASU Student, Tom Luu, ASU Student, Paul Song, ASU Student.

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order
Chair Kaesberg called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

Agenda Item 2 – Public Comment
There was none.

Agenda Item 3 – Consideration of Minutes: March 4, 2009
Commissioner Calender moved that the March 4, 2009 minutes be approved. Commissioner Knudson seconded the motion. The motion passed with 13 yes votes and one abstention due to a meeting absence.

Agenda Item 4 – Discussion of Proposed Zoning and Development Code Amendments
Ryan Levesque, Senior Planner, provided an overview of the twelve recommended Zoning and Development Code Amendments which included:

- Adding the ability to process abatements for commercial properties that have not responded to an issued citation as is done for abatements with residential properties.
- Performing code clean up items such as removing language pertinent to the Apache Boulevard Project Area Committee which has held their final meeting.
- Redefining the various types of outdoor uses and define review procedures for four categories - permanent outdoor retail, temporary outdoor retail, seasonal merchandise and vending machines.
- Providing a set of standards/criteria requirements that would allow an accessory building on a residential lot which if it meets these standards could be in lieu of a use permit process.
- Changes to pets section to address inconsistencies and animals such as pygmy goats that are not specifically defined.
- Providing an outdoor parking ratio for bars consistent with restaurant uses.
- Clarification of the noticing and hearing procedures for appeals and for revocation of a permit.

- Providing a list of additional definitions, along with modification of existing definitions, in order to provide clarification and intent of defined uses.

In response to commissioner questions, Ryan provided the following information. The code amendment pertaining to abatement of commercial properties is intended to provide the Hearing Officer authority to act on commercial properties in the same manner as residential properties. Those commercial properties that are sold during an abatement process with liens will have the liens carried with the land. The new property owner will know that the property has been abated or will be abated. Many of these abatements are due to foreclosures resulting in poor property maintenance. The length of time the new property owner is given to bring the property into compliance will be up to the discretion of the Hearing Officer.

Concern was also expressed regarding potential abuse of the accessory buildings proposed changes resulting in creation of a guest quarters rather than an oversized storage shed. Ryan noted that this is not the intention of the proposed amendment, rather it's to establish a more resident friendly process (when applicable) with guidelines for those like situations planners have encountered. He added that guest quarters/houses are prohibited by code.

Next step will be the preparation of final draft language showing existing codes with additions and strike outs followed by Development Review Commission review and two City Council public hearings to be scheduled. He offered to come back to the commission in a few weeks with the final language.

Agenda Item 5 – Discussion of Neighborhood Commission Mission Statement and Purpose
Chair Kaesberg added this item to the agenda in response to some commissioner comments. He encouraged all to share their thoughts regarding NAC's purpose, mission, goals and actions. A significant amount of group discussion ensued including the following:

- If the Mayor and City Council are seeking our input, why aren't we providing more?
- What was the result of our motion to reconvene the Ad Hoc Rental Housing Task Force?
- Why didn't the Codes Committee meet as planned to address budget related concerns such as the proposed elimination of the part time code inspectors?
- Typically committee meetings have poor attendance, there is a fundamental flaw in how we operate.
- Consider set meeting times for each committee.
- There is a normal ebb and flow of committees and participation in same based on the needs and priorities at that time.
- Focus on what we have accomplished such as re-establishing the Neighbor of the Year Awards and adding and improving the Neighborhood Workshop and building on that.
- The committees have to be something you have some passion for.
- If you feel passionate about something, take it on, take ownership.
- Review committee structures, members, purpose.
- Clarify what can be done in committee vs. what can be done by entire commission.

Commission members agreed to take a more in depth look at these items at the upcoming retreat. In the meantime, committees are encouraged to meet to continue addressing identified tasks and moving forward.

Agenda Item 6 – Selection of Annual Retreat Date and Agenda and Review of June 7, 2008 Retreat
Commission members agreed to a retreat date of Saturday, June 13, 2009 from 8:30 to Noon. Staff to determine location based on availability.

The retreat agenda will include benchmarking against last year's identified goals, adding a follow up/next steps mechanism for issues being addressed or to be addressed, examination of committee existence, structure, membership, goals, review of what each committee tried to

accomplish and what was actually done along a more in depth discussion on group purpose passions and goals.

Agenda Item 7 – Budget Balancing Update

Shauna stated that the Mayor and City Council met again regarding the budget on Thursday, March 26. They requested that the City Manager come back with an actual budget (not just the recommendations) to include the $3.2 Million in positions added back in. The positions to add back in include all of the part time code inspector positions and the one full time code inspector.

Agenda Item 8 – Committee Reports and Consideration of Minutes

A. Codes Committee - The Codes Committee did not meet. A meeting will be scheduled soon by interim chair Bill Wagner to review current members, see who is interested in being added and who might wish to serve as chair in the future.

B. Green/Sustainability Committee

The Green Sustainability Committee met on March 11 at the Connections Café at 6:15 p.m. Members present continued their discussion regarding proper medication disposal. They wish to fact check on their gathered information prior to formally proposing education and outreach measures. The next meeting of the committee will be Tuesday, April 7 at the Connections Café.

C. Affordable Housing Committee

The Affordable Housing Committee did not meet due to member illness. The next meeting of the group will be on Monday, April 6 at the Connections Café beginning at 5:30 p.m. The committee is continuing to study how they can effectively intervene on affordable housing issues.

D. Outreach Committee

The Outreach Committee met on March 24 at 5:15 p.m. in the Connections Café to discuss event details for the Saturday, April 18 Neighborhood Workshop and Awards. The meeting did not have a quorum but the upcoming event was reported to be on track. Commission members were again encouraged to register online. Three to four commissioners will need to arrive early to help staff the sign in and registration table. Commissioners Dubuy, Knudson, Roach and Calender indicated their willingness to help. Commissioner Wilson was thanked for all his help.

Agenda Item 9 – Council Committee Reports

No reports were made. The Quality of Life Committee meeting was cancelled.

Agenda Item 10 – Proposed Agenda Items for May 6, 2009

- Committee Reports
- Review and selection of Committee members
- Presentation by Hazardous Waste staff
- Council Committees

Agenda Item 11 – Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

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