



Approved January 24, 2024

**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE
NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES**

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2023

**COMMUNITY DESIGN STUDIO - NAVE
7506 EAST INDIAN SCHOOL ROAD
SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA 85251**

PRESENT: Bridget Schwartz-Manock, Chair
Larry Hewitt, Vice Chair
Nancy Doty Brady, Commissioner
Craig Handzlik (MS Teams)
Louise Lamb, Commissioner
Richard Siegel, Commissioner
George Spatola

STAFF: Taylor Reynolds, Principal Planner
Christy Hill, Citizen Liaison
Nick Carroll, Long Range Planning
Stephanie Tippett, Parks & Recreation Manager

Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting of the Neighborhood Advisory Commission was called to order at 5:00 p.m. A formal roll call was conducted, confirming members present as stated above.

Public Comment

No comments were submitted.

1. Approve Draft Summary Meeting Minutes September 27, 2023

Vice Chair Hewitt called for comments/corrections. There were no changes.

COMMISSIONER SIEGEL MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 27, 2023 MEETING AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER DOTY BRADY SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0) WITH VICE

CHAIR HEWITT AND COMMISSIONERS DOTY BRADY, HANDZLIK, LAMB, SCHWARTZ-MANOCK, SIEGEL AND SPATOLA VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE WITH NO DISSENTING VOTES.

2. Election of Officers

COMMISSIONER DOTY BRADY MOVED TO ELECT BRIDGET SCHWARTZ-MANOCK AS CHAIR. VICE CHAIR HEWITT SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0) WITH VICE CHAIR HEWITT AND COMMISSIONERS DOTY BRADY, HANDZLIK, LAMB, SCHWARTZ-MANOCK, SIEGEL AND SPATOLA VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE WITH NO DISSENTING VOTES.

Chair Schwartz-Manock immediately assumed the position of Chair following the vote.

3. Office of Citizen Service, Scottsdale 101 Program

Christy Hill, Citizen Liaison, provided an overview of the program, the purpose of which is to provide residents a better understanding of the people, places and programs that shape the City and community. After a three-year hiatus, Scottsdale 101 returned last March with a new format, including 12 additional classroom hours, experiential learning, and a requirement to complete a minimum of two engagement projects. The next registration opens January 2, 2024, with the academy running from March 31st for nine consecutive weeks. Program alumni gave a brief overview of their experiences in the program.

In response to a question from Commissioner Doty Brady, Ms. Hill stated that 40 participants will be allowed for the upcoming academy, the same number as the previous program. There are no fees for participants.

4. Neighborhood Enhancement Grant Program: Overview of public requests received

Nick Carroll, Planner, provided an overview of requests received:

- Bus stop shade cover
 - West of McDonald Drive & Hayden Road intersection
 - The estimated cost of \$60,000 exceeds the amount available through the NEGP Program
 - Transportation staff noted that the location is of interest and is included on a list of potential shade improvements
- Landscape enhancement
 - 4443 N. 85th Street
 - Does not fully meet program location and accessibility requirements
 - The applicant pursued other City programs, including grass removal rebate program and were granted the rebate

5. Neighborhood Enhancement Grant Proposal: Agua Linda Park Landscape Enhancement

Mr. Reynolds stated that a budget of \$30,000 is provided by City Council for Fiscal Year 23/24. He provided a review of the governing criteria, including location accessibility, general need, existing conditions and maintenance. The request is for a 2,500 square foot area, which is underutilized and lacks vegetation and shade. There is unnecessary infrastructure in the form of a hexagonal concrete basin and a sidewalk to nowhere. An enhanced landscape area would be more likely to attract and engage visitors. The proposal area meets the program criteria. The scope includes a provision that NEGP funds would not exceed \$7,500. These funds would be used to provide necessary irrigation connections as well as granite spreading, shrubs and shade trees. Also included would be park benches and removal of the hexagonal structure. There is potential for a volunteer event as a form of sweat equity. Staff recommends allocation of NEGP funding not to exceed \$7,500 to implement the landscape enhancements.

Resident Lauren Click, request submitter, spoke in support of the request. She spoke about the benefits of adding native plants as well as the benefits of accessibility for residents.

Commissioner Lamb asked about intent to replace the structure with something else. Stephanie Tippett, Parks & Recreation Manager, stated that wood chips are located underneath and at the base of the structure and the intent would be to integrate wood chips into the area when the structure is removed.

Chair Schwartz-Manock asked about the possibility of this work being included in the Parks budget. Ms. Tippett stated that the project is not currently included in the Parks budget. The hope is to engage the neighborhood in the project, so that they become future stewards.

Resident Cody Wilson expressed support for the project, noting the dangers posed by the existing hexagonal structure and the existence of unused park space. The park is very accessible to residents and is one of the first things you see as you enter the City. She noted the importance of including native plants.

In response to a question from Commissioner Lamb, Ms. Tippett stated that from her understanding from the previous Parks Manager, costs were cited as the predominant reason why the structure was not removed during the 2000's. The facilities department has now agreed to have staff remove the piece.

VICE CHAIR HEWITT MOVED TO APPROVE THE PROPOSAL. COMMISSIONER LAMB SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0) WITH CHAIR SCHWARTZ-MANOCK, VICE CHAIR HEWITT AND COMMISSIONERS DOTY BRADY, HANDZLIK, LAMB, SIEGEL AND SPATOLA VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE WITH NO DISSENTING VOTES.

6. Neighborhood Enhancement Grant Proposal: Stoneridge Estates landscape enhancement

Mr. Reynolds identified the location, along Hayden Road, north of Shea and adjacent to East Larkspur Drive. The request includes a 4,800 square foot area at the entrance to the community, which currently includes limited vegetation. It is located within the City right-of-way and meets the location criteria. There is general need as a non-HOA neighborhood and lack of neighborhood funding for enhancements. Staff conducted a site visit in August of 2023. It was noted that much of the existing landscape has died back. The project scope is for funding not to exceed \$2,189.48, including the spreading of five tons of decomposed granite, and planting of shrubs and three trees. Staff notes that the project meets the NEGP criteria and would not create conflict with the City charter.

In response to a question from Commissioner Siegel, Mr. Reynolds stated that irrigation is in place and repairs are included in the request.

In response to question from Commissioner Spatola, Mr. Reynolds stated that the area containing the monument sign is located and maintained on private property.

COMMISSIONER SIEGEL MOVED TO APPROVE THE PROPOSAL. COMMISSIONER LAMB SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0) WITH CHAIR SCHWARTZ-MANOCK, VICE CHAIR HEWITT AND COMMISSIONERS DOTY BRADY, HANDZLIK, LAMB, SIEGEL AND SPATOLA VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE WITH NO DISSENTING VOTES.

7. Neighborhood Enhancement Grant Proposal: Peaceful Valley monument sign

Mr. Reynolds stated that the applicant's request is specific to the Peaceful Valley sign located east of Miller Road on the north side of Osborn. A second request was enhancements to an APS utility cabinet adjacent to the sign. Upon reaching out to APS staff, the cabinet was replaced within weeks. The sign enhancement request is located within a City neighborhood park, along a major collector and visually accessible to the public. Peaceful Valley is not within an HOA. Staff conducted a site visit in September 2023, taking note of the cracks and fading in the sign. The request includes repair and repainting. Maintenance will be minimized to future repaints. Project scope includes funds not to exceed \$5,522.44. Staff recommends approval at the budget estimate provided.

In response to a question from Vice Chair Hewitt about the bid process, Mr. Reynolds stated that upon conferring with the CIP department, there are some JOC contractors that have already met qualifications to perform work for the City below certain budget totals.

Commissioner Handzlik recommended that staff take any steps available to reduce the overall project cost, if possible.

COMMISSIONER LAMB MOVED TO APPROVE THE PROPOSAL. COMMISSIONER DOTY BRADY SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0) WITH CHAIR SCHWARTZ-MANOCK, VICE CHAIR HEWITT AND COMMISSIONERS DOTY BRADY, HANDZLIK, LAMB, SIEGEL AND SPATOLA VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE WITH NO DISSENTING VOTES.

8. NAC meeting dates in November and December 2023

Discussion ensued regarding the upcoming meeting schedule.

COMMISSIONER LAMB MOVED TO APPROVE COMMISSION PARTICIPATION IN THE VOLUNTEER EVENT AND TO CANCEL THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETINGS FOR THE MONTHS OF NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2023. VICE CHAIR HEWITT SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0) WITH CHAIR SCHWARTZ-MANOCK, VICE CHAIR HEWITT AND COMMISSIONERS DOTY BRADY, HANDZLIK, LAMB, SIEGEL AND SPATOLA VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE WITH NO DISSENTING VOTES.

9. identification of future agenda items

The following items were identified for future agendas:

- Update on Spirit of Scottsdale Award applications
- Update on pending NEGP projects

10. Staff Updates

Mr. Reynolds provided an update on G.A.I.N. participation, with Commissioner Lamb having attended two events. The next meeting, on January 24, 2024 will include discussion on the election of officers; bylaw review; grant program submittals; 2023 Spirit of Scottsdale Awards.

11. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved by Commissioner Siegel and seconded by Commissioner Lamb, the meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

AYES: Chair , Schwartz-Manock, Vice Chair Hewitt, Commissioners Dody Brady, Handzlik, Lamb, Siegel and Spatola

NAYS: None

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