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CALL TO ORDER

[Time: 00:00:01]

Mayor Lane: Good afternoon, everyone. Welcome to the Scottsdale Kiva. And we are here to call to order our December 1st, 2015, special meeting. It's approximately 4:07, just approximately. Exactly right. We will start with a roll call, please, if we are ready.

ROLL CALL

[Time: 00:00:25]

City Clerk City Clerk Carolyn Jagger: Mayor Jim Lane.

Mayor Lane: Present.

City Clerk Carolyn Jagger: Vice Mayor David Smith.

Vice Mayor Smith: Present.

City Clerk Carolyn Jagger: Councilmembers Suzanne Klapp.

Councilwoman Klapp: Here.

City Clerk Carolyn Jagger: Virginia Korte.

Councilmember Korte: Here.

City Clerk Carolyn Jagger: Kathy Littlefield.

Councilwoman Littlefield: Here.

City Clerk Carolyn Jagger: Linda Milhaven.

Councilwoman Milhaven: Here.

City Clerk Carolyn Jagger: Guy Phillips.

Councilman Phillips: Here.

City Clerk Carolyn Jagger: Acting City Manager Brian Biesemeyer.

Brian Biesemeyer: Here.

City Clerk Carolyn Jagger: City Attorney Bruce Washburn.

Bruce Washburn: Here.

City Clerk Carolyn Jagger: City Treasurer Jeff Nichols.

Jeff Nichols: Here.

City Clerk Carolyn Jagger: And the Clerk is present.

ITEM 1 – BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND TASK FORCES INTERVIEWS AND APPOINTMENTS

[Time: 00:00:53]

Mayor Lane: Thank you very much. The special meeting is for the boards and commission interview and appointment. For that type of meeting, I will turn it over to Vice Mayor Smith. Vice Mayor?

Vice Mayor Smith: Thank you, Mayor. This afternoon, the City Council will be appointing Scottsdale residents interested in serving on eight citizen advisory boards and commissions. I want to thank these individuals for their willingness to volunteer their time in service of this community. Your time is very much appreciated. After each set of interviews, we will vote on the appointments for that particular board and commission.

For those of you who are here to speak, I ask that you briefly cover the following materials: Please

share your name, address, and how long you have lived in Scottsdale. Why do you want to serve on this particular board or commission you have applied to. Third, how do your experiences, whether they are educational, professional or volunteer, how do they qualify you to serve on this commission? And finally, what do you think is the top issue facing this commission that you have applied to.

So we will ask you to limit your comments to three minutes or less. We will have a timer by the screen that will help you manage your time and then following each response, I will ask councilmembers if they have any questions.

So moving right along, the first commission that we are going to look to is the Building Advisory Board of Appeals. This commission has the jurisdiction to recommend that minor variances in the electrical, plumbing and mechanical application of the Building Code be granted and that alternative construction methods or materials be allowed. There are no special qualifications that are required by city code, but members that are appointed to this board should generally be qualified by experience or training to decide on matters pertaining to building construction.

Jamie Rothman was a current member. Her term expired September 26th, 2015, and she is eligible for reappointment. And she has submitted her response in writing. There are three vacancies but Jamie is the only person to apply. And I don't believe she is here this evening. If you are, Jamie, speak up. And so since she's not here, but we do have her application and interest expressed in writing, each councilmember can vote once and I will start with Councilwoman Littlefield.

Councilwoman Littlefield: Thank you. I will vote for Jamie Rothman.

Councilwoman Milhaven: Jamie Rothman.

Councilwoman Klapp: Jamie Rothman.

Mayor Lane: Jamie Rothman.

Councilmember Korte: Jamie.

Vice Mayor Smith: Jamie Rothman as well.

Councilman Phillips: Jamie.

Vice Mayor Smith: So Jamie is appointed to -- reappointed.

[Time: 00:04:16]

Vice Mayor Smith: The second board is the Development Review Board. The purpose of the Development Review Board is to maintain the quality of development in Scottsdale and they do this by reviewing architectural design and layout of proposed development plans for commercial development and preliminary plats for residential subdivisions. And in the Scottsdale city code, we

do have specifications that the development review board membership will consist of a city councilmember, a planning commission member and five members of the public who have professional experience in design, architecture, and development.

A current member of the board, Kevin Bollinger's term expires December 3rd, this year. He represents a development position and he has submitted his answers in writing to us tonight. There is in this case, one vacancy and only one nominee, Kevin Bollinger, who will obviously not be making a presentation. So we can begin immediately with the voting. Each councilmember can vote once for each vacancy. Councilwoman Milhaven.

Councilwoman Milhaven: Thank you, Mr. Bollinger.

Councilwoman Klapp: Kevin Bollinger.

Mayor Lane: Kevin Bollinger.

Councilmember Korte: Kevin Bollinger.

Vice Mayor Smith: Kevin Bollinger.

Councilman Phillips: And Kevin Bollinger.

Councilwoman Littlefield: Kevin Bollinger.

Vice Mayor Smith: So by a landslide, Kevin Bollinger is appointed.

[Time: 00:05:48]

Vice Mayor Smith: The third commission is the Environmental Quality Advisory Board. Here we have two vacancies and three nominees. So we actually have a race this time the Environmental Quality Advisory Board provides guidance on the prioritization of future environmental activities and recommends environmental policies to the City Council. The city code specifies some qualifications. Membership open the board should represent scientific and nonscientific interests. Scientific interests might be professional background in engineering, planning or the earth sciences. Nonscientific interests would be representatives from the business community and the community at large.

We have two openings and three nominees. The first nominee, Alisa McMahon's term, she's a current member. Her term expires on December 3rd, and she's unable to attend tonight's meeting, but she's also submitted her response to of the posed questions in writing. Second nominee, Theodore "Ted" Geisler is also unable to attend tonight's meeting. He has not submitted a written response. And the third nominee, Aliza Sabin, are you here tonight, Aliza? We were expecting that she might be here and provide some public testimony, but not seeing her here.

We have then, as I said, two vacancies and three nominees. And so we'll proceed to vote. Each councilmember will be entitled to vote for two people. And we'll start with Councilwoman Klapp.

Councilwoman Klapp: Ted Geisler and Alisa McMahon.

Mayor Lane: Ted Geisler and Alisa McMahon.

Councilmember Korte: Ted Geisler and Alisa McMahon.

Vice Mayor Smith: I will also vote for Ted Geisler and Alisa McMahon.

Councilman Phillips: I will also vote for Ted Geisler and Alisa McMahon.

Councilwoman Littlefield: Alisa McMahon and Aliza Sabin.

Councilwoman Milhaven: Let's make it unanimous.

Vice Mayor Smith: Not quite unanimous, but we do nevertheless have two appointments.

[Time: 00:08:28]

Vice Mayor Smith: The next commission is the Historic Preservation Commission. The Historic Preservation Commission was established by the City Council to oversee the development and management of Scottsdale's Historic Preservation Program. That's a program that's focused on increasing public awareness of Scottsdale's heritage and identifying historic and cultural resources, as well as designating and recognizing significant local resources and assisting in protecting, preserving and enhancing the best examples of Scottsdale's past. Again, the Scottsdale city code has some special qualifications. The commission shall be composed of seven citizens, including, citizens with specific skills and experience in history, architectural history, architecture, historic interiors, historic architecture, planning archaeology, historic archaeology, real estate, historic preservation law or other historic preservation related fields.

So we have two vacancies that are open and for that, they are actually a position of real estate and historian position. We have two nominees tonight. And the two nominees are actually both historian but I think we will probably interpret the city code to mean that they should be historian and real estate but need not necessarily be, but -- so I'm -- I beg your pardon? Well, we have four nominees but two withdrew. You are anticipating my speech here. So taking the speech in an orderly fashion, we have four nominees but Helen Siegel withdrew her nomination as did Doug Craig. So that left us with two nominees, Timothy Burns I should mention is a current member of the historic conservation commission. His term expired October 14th, he's termed out. So he did not reapply.

The remaining nominees are Cynthia Lee and John Southard. And Cynthia, are you with us tonight? Finally, we will hear from an applicant. Please come to the podium.

Councilmember Korte: We would love to hear from you.

Vice Mayor Smith: And then following her, John Southard.

Cynthia Lee: Mayor, councilmembers, thank you. My name is Cynthia Lee, Cindy Lee. I live at 8508 East Hackamore Drive in Scottsdale and I lived in Scottsdale for -- since 2009, but my husband and I bought here in 2008. So the first question, why do you want to serve on the board, commission or committee -- well, okay. Two words. Community involvement.

Mayor Lane: You can put it on there.

Cynthia Lee: Two words, community involvement. In my recent outreach and advocacy to save the desert foothills scenic drive this year, I have seen that Scottsdale's open government exemplifies the principles of accessibility, responsiveness, and fairness. And that makes me really proud to live in Scottsdale. And as a proud citizen, I would like to do my part to help protect, preserve, and enhance Scottsdale's history and past.

My experience, how did they qualify me to serve on the historic preservation commission? I have a B.A. degree in history from Yale University, and I combined that with my professional background as a TV commercial film producer, in film production and my many years of community service and advocacy. In all cases, doing the research and knowing the important facts optimizes the outcome.

The Greater Pinnacle Peak Association, Friends of the Scenic Drive of which I'm a board member, recently succeeded in saving the 52-year-old historic landmark desert foothills scenic drive. And we opposed the Arizona Land Department proposal and worked with them and were ultimately able to prevent 40 acres of open Sonoran desert rural neighborhoods from being rezoned for commercial. And ultimately working with the -- the Arizona Land Department we were able to -- they were able to come up with a solution that was better for them and better for scenic drive. Actually, through print and video outreach and education, we informed the public raised awareness and encouraged citizen involvement and the dialogue that ultimately led to the solution that was better for all.

What I think is the top issue facing the commission is raising public awareness and getting citizen involvement. Visual media is so important in today's communication and it's a terrific way of getting people to learn the facts quickly and decide whether they want to get involved and then to get involved. To for example, GPPA, we produced three videos. We uploaded them to YouTube and provided links in a very small --

Vice Mayor Smith: Ms. Lee, I will have to ask you to wrap it up.

Cynthia Lee: Oh, too many words.

Vice Mayor Smith: Too many words.

Cynthia Lee: Too many words. Anyways, the videos actually in a matter of months, received 1,148

views and I think it did a lot to do outreach and to get people involved and to get numbers of people involved in such a way that it could create the dialogue that affected the better solution. So anyway, I will wrap it up. Thank you very much.

Vice Mayor Smith: Thank you very much. I don't know whether we have any questions from the council. Seeing none. Thank you very much. And John, John Southard, are you with us this evening? Okay. John is apparently not here.

So we will proceed with the voting. As I said, we have two vacancies and two nominees, both of whom are historian backgrounds. And Mayor, I will let you begin with the nominations.

Mayor Lane: Well, after having had the opportunity to listen to Cindy, I can with real enthusiasm vote for Cynthia Lee and John Southard.

Councilmember Korte: Cynthia Lee and John Southard.

Vice Mayor Smith: I will also vote for Cynthia Lee and John Southard.

Councilman Phillips: Cynthia Lee and Cynthia Lee. I guess I can't do that. John Southard. Both of them, thank you.

Councilwoman Littlefield: Cynthia Lee, and Mr. Southard.

Councilwoman Milhaven: Cynthia Lee and John Southard.

Councilwoman Klapp: Cynthia Lee and John Southard.

Vice Mayor Smith: Another landslide.

[Time: 00:17:09]

Vice Mayor Smith: The next board is the Loss Trust Fund Board. The Loss Trust Fund Board is responsible for recommendations to the City Council regarding the administration of the loss trust fund. There is one vacancy and one nominee. The nominee is Suzanne Welch. And I don't know whether Suzanne is with us this evening. Yes. Of course. I see you back there.

Suzanne Welch: Good afternoon, Mayor Lane, members of council. My name is Suzanne Welch. I have lived in Scottsdale about 19 years, and my address is 7479 East Sunset Sky Circle in Scottsdale. I'm currently employed by Southwest Aviation Insurance Group at the Scottsdale airport.

I want to serve on the board to bring my insurance and risk management expertise to the board for the benefit of the city and its residents. I spent over three decades in the insurance industry, working with a number of clients and during that time, I have earned two professional designations, the chartered property and casualty underwriter and associate in risk management.

The top issues that I see for the Loss Trust Fund Board are to work with the city staff, risk staff, the city attorneys, the city treasurer, to maintain the financial health of the loss trust fund and secondary to reduce the incurred losses from the loss trust fund. Thank you.

Vice Mayor Smith: Thank you, Suzanne. Don't go away. Somebody may have a question. Seeing none, you may be seated. Councilmember Korte.

Councilmember Korte: I vote for Suzanne Welch.

Vice Mayor Smith: I do as well.

Councilman Phillips: Suzanne Welch.

Councilwoman Littlefield: Ms. Welch.

Councilwoman Milhaven: Ms. Welch.

Councilwoman Klapp: Suzanne Welch.

Mayor Lane: Suzanne Welch.

Vice Mayor Smith: And congratulations, Suzanne. You beat out all the competition.

[Time: 00:19:23]

Vice Mayor Smith: The Neighborhood Advisory Commission is the next board we will look at. It advises and makes recommendation to the city council on policies, plans, strategies and programs for the preservation, improvement and revitalization of Scottsdale's housing and neighborhoods. And for this one, we have only one vacancies, but three nominees. The three nominees are William Lichtsinn, Caroline Rossi, and Kay Sperduti. And it's my understanding that Caroline Rossi was not able to be here this evening. So we'll proceed.

William, are you with us? Yes, indeed. Come to the podium and then following you, we will have Kay address the council.

William Lichtsinn: Good afternoon, Mayor, Vice Mayor, and council members. My name is William Lichtsinn. I have been a resident of Scottsdale for 13 plus or minus years, nonconsecutively. I spent some time in college and in the service. My family has been a current resident for about 21 plus or minus years.

I want to serve because I feel that boards and commissions are a good filter to provide councilmembers the temperature of the community and help guide the decisions of the future of Scottsdale. Currently, we have more than 150 citizens volunteering on our city council's boards,

commissions and task forces. I would like to be a member of one of those.

I believe my experiences qualify me, my experience as a naval officer, has instilled in me a sense of integrity and management. Currently, I'm an accountant. This gives me a sense of fiscal responsible and accountability and I volunteer in the community with the city of Scottsdale commercial Olympics and the Scottsdale boys and girls club.

I have think that the top issue facing this commission currently is that with the rapid growth of luxury housing and especially in the Scottsdale area, it's important that revitalization of some of our more historic and older neighborhoods should be a priority but this should be measured against -- bearing in mind that we need to keep a measure of affordable housing for our lower and middle income families that shouldn't be left behind. I'm finished. Any questions?

Vice Mayor Smith: Thank you very much, Bill. Does anyone have any questions? Thank you very much. And Kay Sperduti.

[Time: 00:22:17]

Kay Sperduti: Hello, hey, I'm Kay Sperduti. I have -- I'm at 7539 East Corinne Road. I lived in Scottsdale all of my 28 years in Arizona.

Why do I want to serve on the board? I have always been in service, whether it has been in new song center, whether I have served on the board of hospice of the valley, small boards, big boards, I have spent 21 years at Scottsdale Healthcare in marketing and public relations. For the last eight years, I now have had my own small business. Me and my team of six work with medical practices now. My experiences, educational, volunteer-wise, I'm extremely organized, very efficient. Very much care for this city and that's why I'm here today. Of all the volunteering I have done, it really dawned on me recently, that one of the entities that I care for the most is the city of Scottsdale and I never volunteered directly for it. So that's why I'm here today.

As for the neighborhood commission, I really believe that I can help to integrate, help to integrate the neighborhoods when it comes to messaging. You know, what is interesting is I watched with Buenavante and all the communications that we had together. It's a set of very much individual people, but then there's an identity of the whole. And then when you have all the different identities of the different neighborhoods, I believe identity is very important as you move into the future so they can best represent themselves with each other and then within the whole city. Thank you very much.

Vice Mayor Smith: Thank you, Kay. Does anyone have any questions? Thank you very much. We'll proceed to vote then. Each councilmember can vote once because we have one vacancy. And as you see on the screen, three nominees.

And I will start with myself and vote for Kay Sperduti.

Councilman Phillips: William Lichtsinn.

Councilwoman Klapp: William Lichtsinn.

Councilwoman Milhaven: Mr. Litchtsinn.

Councilwoman Littlefield: William Litchtsinn.

Mayor Lane: William Litchtsinn.

Councilmember Korte: William Litchtsinn.

Vice Mayor Smith: William Litchtsinn you have been nominated to the Neighborhood Advisory Commission.

[Time: 00:24:26]

The next board is the Personnel Board hears appeals submitted by city employees relating to dismissal, demotion or suspensions, and submits its recommendations to the City Manager. We have one vacancy, and two remaining nominees. Allen Reed was nominated but has withdrawn his application. So the remaining nominees are William Lee II and Jeffrey Skoglund.

William Lee, are you -- yes, please approach the microphone.

William Lee: Mayor Lane, councilmembers, thank you for taking my application. My name is William Lee, I live at 9895 East Khalil in Scottsdale. I have lived here pretty much all of my life. I went to school, Navajo grade school and over to Scottsdale high school where I graduated.

I want to serve on the board because I have worked in municipal government as a policeman in Phoenix for 22 years. I currently own two small businesses, one is a private investigation agency, and the other is a driving school for teenagers. Both of them I have up in the Scottsdale airpark area. I have -- I gave a lot to city service before and I like being able to help people.

I think the board has some very important things for employees. I think they have -- it's good to have another place to go to after they have gone through their disciplinary actions and if they want to appeal it, it gives them somewhere else to go, to that board.

In my service, I never went to the civil service board. I don't have any personal experience with that, thankfully. I think my experiences come from -- I went to school here. I went to college at Phoenix college and A.S.U. I had business law major and I said I was a policeman a long time here and with my business I do have employees and I have to deal with the employee matters and I have some experience with that that I think would be of value to the board.

The issues, I think the issue is finding people that have a passion for the city and the availability to be

there when somebody needs that.

I think that the things that are good for that board would be somebody that would help, you know, limit the liability to the city, from negative retention and also to help the people that deserve maybe another chance. That's all I have.

Vice Mayor Smith: Thank you, William. Anyone have any questions? Seeing none, thank you very much. Jeff?

[Time: 00:267:34]

Jeffrey Skoglund: Mayor Lane, Vice Mayor Smith, distinguished councilmembers, my name is Jeff Skoglund. I reside in Scottsdale, the zip is 85262. We purchased our home in May of 2005, and became full-time residents two years later. So this has been home for eight and a half years.

I retired in June of last year to devote my time to organizations as a volunteer. Currently, I serve as president of an organization by the name of Steps of Love, supporting orphanages in Mexico. I'm also involved with the Foothills Food Bank as a volunteer and board member. Now I would like to give some of my time to the city of Scottsdale.

I submitted my application to serve on the personnel board because I believe my experience is best suited to that board. Of my 40 career years, 23 of those were as the top human resource officer. I was responsible for all personnel-related matters. In those 23 years, I employed tens of thousands of people and was involved in disciplinary activity for over 1,000 employees. I oversaw employee relations activity through organizations with as many as 18,000 employees. In the retail industry, the jobs and the functions are vast and part-time minimum wage salespeople to executives making in excess of half a million dollars a year. The functions are varied. For marketing and sales, to operations, logistics, and finance. I can't recall a week in all of those years when I was not made aware of some form of misconduct requiring my involvement. And I must tell you, I also can't think of a policy violation or behavior misconduct that I haven't seen.

Through the many issues that have to be investigated and decisions made regarding suspensions, demotions, reassignments and terminations, I have come to learn the following: There are always two sides to every story and they very rarely match. Objectivity and consistency are paramount for effective employee relations activity, and when disciplinary action must be taken, the focus has to be in the facts surrounding an issue, rather than personalities and emotions. I have been saddened by terminations of employee and I have been thanked by people I have terminated. In all cases and at all times, I acted in the best interest of the company and so I will act in the best interest of the city of Scottsdale. I will uphold good decisions and I will support justified appeals. Thank you. I hope to be approved for this position.

Vice Mayor Smith: Thank you, Jeff. Does anybody have any questions? If not, we will proceed to the voting. I will let Councilman Phillips begin with one vote for one vacancy.

Councilman Phillips: Jeffrey Skoglund.

Councilwoman Littlefield: Jeffrey Skoglund.

Councilwoman Milhaven: Mr. Skoglund.

Councilwoman Klapp: Jeffrey Skoglund.

Mayor Lane: Jeffrey Skoglund.

Councilmember Korte: Jeffrey Skoglund.

Vice Mayor Smith: Jeffrey Skoglund. We seem to have a landslide again. Congratulations, Jeffrey.

[Time: 00:31:29]

Vice Mayor Smith: The final commission is the Tourism Development Commission. We have one vacancy for a hotelier position. The Tourism Development Commission advises the City Council on matters concerning the Tourism Industry in Scottsdale, as well as the expenditure of revenues from the Transaction Privilege Tax or Transient lodging, otherwise known as the bed tax. We have one vacancy and one nominee. Ren Hirose's term expired. He's not attending the interviews but he has submitted his response in writing. We had one other nominee, Julie Kercher and she withdrew her application. So we have one vacancy and one nominee. Mr. Hirose. And I think we are back around to you, Councilwoman Littlefield.

Councilwoman Littlefield: Yes, thank you. Ren Hirose.

Councilwoman Milhaven: Mr. Hirose.

Councilwoman Klapp: Mr. Hirose.

Mayor Lane: Mr. Hirose.

Councilmember Korte: Mr. Hirose.

Vice Mayor Smith: Mr. Hirose.

Councilman Phillips: Mr. Hirose.

Vice Mayor Smith: Thank you. This concludes our interview and our appointment process this afternoon, and I will now turn the meeting back over to the mayor.

[Time: 00:33:03]

Mayor Lane: Thank you, vice mayor. Being the only order of business for this special meeting, I think we have finished our business and I would ask for a motion to adjourn.

Councilwoman Klapp: Move to adjourn.

Councilmembers: Second.

Mayor Lane: All of those in favor of adjournment please say aye. We will be back at 5:00 for our regular meeting.