



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

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 26, 2021**

**MEETING HELD ELECTRONICALLY**

**PRESENT:** Rachel Putman, Chair  
William James, Vice Chair  
Jonathan Budwig, Commissioner  
Louise Lamb, Commissioner  
Carol Miraldi, Commissioner  
Bridget Schwartz-Manock  
Michael Wills, Commissioner (left at 5:45 p.m.)

**STAFF:** Adam Yaron, Commission Liaison  
Brandon McMahon, Associate Planner  
Luis Santaella, Deputy City Attorney  
Taylor Reynolds, Project Coordination Liaison  
Michelle Holmes, Operation Fix-It Program Manager

**Call to Order/Roll Call**

The meeting of the Neighborhood Advisory Commission was called to order at 5:04 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 April 29, 2021**

Chair Putman called for comments/corrections.

COMMISSIONER WILLS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 29, 2021, MEETING AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER MIRALDI SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0) WITH CHAIR PUTMAN, VICE CHAIR JAMES, COMMISSIONERS BUDWIG, LAMB,

MIRALDI, SCHWARTZ-MANOCK AND WILLS VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE WITH NO DISSENTING VOTES.

## **2. Camping in Areas Subject to Flooding or Watercourse Ordinance**

Adam Yaron, Commission Liaison, stated that no public comments were received on this item.

Luis Santaella, Deputy City Attorney, reported that the ordinance was passed by City Council on May 4, 2021, going into effect on June 4, 2021. The ordinance prohibits camping in areas that are subject to flooding or within a watercourse. Such areas include the desert greenbelt. The ordinance does not make homelessness illegal, but makes it illegal to camp in dangerous places. An individual cannot be cited for a violation until given a reasonable opportunity to relocate to an area not subject to flooding or within a watercourse. The City is currently working in conjunction with the Phoenix Mission to make contact with homeless individuals in these areas and offer them services and relocation advice. Public outreach was conducted, with some comments in support and others expressing concern that the homeless would be penalized.

Commissioner Lamb asked whether police outreach is effective in having individuals leave the areas without subsequently returning. Mr. Santaella acknowledged that this is not yet known, as the outreach program has just begun.

Commissioner Schwartz-Manock inquired as to the census data in terms of the number of individuals camping in these areas. Mr. Santaella said they do not have a specific count on this, however, every city does a general homeless count annually and the population has increased in Scottsdale.

## **3. Neighborhood Enhancement Grant Proposal (NEGP): Operation Fix-It (OFI) Equipment Replacement**

Brandon McMahon, Associate Planner, prefaced the discussion by noting that staff has not received any public comments on this item. Since 2012, OFI has provided property maintenance assistance to residents who cannot physically or financially do so themselves. In addition, the program operates its Tool Lending Center (TLC), which allows City residents to sign-out City-owned tools for neighborhood cleanup initiatives. Affected properties must be within City limits and limited to residential cleanup projects only. Some TLC gas-powered tools have exhausted their life expectancy. There is a one-time request for funding to replace landscape EGO-Power electric equipment not to exceed \$2,600.

Commissioner Wills voiced support for the program and for equipment replacement that will assist the program and City residents.

Commissioner Budwig asked whether this funding will replace the current inventory, whether additional inventory is available and how often residents are seeking to use the equipment. Michelle Holmes, Operation Fix-It Program Manager, stated that the trailer currently uses gas-powered equipment, which needs to be serviced after the hot summer months, adding to maintenance

expenses. Some equipment has exceeded its life expectancy, however some will be retained as backup.

COMMISSIONER WILLS MOVED TO APPROVE THE GRANT PROPOSAL FOR \$2,600. COMMISSIONER BUDWIG SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0) WITH CHAIR PUTMAN, VICE CHAIR JAMES, COMMISSIONERS BUDWIG, LAMB, MIRALDI, SCHWARTZ-MANOCK AND WILLS VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE WITH NO DISSENTING VOTES.

#### **4. Neighborhood Grant Proposal: Villa La Playa Landscape Enhancement**

Taylor Reynolds, Project Coordination Liaison, noted that no public comments were received on this item. The site is located at 78th Place and Indian Bend Road. There is a one-time request not to exceed \$4,000 to enhance existing landscaping within City right-of-way adjacent to the Villa La Playa Community. This includes replacement of approximately 30 plants and to spread 40 tons of granite, all which would adhere to the McCormick Ranch plan and color palette. The site is within City right-of-way with frontage on Indian Bend Road. There is not active notice of compliance from code enforcement. Since no property maintenance mechanism is in place for the community, the adjacent right-of-way maintenance is the responsibility of individual property owners along Indian Bend Road. Conditions include dead or dying plants, bare patches of ground requiring granite and areas where landscaping has been removed and not replaced.

Vice Chair James noted that the criteria for these grants requires that properties not be within an HOA. During the last meeting, a request was denied, as it was located in an HOA area. Villa La Playa exists in McCormick Ranch Property Owners Association. Mr. Reynolds said the difference in this case is that the site is located within the City's right-of-way and not part of a tract managed by the overall HOA. Each of the seven homeowners is responsible individually for maintenance of the right-of-way. Vice Chair James said this suggests that some HOAs are responsible for right-of-way areas and some are not. Mr. Reynolds stated that that is correct, however, it is clear-cut that this area is within City right-of-way and as such, is the responsibility of the adjacent property owner. Other tract areas are in ownership of the HOA itself and managed through that mechanism.

Commissioner Budwig inquired as to maintenance responsibility. He also noted the poor condition of the walls. Mr. Reynolds said that typically the homeowner is responsible. In this particular area, City staff has been attempting to maintain the area, however, maintenance does not include covering bare patches and replacing dead plants. The grant would improve the area in these regards. In terms of the wall, staff has been in coordination with Villa La Playa, which is working as a community to fix the wall.

In response to a question from Vice Chair James, Mr. Reynolds stated that the individual property owners are responsibility for maintenance of the wall; the homeowners are working together to fix it.

COMMISSIONER BUDWIG MOVED TO APPROVE THE GRANT PROPOSAL FOR \$4,000.

Mr. Yaron commented that the initial request was much broader, as the applicant had originally included the wall, wall repair, painting and landscaping. Through the discovery of the enforcement tools available to the property owners association, there is a mechanism for residents to manage maintenance, repair and painting of the wall. As such, that portion of the request was removed. The property owners association is coordinating those repairs with the homeowners.

In terms of the grant, any expenditure must be made before the fiscal year ends on June 30th. He asked the Commission to allow staff to coordinate with residents in ensuring that the landscape material will not conflict with future wall repairs. There may be some delay based on current labor and supply shortages.

Commissioner Budwig reaffirmed his motion to approve the grant proposal.

COMMISSIONER WILLS SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0) WITH CHAIR PUTMAN, VICE CHAIR JAMES, COMMISSIONERS BUDWIG, LAMB, MIRALDI, SCHWARTZ-MANOCK AND WILLS VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE WITH NO DISSENTING VOTES.

## **5. Scottsdale General Plan 2035 Update**

Mr. Reynolds gave a brief update on Case 1-GP-2021. City Council has been meeting regularly on the Plan. No public comments have been received on this item. Public notification methods and outreach were reviewed, inclusive of full Plan review by a citizen review committee, Planning Commission and City Council. City Council has been in review of the recommended draft Plan and has directed updates via a series of work study sessions. The plan now includes 24 elements, 17 state mandated and 7 community-created. As a result of further community and Council input, the draft vision statement now covers additional themes, such as education, diversity, art, inclusivity, sustainability and business attraction. City Council added one additional community aspiration. This discusses respecting the history and legacy of Scottsdale, which define a sense of place.

Other items new to the plan as a result of City Council's review and discussion include more action-oriented language throughout the plan with increased emphasis related to arts and cultural resources and natural open space. It identifies and provides description related to the significance of the downtown core within Old Town Scottsdale. Council has created a new education element in the draft plan. This provides goals and policies to enhance lifelong learning opportunities, encourage partnerships with educational providers and further the community's role in supporting a safe, healthy and positive educational environment. This is a community-created element not required by state statute. The draft plan may be adopted at the City Council hearing on June 8th. If adopted and sent to voters, the plan would go before the public in November of this year for possible ratification.

**6. Results of the 2021 NAC Sunset Review**

Mr. Yaron stated that no public comment was submitted on this item. City Council adopted a resolution in September 2011, directing a periodic review of its boards and commissions. The Audit Committee completed the Neighborhood Advisory Commission review on April 19, 2021. At that time, the Committee expressed its appreciation of the Commission's work and recommended its continuance. The next review of the Neighborhood Advisory Commission is scheduled for 2024.

**7. NAC Meeting Dates in July and August 2021**

Mr. Yaron stated there were no public comments for the item.

VICE CHAIR JAMES MOVED TO CANCEL THE JULY AND AUGUST MEETING DATES. COMMISSIONER LAMB SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SIX (6) TO ZERO (0) WITH CHAIR PUTMAN, VICE CHAIR JAMES, COMMISSIONERS BUDWIG, LAMB, MIRALDI AND SCHWARTZ-MANOCK VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE WITH NO DISSENTING VOTES. COMMISSIONER WILLS WAS NOT PRESENT

**8. IDENTIFICATION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Commissioner Lamb requested a presentation by Phoenix Rising regarding the proposed 20-year soccer field lease at the location of the Tonalea School on 68th Street and Oak as an information item. There was consensus to move toward adding this as an agenda item.

Commissioner Budwig requested a presentation regarding how outreach of programs is progressing for residents and citizens, such as Operation Fix-It and the Tool Lending Center. There was consensus to move forward toward adding this as an agenda item.

**9. Staff Updates**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 23, 2021.

**10. Adjournment**

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved by Commissioner Schwartz-Manock and seconded by Vice Chair James, the meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

AYES: Chair Putman, Vice Chair James, Commissioners Budwig, Lamb, Miraldi and Schwartz-Manock.

NAYS: None