

Council

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CALL TO ORDER

[Time: 00:00:12]

Mayor Lane: Good afternoon, everyone. Welcome to our 4:00 Special Meeting. It's March 20th, 2018. I would like to call this meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

[Time: 00:00:15]

Mayor Lane: We will start with a roll call, please.

City Clerk Carolyn Jagger: Mayor Jim Lane.

Mayor Lane: Present.

Carolyn Jagger: Vice Mayor Virginia Korte.

Vice Mayor Korte: Here.

Carolyn Jagger: Councilmembers Suzanne Klapp.

Councilmember Klapp: Here.

Carolyn Jagger: Kathy Littlefield.

Councilwoman Littlefield: Here.

Carolyn Jagger: Linda Milhaven.

Councilwoman Milhaven: Here.

Carolyn Jagger: Guy Phillips.

Councilman Phillips: Here.

Carolyn Jagger: David Smith.

Councilman Smith: Present.

Carolyn Jagger: City Manager Jim Thompson.

Jim Thompson: Here.

Carolyn Jagger: City Attorney Bruce Washburn.

Bruce Washburn: Here.

Carolyn Jagger: City Treasurer Jeff Nichols.

Jeff Nichols: Here.

Carolyn Jagger: And the Clerk is present.

[Time: 00:00:35]

Mayor Lane: Thank you. With that, our one and only obligation with the special meeting is for the boards and commissions interviews and appointments and for that purpose, you will turn it over to Vice Mayor Korte.

BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND TASK FORCE INTERVIEWS AND APPOINTMENTS

[Time: 00:00:47]

Vice Mayor Korte: Thank you, Mayor and welcome. This afternoon, the City Council will be appointing Scottsdale residents interested in serving on 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. Following each set of interviews, we, the Council, will vote on the appointments for that board or commission. As I call your name, please come to the podium. We ask that you briefly cover the following material. Please share your name, address, and how long you have lived in Scottsdale. Why do you want to serve on this board or commission? How do your experiences, whether they are educational, professional or volunteer, qualify you to serve on the commission? What do you think is the top issue facing the particular commission. We ask you to limit your comments to three minutes or less. We have a timer by the screen to help you manage your time. Following each nominee's response, I'll ask Council members if they have any questions of you. And then we'll take a vote.

[Time: 00:02:01]

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Vice Mayor Korte: So the first commission is Board of Adjustments. There's one opening. The Board of Adjustment is a quasi-judicial body that hears variance requests, appeals of the Zoning Administrator's interpretation/decisions, and decides on administrative decisions or zoning requirements. There is one vacancy and two nominees. The nominees are Joseph Dawson and Scott Johnson. We have one vacancy, and, again, two nominees. Each Councilmember can vote once. First, I ask Joe Dawson to come up to the podium.

[Time: 00:02:48]

Joseph Dawson: Good afternoon, Mayor, and members of Council. My name is Joseph Dawson. And I reside at 10080 East Mountainview Lake Drive in Scottsdale, and I have done so for ten years. I would like to thank you for the opportunity to express my interest in serving on the Board of Adjustments. The city of Scottsdale has provided my family and myself a quality of life that I'm very grateful for, and I see this as an opportunity to give back and help ensure we protect property values and maintain the integrity of our community. So that it remains the most livable city.

My spirit of volunteerism has led me to serve as president of my homeowners association and as a director of the Scottsdale ranch community association. To familiarize myself with the process of the Board of Adjustments, the process that it uses in its deliberations, I spent numerous evenings listening to audio recordings of past applicants looking to challenge the regulations. I understand the process, and I'm ready, willing and able to serve if called upon.

My qualifications to serve on the Board of Adjustment include a 30-plus year business career, including 18 in management and leadership of one of the largest security firms in the country. I like to think my clients and colleagues would describe me as a caring, thoughtful friend, a good listener, with a well-developed questioning style of communicating. When presented with the facts, I have no trouble in arriving at the appropriate conclusion and solving problems. I see no issues facing the

Board of Adjustment, however, I recognize that it best serves our community, when we protect property values and the quality of life, pardon me, for the citizens of Scottsdale. Thank you.

Vice Mayor Korte: Thank you, Mr. Dawson. Any questions of Mr. Dawson from Council? Thank you.

Joseph Dawson: Thank you.

Vice Mayor Korte: I would like to call up Mr. Scott Johnson. And it appears that Mr. Johnson is not present. So with that, we have one vacancy and two nominees. Each Councilmember can vote once and I would like to begin with our Mayor to my left or right. Go to the right. That right.

Mayor Lane: Whichever way, I think you did talk about the Mayor, so I think we are in the right spot. In any case, I vote for Joseph Dawson.

Councilwoman Klapp: Joseph Dawson.

Councilmember Milhaven: Mr. Dawson.

Councilmember Littlefield: Joseph Dawson.

Councilmember Phillips: Mr. Dawson.

Councilman Smith: Joseph Dawson.

Vice Mayor Korte: And make it unanimous, Mr. Dawson. Congratulations, Mr. Dawson. And you have been appointed to the Board of Adjustments.

[Time: 00:06:06]

BUILDING ADVISORY BOARD OF APPEALS

Vice Mayor Korte: Moving on, we have the Building Advisory Board of Appeals. This particular board has the jurisdiction to recommend that minor variances of the building code be granted. Special qualifications, there are none required by city code, however, members appointed to the Building Advisory Board of Appeals should be qualified by experience and training to decide on matters pertaining to building construction. There is one opening and one nominee. The nominee is Warren Neiman. And Mr. Neiman, thank you.

[Time: 00:06:42]

Walter Neiman: Your Honor, and members of the city Council, I just finished, oh, my name is Warren Neiman and I live at 11706 North 126th Way in Scottsdale, Arizona, and I lived here for about five and a half years. I just finished a two-year appointment of the Building Advisory Board of Appeals and would like to continue as a member of the Building Advisory Board of Appeals. I am an architect

interested in building code issues, and I thank you.

Vice Mayor Korte: Thank you, Mr. Neiman. And are there any questions from the Council? So we have one vacancy and one nominee. And I would like to begin with Councilwoman Klapp.

Councilwoman Klapp: I would like to reappoint Warren Neiman.

Councilmember Milhaven: Mr. Neiman.

Councilmember Littlefield: Mr. Neiman.

Councilmember Phillips: Mr. Neiman.

Councilman Smith: I would like to congratulate you, Mr. Neiman on your comments and give you my vote.

Vice Mayor Korte: Mr. Neiman.

Mayor Lane: Mr. Neiman.

Vice Mayor Korte: It's unanimous. Congratulations, Mr. Neiman.

[Time: 00:07:53]

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Vice Mayor Korte: Moving on to the Industrial Development Authority. There's one opening. The Industrial Development Authority's main function is to issue tax-exempt bonds for certain types of private developments for the purpose of attracting new economic activity to our community. SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS, there are no formal requirements but given the nature of the work that the IDA conducts, it is suggested members be comfortable working with detailed financial pro forma, feasibility studies and financial projections. And I hope, Mr. Mountford, you can do that. There is one vacancy and one nominee. And Mr. Marcus Mountford.

[Time: 00:08:34]

Marcus Mountford: Good afternoon. My name is Marcus Mountford, address 3709 North Granite Reef Road, Scottsdale, Arizona. My wife and I have lived here for about three and a half years. One of the key things I think of city government is to enhance and grow the economics of the residents of the city, and the Industrial Development Authority that's truly what their key task is. That's one of the things that I wish to help grow for the city, see what can be done and with job creation, going through the monetary fund applications, seeing what is appropriate applications and putting the money where it should be.

My experience goes into helping Fortune 500 companies and leading various strategic initiatives, helping consulting-wise for small and large companies and also my legal background. From an education standpoint, I have an MBA, JD, bachelor in finance and marketing. In essence, I can handle the financial aspects of things and also collaborate with the other members to review what is necessary from a legal and, again, financial standpoint. I attended the last two Industrial Development Authority meetings and talking with Jay Berens and the other members of the I.D.A., it seems like the key issue is finding developments that are interested in tax exempt bonds at the city. Now I'm not sure what all the marking aspects of the city and the I.D.A. are involved in, but I hope to see what I can do to collaborate with the group and come up with ways to again, see what could be done to market additional developments for the city, in the Scottsdale area that improve the lives of the residents of the city. Thank you.

Vice Mayor Korte: Thank you, Mr. Mountford. Are there any questions of the Council? Given no questions with one vacancy and one nominee, each Councilmember can vote once and I will begin with Councilwoman Milhaven.

Councilmember Milhaven: Mr. Mountford.

Councilmember Littlefield: Mr. Mountford.

Councilmember Phillips: Mr. Mountford.

Councilman Smith: Mr. Mountford.

Vice Mayor Korte: Mr. Mountford.

Mayor Lane: Mr. Mountford.

Councilwoman Klapp: Marcus Mountford.

Vice Mayor Korte: That's unanimous. You are selected for the Industrial Development Authority.

[Time: 00:11:14]

MCDOWELL SONORAN PRESERVE COMMISSION

Vice Mayor Korte: Our next commission is the McDowell Sonoran Preserve Commission. This commission provides citizen oversight for acquisition, preservation, management and stewardship of the McDowell Mountain and related Sonoran desert for the benefit of this and future generations. There are two vacancies and seven nominees. The nominees are Joseph Blankenship, Andrea Davis, Mark Hackbarth, Laurie LaPat-Polasko, Marsha Lipps, Constance Moll and Tawana Parker. Ms. Constance Moll was unable to attend but has submitted her responses in writing, but would like to be considered. And Tawana Parker additionally unable to attend but has submitted her responses in writing and would also like to be considered. So with that, we have five interviews and

would like to start with Mr. Blankenship. Good afternoon.

[Time: 00:12:21]

Joseph Blankenship: Good afternoon, Mr. Mayor, Council. My name is Joe Blankenship. I live at 9160 East Weathersfield Road in Scottsdale. I have been a resident of Scottsdale for approximately 20 years. I would like to be on the Preserve Commission because I think I could provide good coordination between the conservancy as stewards, and the city as the owner and the developer of the Preserve. My experiences go from education with a master's degree in finance, which was continued in public policy and city management. By profession, I have worked with one of the leading investment bankers in Arizona that provided finance to cities, counties and school districts, that being Peacock, which is no longer around.

And as a volunteer, I had a broad experience across the country and recently in the McDowell Sonoran Conservancy, where I held several leadership positions, most recently, leading a team to do a complete reorganization of the steward body to make it more efficient and to be able to direct leaders for positions in the conservancy for keeping it a sustainable organization. I think the top issue facing the Preserve Commission will be the Desert Edge. It will affect the physical condition of the Preserve. It will affect the working conditions of the Steward Foundation in the Conservancy and it will affect the financial condition of the city, initially and on an ongoing basis. I have a very open mind toward what the outcome for Desert Edge might be, and a good financial capability to look at how both the initial financing and the requested operating expenses may be handled with the bed tax and financing by the city. Thank you.

Vice Mayor Korte: Thank you, Mr. Blankenship. Next, I would like to ask Andrea Davis.

[Time: 00:15:07]

Andrea Davis: Thank you, Mayor Lane and Councilmembers for this opportunity to serve on the Preserve Commission today. My name is Andrea Davis. I have been a resident for 25 years in the city of Scottsdale, 9174 East Conquistador Drive. My life's mission is to make future generations better stewards to the land than we have been. Coming from a concrete metropolis, I fell in love with our desert's solitude and grandeur and have vowed to do everything I can to ensure its proliferation and longevity. In my heart, I'm a naturalist. For 25 years, I have hiked, biked, rock climbed and rode horses in the Preserve, and I have explored thousands of miles of its glorious habitat.

As a mother, I invested in our children's future. As a participant of Scottsdale's Leadership class 32 and Government 101, my leadership skills have flourished. Working in commercial development for the past 20 years, I dealt with land issues, general plan and zoning ordinances. I have read the Preserve ordinance and all the documents related to it online, as well as the bylaws and some additional documents to further understand some of the issues. I was a tree hugger long before hippies coined the phrase. And in my 20s, I spent months camping from national park to state park to national park.

I have been known to sleep on the edge of a Mogollon Rim in a hammock with a pot to boil water. It is my respect for nature, along with my aptitude for business that qualifies me to serve on the Preserve Commission. I would be amiss not to mention that one of the top issues facing the commission today is the controversial DDC. Yet an issue I believe is equality important in our, is our youth's obsession with technology and lack of obsession with nature.

Here's a shocking statistic. Children spend less than 10 minutes a day in nature, and over eight hours a day in front of an electronic screen. They have lost their balance with the outdoors. So just for a moment, ponder these implications on society. It's imperative our children have become more involved in nature. We must educate our youth on the value of the Preserve for health and humanity's sustainability. We need to provide our youth reasons to respect the land and reasons to care. So here's a possible solution, create a preserve environment that inspires kids to interface on their terms, encourage regular after-school and weekend programs that include hands on nature programs enfaced with technology, support challenges involving nature and technology such as photography contests, science experiments or supervised drone flying tournaments and require the schools to have mandatory school trips to the Preserve. Thank you for this opportunity to serve. Do you have any questions?

Vice Mayor Korte: Thank you, Ms. Davis. Any questions? Thank you. I would now like to ask Mr. Mark Hackbarth.

[Time: 00:18:42]

Mark Hackbarth: Good afternoon, my name is Mark Hackbarth. I resided at 6022 Red Bird Road in Scottsdale, Arizona for the past 25 years. I want to serve on this Preserves Commission because I have an abiding desire to serve in the community and help the Preserve maintain its status. My experiences have been mostly as an archaeologist. I was one of the co-resource contribution to the master plan. I think I could help implement the recommendations, about five or six recommendations were made, including how to evaluate areas that have not been surveyed to record the archaeological sites that are in those locations, as well as more immediate things such as creating a trail maintenance protocol. So that as trails get worn down and have to be renewed, if they go through an archaeological site, this would be a way for the city to do things in a systemic method that is not going to degrade the archaeological sites.

At the same time, one of the recommendations was also to have the stewards or other group act as monitors for archaeological sites so that they can continually update information about sites and to see if there is anything degrading of sites whether it be off trail hikers, erosion or other problems that might come to the fore. And I think I would be able to help the city put that together. Any questions?

Vice Mayor Korte: Thank you, Mr. Hackbarth. I now would like to call Laurie LaPat-Polasko. And I hope I pronounced that correctly.

[Time: 00:20:43]

Laurie LaPat-Polasko: Perfect! Fabulous. Hi. I'm Laura LaPat-Polasko and I live at 12090 East Columbine Drive in Scottsdale and we have been there for approximately 25 years. Why do I want to be on at commission? I'm absolutely passionate about our environment. I have been involved in environmental restoration and this type of activity for more than 25 years. We'll go back to my education. I started with a bachelor's in biology, master's in civil engineering, and engineers degree in civil engineer, both from Stanford and a Ph.D. in microbiology. It's all about nature and protecting it. While I was doing my degrees at Stanford, I isolated a bacteria that biodegrades, chlorinates are carcinogens and how can we develop safe ways to clean up our environment.

After I completed my degrees, I had the opportunity to go work with Jacques Cousteau at the oceanographic institute in Monaco. I saw the importance of protecting all different types of natural resources, the Mediterranean Sea was getting impacted by sewage and all sorts of pollutants and Cousteau and our team worked to develop ways to mitigate those types of conditions. From Monaco, I headed up to the Exxon Valdez in Alaska to work on cleaning up that major oil spill. And, again, the mighty microbes came to our rescue. So not only doing those types of protects but I have done projects right here in our backyard, working on the north Indian Bend Wash superfund site. So each one of these projects has provided me insight.

Those are environmental, but there's other environmental things. For the city of Scottsdale I was your project manager for your part one and part two NPDES permits. It was how to prevent stormwater from coming into our environment. Each one of these projects focused on using good scientists and science to understand what the conditions are. So that's one of my goals, is to make sure that we are using those types of things. So what do I consider some of the major challenges or what I think some of the issues facing? I think one of the most important is that we have a Preserve that we can maintain for many future generations. We need to make sure that we have, you know, invasive plants are a major issue. We need to understand what are the best way to reduce invasive plants and there's a lot of science that goes behind this. We need to understand that. But over the years, it's not only the science but also the stakeholders. We need to address all of the different organizations that are concerned about the Preserve and listen to their voices. Thank you for your time.

Vice Mayor Korte: Thank you, Ms. Polasko. Are there any questions? Thank you. Marsha Lipps.

[Time: 00:24:01]

Marsha Lipps: Hello Mayor. Hello, Council. Thank you for the opportunity to try to get me a seat on the commission here. Some of you probably know me because I have been involved with the conservancy for the last eight years. As a master steward. My name is Marsha Lipps. I live on East Carroll Avenue in Scottsdale and we have been living this for nearly nine years. Basically why do I want to serve?

Well, I was looking at the Preserve ordinance this morning, and one of the main parts of the Preserve ordinance about education. When it comes to education, I'm pretty much the go-to person at the

conservancy since I have been basically serving on core leadership team in steward education, in volunteer support and now as the new chair for education for the last seven years. So as I became a steward eight years ago, I became a steward in the leadership of the conservancy and the conservancy, we are the boots on the ground. We are the ones who actually get the work done. And I have been instrumental in basically increasing the number of stewards that we have by over 400, when I was in charge of steward education. I created the templates that are used in terms of training so that we could get enough stewards trained to take care of the land as it kept growing and growing and growing, because you kept buying land every year. So basically, there's really no, there's no question about my commitment to, and my passion about the Preserve.

I have served everywhere from, as one of the first nature guides. I'm involved in STEM education. I'm involved with the Thunderbird project, where we are going into classrooms to teach kids about the Preserve basically and about sustainability. I have been a nature guide forever. I have probably done more school tours than anybody else, as far as educating kids, right, boots on the ground in the Preserve. As far as, you know, why I qualify, well, I put over 6,000 hours into the conservancy and I hope that counts for something. Because I certainly have an idea of what the conservancy does, what the city does, how they interact.

An example of this is when you start looking at what, what things that the commission deals with basically, is kind of a minor thing and I know that there's people in the room who know about this, but for the past two years, I was crusading for bathroom facilities up at Granite Mountain. The reason being is if you live south of Shea, as I do, it's a really long, you know, trip to get up there. And in terms of fully utilizing the Preserve, you need to be able to spread people out. They can't all be coming in at Gateway. They can't all be coming in at Lost Dog. They can't all come in at Brown. And especially up in the north, some the most beautiful areas are actually much further out, and, you know, not inaccessible, but perhaps uncomfortable to get to. So that was one of my crowning achievements over the last two years, was finally getting those Porta-Potties out there, in time for the wildflower season that has not happened. Anyway, thank you for your time. And I really appreciate being considered.

[Time: 00:27:31]

Vice Mayor Korte: Thank you, Ms. Lipps. We appreciate your pragmatism. With that, I would like to remind the Council that there are additional two individuals nominees for the two vacancies. We have a total of seven nominees. Each Councilmember can vote twice, so two times. I would like to start with Council woman Littlefield.

Councilmember Littlefield: Thank you, Vice Mayor. And I would like to say this is a very difficult choice today, all of our candidates are great. I will be selecting, however, Mark Hackbarth and Constance Moll.

Vice Mayor Korte: Mr. Phillips.

Councilmember Phillips: You know, I have to agree with that statement, that you are all great. I

wish we had more openings, and maybe we should make this a 20-member thing so we can get everybody on board. The archaeologists, the scientists, that's just fantastic. I think along those lines, I think I will vote for Mr. Hackbarth and Ms. Polasko.

Councilman Smith: Well, it will sound repetitive, but I commend all of you too for your commitment and passion, and your qualifications. My vote is for Andrea Davis and Laurie LaPat-Polasko.

Vice Mayor Korte: My two choices are Andrea Davis and Marsha Lipps.

Mayor Lane: Mine will be Joe Blankenship and Marsha Lipps.

Councilwoman Klapp: I choose Laurie LaPat-Polasko and Marsha Lipps.

Councilmember Milhaven: And Laurie LaPat-Polasko and Marsha Lipps.

Vice Mayor Korte: So we have our selections. Congratulations, Laurie and Marsha. Moving on.

[Time: 00:29:43]

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Vice Mayor Korte: So our Parks and Recreation Commission. There's one opening. The Parks and Recreation Commission advises the city Council on the acquisitions of lands, operations, use, care, and maintenance of parks and recreation areas. There is one vacancy and one nominee. And guess who is at the podium. It's Mr. Todd Davis. Our incumbent.

[Time: 00:30:05]

Todd Davis: Hello. How are you guys? Council Mayor, Vice Mayor. By the way, awesome Parada this year. I got to tell you, all of you, the city, you guys looked great and it was just a wonderful and I commend you. I live at 4246 North 79th street, right next to the park system and my wife and I use it five to seven days a week and because of that, our quality of life has improved which we would talk about and teach. Been in Scottsdale since 1957, and eight years outside of Scottsdale. I teach college recreation. I had my first job at McCormick Railroad Park. My input with Parks and Recreation. I have some good news on that. We have some great commissioners who are passionate about different things from dog parks, to kid hiking in the Preserve, and our staff with director Pryor. We really have hard-working people and sometimes we blink and miss the value of our park system.

As everything is changing in Scottsdale, there's a lot going on. I walked into Civic Center. It looks beautiful. But if you walk through parks, there's some challenges and the use and the care of those facilities about. A year ago, I started asking what is the point of the Parks and Recreation Commission, why do we really exist. And with the help of the city attorney and director Pryor, we sat down in July and had a work study session and it came back to this. We are to report on the use and

the care of and randomly we get a new park that would be great. So the things I'm working on that as the chair of the last chair and I will continue another year as the chair, our task is to talk about the use. Are we serving all populations? Are we meeting the needs in all areas of Scottsdale and what areas are lacking quality services? What are the trends that are relevant to different cities. North Scottsdale is different than south Scottsdale. Are we serving working adults? One of my biggest passion is those who work, do we provide recreation opportunities for them after work. Use of and care of. What are the conditions of our parks. Are our resources enough to meet the commands of the park. You can see all the people using our parks. It's amazing.

I look at the higher population coming in with the newer developments and you think our parks will be used harder and more. We have to keep them in world class shape. Our reputation is our green belt and our park systems and that's where everything stems from. As a chair, I'm hoping to continue this process and what I basically implemented once we listen to the attorney, we are doing a report from the south to the north and we take a park like El Dorado and we look at El Dorado and the neighboring parks and say what is the use and the care of those two facilities.

So for example at El Dorado, we will hear from the aquatics department, boys and girls club, and how are we using it. Then we hear from maintenance and say, how is the condition the park? With that in mind, we will be able to give you, the Council and the city managers good reports on what is going in the parks department which is the goal of being on the commission. Finally pick good people for the parks commission. They should know what they are getting into. I asked them all to start visiting parks and going to events. I don't want them just to come and sit on the commission. I want them to be out there looking at the community and report on a monthly basis. Thank you.

[Time: 00:33:30]

Vice Mayor Korte: Thank you. Any questions? We have one vacancy and one nominee. And I would like to start with Councilman Phillips.

Councilmember Phillips: Okay. This is another difficult decision. I choose Todd Davis.

Councilman Smith: Todd Davis.

Vice Mayor Korte: Todd Davis.

Mayor Lane: Happy to reappoint Todd Davis.

Councilwoman Klapp: Todd Davis and I congratulate you on your enthusiasm.

Councilmember Milhaven: Mr. Davis.

Councilmember Littlefield: Todd Davis.

Vice Mayor Korte: And that is unanimous. Thank you.

[Time: 00:34:07]

TOURISM DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Vice Mayor Korte: Next commission is the Tourism Development Commission, which advises the city Council on matters concerning the expenditure of revenues from the transaction privilege tax on transient lodging, designated for tourism development. SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS, as specified in the Scottsdale City Code, the seven members of the Tourism Development Commission shall consist of representatives from the tourism industry of Scottsdale, including a minimum of four Scottsdale hoteliers, one member of Experience Scottsdale and a balance from elements of the tourism industry. There is one vacancy and two nominees. The nominees are Sherry Henry, and Richard Newman, both hoteliers and I would first like to ask Sherry Henry to the podium.

[Time: 00:35:08]

Sherry Henry: Good afternoon, Mayor, members of the Scottsdale City Council. It's a pleasure to be here and I want to take this opportunity to thank you for considering my application to this very valuable commission. My name is Sherry Henry, I live at 6259 East Avalon Drive in Scottsdale, Arizona, and I have been there for four years.

Why would I like to be on this commission? I would like to be on this commission because I have been in the tourism industry and the hospitality industry for most of my career, about 35 years now, and I love this industry. I recognized the value of it. I recognize the value of the economic impact of this industry and I know that firsthand from my own experience that it helps to protect the quality of life that benefits all the citizens of Scottsdale. So I would like to be able to contribute to that in a much greater manner than just from the business aspect, but to do it also as a volunteer and to add whatever expertise I can to continue to make the city of Scottsdale the world-class destination that it's always been known for.

So why would you choose me? Well, I mentioned before, I have 35 years of tourism experience, and it's pretty broad based, because I love every aspect of it. Just a little side note, my mother actually used to work for TWA Airlines, if anybody remembers that airline, and so I grew up as an airline brat. So I started early on being a great, great fan of travel in general and then had the opportunity. I have been the Office of Tourism Director under two governors, Governor Brewer and Governor Ducey. I run my own hotels. I had my own hotel management and development company. I currently work for Grace Hospitality, which is the subsidiary of G.M. Grace Companies which has its office in downtown Scottsdale. Among our portfolio, we have the Bee Spoke Inn in Scottsdale.

We also have the Inn at Eagle Mountain which is in Fountain Hills on the Scottsdale border. Both of those are involved in the Experience CVB. I'm with the Valley Innkeepers and Association. I have been president of both of those. I have been, I had the honor of being in the hall of fame, the governor's award, and tourism and also the hotels. I also served at the national level.

I think I understand the politics that are involved in telling the story of what it takes to support tourism. I don't, frankly, see any great issues with this commission. I see it only as an enhancement of the energy and the passion that all of you and that members of that commission collectively have continued to focus on making Scottsdale and keeping Scottsdale that world-class destination. I think one thing I have learned, probably more recently than not, is the importance of moving forward. I think we all recognize that the traveler of tomorrow is very different than the traveler we currently have today. I frankly applaud this commission and the city leadership for recognizing that we have to serve both. We have to serve our guests of today, and we have to look at what are our visitors tomorrow. That very different diversity group of people and how can we make.....

Vice Mayor Korte: Ms. Henry, your time is up. I would ask you to.....

Sherry Henry: Thank you. Thank you so much for this opportunity. I really appreciate it.

Vice Mayor Korte: Thank you. Mr. Richard Newman.

[Time: 00:39:02]

Richard Newman: Good afternoon, Mr. Mayor, Council people. It's a great honor to be here. I very much appreciate the opportunity. My name is Rich Newman. I am a Scottsdale resident of 15 years. I live at 7647 East Onyx Court. I live there with my family, my wife of 34 years, my son and my daughter doesn't live with us, but we came here back in 2003. I guess, I am the General Manager of the Gainey Suites Hotel. I work for the Gainey Hotel Company, and we are an independent property. I have been a general manager since 1992.

I have served on the Valley Hotel and Resort Association director, board of directors and the reason I would like to serve on this commission is because as a member of the hospitality and tourism community, I would like to contribute my balanced views, my perspectives that will help the city make more informed decisions to help to guide it towards the future. Tourism is clearly an economic driver in terms of how it creates businesses, jobs and tax revenues. I would love to be a part of that process and help to develop programs that will help Scottsdale stand out as a most distinctive and desirable destination for both our visitors and most importantly, for its residents ultimately to enhance the quality of life while establishing a strong communal sense of pride in anything we do, any initiatives we take.

As I mentioned, I have been in this business for a while. I started out, I didn't finish college, but I started out as an education major, hoping to become a teacher in secondary education. My parents moved from New Jersey to Florida and I went and got a job in a hotel. And it was in Daytona Beach, Florida, at the time. I became, I fell in love with the business and I have never looked back and hospitality and tourism has always been an integral core of my life. I have fond memories of being here when Mayor Drinkwater would come into our restaurant, when I was a general manager of the Saguaro Hotel. He had a certain aura and a charisma that I admired and I have seen how Scottsdale has evolved over the years. It's wonderful what the Scottsdale experience has become. And I guess

my time is running out, but the most important parent of that is how we always consider the growth of the community is not, it's helped by tourism, but tourism is not the main thing. It's a driver. The main thing is the quality of life and the sense of pride in the community and how the city is always envisioned and perceived.

Vice Mayor Korte: Thank you, Mr. Newman. Any questions? We have one vacancy and two nominees. Each Councilmember can vote once and I would like to begin with Councilman Smith.

Councilman Smith: Thank you. Two great champions of tourism. But I'm going to vote for Sherry Henry.

Vice Mayor Korte: And my vote goes for Mr. Newman.

Mayor Lane: Vote for sherry Henry.

Councilwoman Klapp: Sherry Henry.

Councilmember Milhaven: Richard Newman.

Councilmember Littlefield: Sherry Henry.

Councilmember Phillips: Wow, that was quick. I feel like judging the voice, when you get the two great contestants and you can't really pick between the two. All I can say is you both should be on it, and hopefully next chance the other one will be but I think at this time, I will go for Sherry Henry.

[Time: 00:43:42]

Vice Mayor Korte: Congratulations, Sherry Henry for being appointed to the Tourism Development Commission. This concludes our interview and appointment process this afternoon. I would like to sincerely thank everyone that interviewed today and I would like to comment that I'm extremely impressed with all the applicants that we continue to have for our boards and commissions. Please member even if you were not appointed tonight, your application will remain on file for one year for consideration at a future date if there are additional vacancies on that specific commission or board. The city of Scottsdale is very lucky to have such dedicated and talents individuals who are willing and ready to serve for our city and for that, thank you. Thank you. It's quite remarkable the talent that comes forward. Congratulations to those who were selected and now I would like to turn the meeting back to our Mayor.

Mayor Lane: Very good. Thank you, Vice Mayor. Well conducted boards and commissions interview and I want to thank all the participants myself as well. Great candidates and it does make the process tougher for us, but it's certainly a credit to our community that you have the interest. So thank you very much. But with that, that completes our necessary business for the special meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

[Time: 00:45:08]

Mayor Lane: So I will ask for adjournment.

Councilwoman Klapp: Move to adjourn.

Councilmembers: Second.

Mayor Lane: Motion has been made and seconded to adjourn. All those in favor indicate by aye. We will start our regular meeting at 10:00 as publicly advertised. The train doesn't leave the station until the prescribed time. So we will take a little bit of time here. So thank you.