

# Minutes Neighborhood Advisory Commission March 6, 2024



Minutes of the Neighborhood Advisory Commission (NAC) Meeting held on Wednesday, March 6, 2024, hybrid meeting with in-person attendance option along with virtual component option via Microsoft Teams platform

**(MEMBERS) Present:** Brandon Abrahams, Lane Carraway, Martha Carter, Jan Doughty, Jana Lynn Granillo, John Kozel, Kriste Melcher, Stacy Novis, Nancy Puffer, Joel Stern, Suri Wall, Duane Washkowiak, Brittney Wong

**(MEMBERS) Absent:** Annette Fields, Gabe Hagen

**City Staff:** Shauna Warner, Neighborhood Services Manager; Keith Burke, Deputy City Manager; Ambika Adhikari, Principal Planner; Maja Aurora, Community Services Manager; Jacob Payne, Senior Planner

**Guests:** Captain Jeremy Baker, Salvation Army, Samantha Boehringer, Haylee Mills, Michael Urwin and Edwin Walker

## **Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m. by Chair Stern

## **Agenda Item 2 – Public Comment**

There was no public comment

## **Agenda Item 3 – Review and approval of meeting minutes: Feb. 21, 2024 NAC Meeting**

**Motion:** Commissioner Doughty made a motion to approve the Feb. 21, 2024 minutes with two amendments: 1. correction of spelling of guest name to Irwin, and 2. adding to Proposed Future Agenda Items, Charlotte Thomas' letter response Jan. 10.

**Second:** Commissioner Carraway seconded the motion

**Result:** Minutes were approved by a unanimous vote of those present, 13 -0

**Commission Member Ayes:** Brandon Abrahams, Lane Carraway, Martha Carter, Jan Doughty, Jana Lynn Granillo, John Kozel, Kriste Melcher, Stacy Novis, Nancy Puffer, Joel Stern, Suri Wall, Duane Washkowiak, Brittney Wong

**Absent:** Annette Fields, Gabe Hagen

## **Agenda Item 4 – Tempe Arts and Culture Commission Overview and Commission Collaboration**

Maja Aurora, Community Services Manager and Haylee Mills, Tempe Arts and Culture Commission member, gave an overview of the Arts and Culture Division, which provides art and cultural engagement through diverse programs, interactive experiences and connective opportunities that enrich the lives of residents and visitors. The division is made up of four areas, Community Arts, History Museum, Public art and Tempe Center for the Arts (TCA).

Commissioners had the following questions:

Q: Is the standpipe art on GIS?

A: Yes

Q: Is there a possibility of the gift shop returning to TCA?

A: Space is now used as a box office. Staff is exploring other opportunities for community art to be sold.

Q: How can the community propose art projects?

A: The Maryanne Corder Neighborhood Grant Program funds community initiated projects.

Q: Where do submissions for the archives go?

A: History Museum

Q: How does the Tempe Arts and Culture Commission categorize awards?

A: They have standard categories but may add on others based on the submissions to allow flexibility.

Q: Is the Arts and Culture staff involved in the downtown streetscape project?

A: Yes

Q: Can the awards have a new certificate that is artistic?

A: The award certificate is branded with the celebration identity.

Q: How can the commissions collaborate?

A: Commissioners are invited to participate and attend all Arts and Culture programming and also to share with neighbors. The Neighborhood Advisory Commission chair is also invited to a Tempe Arts and Culture Commission meeting to share what the commission does. The Neighborhood Celebration is an example of collaboration.

### **Agenda Item 5 – Character Area 6 Planning Process Overview**

Ambika Adhikari, Principal Planner and Jacob Payne, Senior Planner, provided an overview of the Character Area 6 Planning Process. Tempe is divided into eight character areas, six plans have been completed with Character Area 6 currently in process and Character Area 2 to follow in 2025. A character area plan is a community-driven, high-level vision and policy plan that provides background, history of the area, identification of core traits of the area and design and planning principles that is consistent with the Council Priorities. Character Area 6 is roughly bounded by US60 to the north, the southern city border, the western city border and the canal to the east.

Staff provided information on the composition of the area and the input received since the process kicked off in January. Commissioners were asked to share information with neighbors as well as participate in the process if they live or visit this area of Tempe.

Commissioners had the following questions:

Q: Is survey on Nextdoor by region or neighborhood?

A: The survey link is available on the Tempe Forum at:  
[https://communityfeedback.opengov.com/portals/tempeaz/Issue\\_13655](https://communityfeedback.opengov.com/portals/tempeaz/Issue_13655)

Q: Would like to see survey results by mean, mode and median.

A: A more detailed survey summary is posted online at [tempe.gov/characterareas](https://tempe.gov/characterareas)

Q: How does the character of neighborhoods influence the design?

A: The design is informed by what's physically there to keep the area cohesive. This area was developed later. There is some overlap with adjacent character areas.

Q: How is outreach done to the area?

A: A Public Involvement Plan is created and adapted during the process. All addresses within the character area are direct mailed information. In addition, direct emails are sent to neighborhood and homeowners' associations and those providing email contact information. There are yard signs place in parks, along paths and street frontages. There is also social media done and information included in the Tempe water bill.

#### **Agenda Item 6 – 2024 Neighborhood Celebration Updates and Planning**

The event is approximately one month away. Commissioners will be sent a link to sign up to help with the event. Commissioners will also be emailed celebration information with links and images for posting on social media to share and can share the city's posts as well.

#### **Agenda Item 7 – Proposed Future Agenda Items**

- Accessory Dwelling Units
- 2024 Neighborhood Celebration Event Updates
- Alley Cleanups with Keep Tempe Beautiful/Joe Forte
- Vision Zero Update
- NAC Working Groups Updates (if applicable)
- Charlotte Thomas' letter response Jan. 10
- Habitat for Humanity

#### **Agenda Item 8 – Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

Prepared by: Shauna Warner