



MINUTES OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF CHANDLER, ARIZONA, held on Tuesday, June 13, 2023, at 6:00 p.m., Neighborhood Resources Office, 235 S Arizona Ave., Chandler, Arizona.

Members Present

Peter Cwik Committee Chair, Jen Felker Vice Chair, Vernon Stewart Committee Member, Cindy Banton Committee Member, Robin Jackson Committee Member

Members Absent

Brian Fox Committee Member
Amber Hutchinson Committee Member

Staff Present

Leah Powell Neighborhood Resources Director, Guy Jaques Neighborhood Preservation Senior Manager, Priscilla Quintana Neighborhood Preservation Programs Manager, Phillip Hubbard Neighborhood Services Program Manager, Erica Barba Senior Management Analyst, Leticia Urrea Senior Administrative Assistant, Tawna Mower Neighborhood Preservation Analyst

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Quorum was established, and the meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Minutes of March 14, 2023

Motion made by **Vice Chair Felker** to approve the Neighborhood Advisory Committee (NAC) minutes of March 14, 2023. Motion seconded by **Committee Member Banton**.

Motion approved (5-0)

3. SCHEDULED/UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC APPEARANCES/CALL TO PUBLIC

(Members of the audience may address any item not on the agenda. State Statute prohibits the NAC from discussing an item, not on the agenda, but the NAC does listen to your concerns and has staff to follow up on any questions you raise.)

Introductions:

Cindy Banton – New Neighborhood Advisory Committee Member. Dr. Cindy Banton introduced herself as being from southern CA, the Los Angeles area. She has been in Arizona since 1984, when she moved here w/Boeing. **Committee Member Banton** lived in the east valley for a bit but then quickly found her way to Chandler.

Currently, she is with AVID Consulting, which is made up of many facets that help workplaces thrive. **Committee Member Banton** lives in downtown Chandler and is a graduate of the Chandler Chamber Leadership Class 38, as well as a Board Member for the Chandler Chamber. Her firm recently won an award for Diversity. **Committee Member Banton** is very active with For Our City Day and G.A.I.N. She is very happy to be here.

Committee Chair Cwik thanked **Committee Member Banton** and welcomed her.

Guy Jaques asked Phillip Hubbard to introduce new staff. He introduces Dan Jensen, who is coming to Chandler from City of Mesa. Mr. Hubbard shares that Dan is a wonderful addition to Code Enforcement.

Mr. Jensen shared that he is a native of the valley, born and raised, and has worked for the City of Scottsdale, City of Mesa and now City of Chandler. He will be working in commercial code for the west side of Chandler and enjoys it.

4. **ACTION AGENDA**

NONE

5. **DISCUSSION**

- a. **Neighborhood Preservation Updates – Guy Jaques**, Neighborhood Preservation Senior Manager, shares that in addition to Mr. Jensen, new Code Enforcement, Neighborhood Preservation has also been fortunate to be awarded a decision package, approved by City Council, for an additional full-time commercial/residential position and are currently in the process of working with HR to put out the vacancy request here in the next few days. The intent is for this new hire to be assigned to the downtown area. Mr. Jensen is the entire west side, and the other commercial position is the entire east side. This new position will be specifically for downtown and will work closely with downtown businesses, as well as other city staff, to be more proactive with the issues specific to downtown, as well as the residential areas that are directly surrounding.
- b. Mr. Jacques shares that Code Enforcement staff are seeing concerns with big metal storage containers (Conex-type boxes) that are being stored on commercial properties sharing that there is a total of five that were identified in the downtown area, at various businesses. Anytime we are made aware of an area with an issue, we check out the surrounding area proactively. Conex boxes are only allowed with a building permit. A letter

went out to those five businesses last week, stating that they will need to remove these storage containers. We will reinspect mid-July. He also shared that a new short-term rental ordinance information is in place and that these new regulations will be enforced by Code Enforcement. Tax and Licensing will take the lead, making initial notifications of those in violation and if unsuccessful they will likely be referred to Code Enforcement to continue work on.

Committee Member Stewart asks for the definition of a short-term rental. Mr. Hubbard answers that it is focused on Air BNBS (vacation type rentals), so that they are properly licensed and have submitted their contact info, etc. This will enable other neighborhood residents, Police, Code Enforcement, etc. of who they can contact if there are any nuisance issues. Per the regulations, all immediate neighbors must be notified that the property will be utilized as a short-term rental. He said he would send the information to the NAC members.

Committee Chair Cwik asks if residents need a permit for the Conex-type boxes. Mr. Jacques answered that if Code Enforcement receives a complaint, the initial inspection gives the homeowner 10 days to have it removed. Most Conex-type boxes on residential property are usually short-term, for moving purposes. Therefore, it is usually not a problem for the homeowner to get it out of there before re-inspection. Per the codes, there cannot be anything that obstructs the public right of way or line of sight for drivers.

Committee Member Stewart asks if they see this who can they call. Mr. Hubbard answers Code during regular business hours and PD if after hours or weekends.

Committee Chair Cwik states that he respects Code Enforcement's goal of getting compliance, not being punitive. The HOA boards are trying for the same thing.

Mr. Jacques gives kudos to Neighborhood Programs for the two recent awards presented at the NUSA (Neighborhoods USA) National Conference in May, stating that he is proud to be a part of these programs and this team. These awards were Second Place for the Golden Neighbors program and First Place for the For Our City Day program.

Committee Chair Cwik also commends the Golden Neighbors program on the award and states how impressive it is that so many people attend the Golden Neighbor events. Mrs. Quintana agrees with Committee Chair Cwik, that it is very exciting, stating that the Golden Neighbors program started in the parking garage, then went on to the library, and many more collaborations. She is now thinking about where to host the Holiday Celebration as there will be many more wanting to attend.

- c. Neighborhood Resources Updates – Leah Powell**, Neighborhood Resources Director, shares that a team attended the annual NUSA Conference and was awarded two different awards, a Second place for the Golden Neighbors program and First place for the For Our City Day program. Ms. Powell thanks the Neighborhood Programs/Preservation team. NUSA is large, intense, not easy or taken lightly, and a lot of preparation goes into the presentations. Ms. Powell shares the back story for Golden Neighbors, relaying that when Priscilla Quintana was interviewing for her position, each applicant was tasked with coming up with a new program. The program that Mrs. Quintana came up with and presented for her interview was the Golden Neighbors program, which has won an award after only one year in.

Ms. Powell also shares that, last night, these awards were recognized at the City Council Mtg, by Mayor Hartke and other Council Members. This is a big deal, a national award. The representatives at the conference for the City of Chandler were even asked to possibly host the conference in the future. Ms. Powell states that this is well-deserved recognition, and she is very proud of the hard work and support that the team has put in.

- d. Neighborhood Resources Updates –Priscilla Quintana**, Neighborhood Preservation Programs Manager, shares the following:

Pueblo Viejo Event at San Marcos Elementary School – Neighborhood Programs brought out free books for the students, families, and all residents, served free pancakes and helped to facilitate the neighborhood clean-up with dumpsters and free tool borrowing. This event was well attended.

HOA Academy – Partnered again with Mulcahy Law Firm for three classes. One of which was virtual. Received 60 RSVPs and all classes were well attended. We will plan to do this again in the spring 2024.

Envision – The goal for Envision events is to determine from the residents “What do they want their neighborhood to look like, feel like?” We go out and listen first and then come back with answers and resources. For the Envision Amberwood event, on April 21, there were over 500 people in attendance. For the Envision Galveston event, on March 7, there were over 300 people in attendance. Envision will continue in these neighborhoods, as well as in the South Historic Neighborhood.

Starbucks – Reached out to Neighborhood Programs, looking for a volunteer opportunity for a team building day. The Starbucks team came in and prepped supplies and assembled 70 kits for our annual Golden Neighbors Spring Cleaning Event.

Golden Neighbors – Celebrating one year! Hosted the annual Golden Neighbors Spring Cleaning Event on May 10. Police Department was there, as well as Mayor Hartke and several Council Members. Some good news to share is that a couple of the Council Members have reached out to let us know that they will be allocating additional funding for Golden Neighbors.

Scheel's – A 20-person team from the new Chandler Scheel's store approached Neighborhood Programs regarding a team building/service opportunity possibility. They brought out their team to kick start the service for the Colonia Coronita neighborhood by cleaning alleyways. The Scheel's volunteers worked from noon until 4:00 p.m. We had already let the residents know, utilizing door hangers, that they would be our FOCD 2023 neighborhood. The cleared alleyways will help children get to the neighborhood school more easily and safely.

Neighborhood Resources Departmental Retreat – Facilitating a Pancakes and Pavers type of event for our departmental retreat this year. This allows our staff to get out into the community to volunteer. Chose Light of Life Church and will be assisting them to remove block wall debris from deconstruction, move and install pavers, and move playground equipment. Opportunities like these allow us to give back to community partners who give so much all year. This church supports our Community Development team (navigators).

Mr. Jacques shared that the Light of Life Church Pastor gave us a tour of their historic church, we had a nice cookout afterward, and that it was an awesome day.

NUSA – Again, we had a team who attended the national conference during May 24-27, along with hundreds of other nationwide attendees. Proud to say we are leaps and bounds from other cities as far as our programs go and we do a great job here at the City of Chandler.

Live Love Ceremony for OASIS – This new community center is being built in the Galveston Neighborhood by the non-profit, Live Love. They have been planning for years and finally broke ground on May 31, 2023. Their goal is to raise 2 million additional funds so they will not have to finance anything. They were blessed to find a contractor who will piecemeal out the work as funds permit.

Galveston – This is one of our Envision neighborhoods and has a couple of capital improvement projects going to council very soon, including new sewer lines, park projects, and placemaking projects (mural, or something that the residents would like to see to represent their neighborhood).

Hightown Project – The mural was completed in May, and she is hoping that the NAC members will take time to go check it out. It is a representation of what the community wanted to see there.

Golden Neighbors and Let's Pull Together – We have been very busy helping senior citizens, along with our Neighborhood Preservation staff and Fire Crisis Intervention Team. Wonderful to see that these programs are helping our Chandler residents, especially those who are alone and to build relationships with city staff and others, enabling them to continue to advocate for themselves.

Mayor's Neighborhood Excellence Award (MNEA) – The nominations were opened on June 8, but things are a bit different this year due to the G.A.I.N. events last year being rained out. Therefore, for this year's MNEA parameters, anyone who had G.A.I.N. event through February can still participate in MNEA awards. The nomination period closes on July 10, 2023, and then voting will go from July 24-Aug 24. Residents will be able to go online and vote. Once closed, entries will be taken to the Mayor for him to choose Mayor's Choice winner, then the next one with the highest votes will be the People's Choice winner.

For Our City Day Planning Meeting – The first meeting this year will be focused on recognizing project leads from last year's event. We are expecting about 40 leads to be in attendance. We will also be kicking off FOCD by announcing this year's

neighborhood. This is the biggest event for the NAC, where you can help promote what we are all about, show and talk about the resources we have for Chandler neighborhoods. Please let me know if you need help speaking with anyone about this event.

e. MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Calendar:

Mrs. Quintana shares that there will be no NAC mtg in July, as it is our regular summer break. Come back ready for FOCD!

Information Items:

Committee Member Banton asks, other than just showing up to the events, how can we be more actively involved. Mrs. Quintana states we are always looking for volunteers for doorhangers, phone calls, spreading the word about programs, sponsorships, Tools on the Go, etc. Please spread the word about all and share contact information as appropriate. Mrs. Mower shared that committee members, or residents, can always go to the Chandler website and type in key words to learn more about any programs, get event information, and more. It is very user-friendly and a great resource.


Committee Chair Cwik adds that FOCD is coming up on Saturday, October 21, we need the NAC members as this is the year's biggest event. Please take a shift to greet people, answer questions, man the booth, and take photos. There are many ways to contribute. Please make it a priority and put on your calendar now.

Committee Member Stewart shares that the CUSD Bus Yard is having an event this Saturday, June 17, 2023, to "Come drive the school bus!" Drivers must be over 21. Please let him know if you need more information. There will be a course to drive on and free lunch. They are hoping to grow each year and continue with this event. One objective of the event is to hopefully grow public interest in people in becoming bus drivers, as there is always a shortage. Either way this will be a fun community event.

f. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.



Peter Cwik, Chair

Tawna Mower, Recording Secretary