



MINUTES OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF CHANDLER, ARIZONA, held on Tuesday, April 9, 2024, at 6:00 p.m., Neighborhood Resources Office, 235 S Arizona Ave., Chandler, Arizona.

Members Present

Peter Cwik, Committee Chair; Robin Jackson, Committee Member; Vernon Stewart, Committee Member; Brian Fox, Committee Member (Mr. Fox arrived at 6:08 p.m.); Jen Felker, Vice Chair (Mrs. Felker left at 6:31 p.m.)

Members Absent

Amber Hutchinson, Committee Member

Staff Present

Leah Powell, Neighborhood Resources Director; Guy Jaques, Neighborhood Preservation Senior Manager; Priscilla Quintana, Neighborhood Preservation Programs Manager; Erica Barba, Neighborhood Services Program Manager; 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 6:01 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Minutes of January 9, 2023

Motion made by **Committee Chair Cwik** to approve the Neighborhood Advisory Committee (NAC) minutes of January 9, 2024. Motion seconded by **Vice Chair Felker**.

Motion approved (4-0)

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.)

4. ACTION AGENDA

5. **DISCUSSION**

- a. **Neighborhood Resources Updates – Leah Powell, Neighborhood Resources Director**, reminds the committee of the upcoming Boards and Commissions Open House on Wednesday, April 17, 2024, at 7:30 – 9:00 a.m. at City Hall. The event is in appreciation of all those who serve on boards and commissions for the City of Chandler.

Ms. Powell also shared information regarding the upcoming Kyrene De La Paloma clean up event. This area is part of our pilot program, which includes outreach to areas that have been chosen as participants due to lack of involvement in city services, etc. Neighborhood Resources is working on this program in conjunction with Parks & Recreation, Cultural Development, and DEI. City staff provided support to Paloma Middle school during their annual school carnival. The school is doing a shred-a-thon and Neighborhood Preservation will be in the neighborhood to meet and share resources and information with residents. Dumpsters will be placed near the neighborhood park for residents to use for free. In addition, Parks & Recreation staff has been offering open gym nights at Paloma Middle school in an effort to continue to engage with residents.

The second pilot program area is Pueblo Viejo and Chieftain Village neighborhoods. Located in downtown Chandler, where we recently hosted two Cesar Chavez events at the end of March. This marks the third year of hosting a neighborhood clean-up honoring Cesar Chavez's legacy. This year, we combined the service aspect of cleaning up the community garden and a program with speakers and Folklorico dancers, along with welcoming the grandson of Cesar Chavez, Andres Chavez, for a Cafecito where he spoke to Chandler residents about his grandfather's vision and legacy, as well as to hear stories from Chandler residents who met his grandfather.

Ms. Powell added that there will be multiple opportunities this spring for NAC members to attend activities and share information with fellow residents. For some of these events we will be piggybacking on to school events, etc., and for others we will be hosting our own.

Ms. Powell shared the Cesar Chavez video, created from the series of events that took place that last week of March, stating that the video would be made public soon. She also points out that the artist in the video is Abigail, who grew up in Chandler public housing and is now teaching and working with kids that are currently living in Chandler public housing.

Ms. Powell thanks the team from Neighborhood Programs and, all Neighborhood Preservation, for the efforts put forth for this event. It turned out amazing

- b. Neighborhood Preservation Updates – Guy Jaques, Neighborhood Preservation Senior Manager**, shared that planning and zoning had some amendments that went through council and were approved. Code Enforcement had five code amendments that were submitted and, of those five, four were approved. They were asked to take another look at the remaining amendment, which is regarding the number of vehicles that are permitted to be stored on a property (behind a fence). It had been submitted as two total vehicles per property. They will be meeting to talk about this code amendment again, as they need to add in verbiage regarding the operable or inoperable restoration vehicles are to be behind an opaque fence. This meeting has yet to be scheduled but is upcoming.

Mr. Jaques shared that City Council passed a resolution regarding the temporary sign moratorium that has been in effect since Covid. This moratorium has been in effect for years and it is time to revisit whether it is still appropriate. There is a hefty number of bandit signs and as soon as we remove them, they go back up. Beginning in May, Code Enforcement will be unable to remove these bandit signs, due to the Supreme Court decision, as we cannot remove signage based on the information that it contains.

Committee Member Fox asked if there is a way to put signage on corners that reminds people that it is illegal to remove political signs. Mr. Jaques and Ms. Powell both relayed that the City Clerk's office posts this legal information on their webpage, as well as ensures that candidates

are made aware, etc.

Committee Chair Cwik asks if the city is waiting until the election season ends before lifting the moratorium, or if they are considering doing it now.

Mr. Jaques answers that they are submitting it now, but Ms. Powell reminds the group that it will be up to City Council.

Committee Chair Cwik asks what the fine or violation is for removing a political sign. Ms. Powell states that this would need to be reported to the police department for any theft or defacing.

Committee Chair Cwik asks if there is any violation for removing a bandit sign and asks Mr. Jaques what the definition of a bandit sign would be.

Mr. Jaques said a bandit sign would be anything staked into the ground, or taped up, on city property, i.e.: lost cat or dog, junk removal, sales related. Since on city property they are treated as litter. There is no violation, so they are just removed.

Mr. Jaques also shares that Neighborhood Preservation is fully staffed currently.

- c. **Neighborhood Programs Updates – Priscilla Quintana, Neighborhood Preservation Program Manager**, shared that the last time the NAC met was January of 2024. It is understandable that sometimes it is difficult to be in attendance and that things can come up last minute. However, last month we had RSVPs that we would have a quorum and then had committee members that did not show up. She asked that if things change last minute to please let staff know as soon as possible so that staff can determine if we will still have a quorum or not. This way we can be considerate of everyone's time.

Envision Amberwood – Mrs. Quintana shared that the Envision committee visited the Amberwood neighborhood to deliver a magnet with a listing of City of Chandler Departments with their accompanying contact information, as well as a bag of kettle corn. This was delivered to 541

homes. Adding that staff can always support from the NAC with this type of activity.

Pueblo Viejo – Informational door hangers, along with two trash bags, were delivered to all homes in the Pueblo Viejo neighborhood. This was in preparation for the Cesar Chavez Let's Pull Together neighborhood clean-up day on March 30. We invited each home to fill up the two trash bags and leave them on the front of their property for volunteers to assist with collecting and taking to the dumpster for them on event day. We continue to try numerous ways to reach out so we can determine what works best for these pilot areas.

Golden Neighbors – The Golden Neighbors event in March was a Read Across America Theme in celebration of Dr. Suess' birthday. We partnered with the library staff and teachers at Galveston Elementary school and were able to match up senior citizens with 2nd Grade students who took turns reading stories to each other, celebrating the joy of reading at any age. This was an amazing event, and we may consider doing the same type of event at other schools. In April, we will be hosting a Physical & Cognitive Health Event for the senior citizens. Mrs. Mower was able to find some great resources at a recent conference that she attended.

Galveston- The Galveston area is experiencing some growing pains as the capital improvement projects for the park and streets continue, as well as the construction of the new elementary school and OASIS, which are both scheduled to open in the fall.

Committee Member Stewart inquired if they are building something at The North end of the park. Mrs. Quintana shares they are working on a retention area, a parking lot and possibly a basketball court.

Mrs. Quintana also relayed to the committee that at the most recent Galveston stakeholders meeting, it was shared that CUSD and the team of architects considered all the ideas shared by the community (kids, parents, etc.) when building the new school. During a tour, it was shared that the input they received helped with the design aspects of the new building, such as a correlation between the varying levels of the

artistic design on the outside of the building and the representation of Folklorico dancers and music. It was also shared that the new facility will have new state of the art features. She added that, overall, it is going well thanks to the trust that has been built between the residents and the city due to the Envision initiative over the past couple of years.

NUSA- Mrs. Quintana shares that the annual Neighborhoods USA conference is coming up at the end of May. The Galveston Neighborhood is a finalist in the Neighborhood of the Year category. Neighborhood Programs staff will attend and deliver a presentation for this award during the conference.

Mrs. Quintana reminded the committee to please attend as many of the Envision Galveston, and other Neighborhood Programs events, as possible.

Ms. Powell shared information about the Pueblo Viejo neighborhood meeting in November, where neighbors hosted and invited the City of Chandler staff to attend. This allowed us to hear what questions and concerns neighborhood residents had for city staff, gather information in response to those questions, and return to the next neighborhood meeting with representatives from all the city departments that could answer their questions and share information.

Committee Member Fox asks where the economic development area is in downtown Chandler.

Ms. Powell responds the boundaries for the downtown economic development area is from Pecos to Chandler and the uptown area is from Ray Rd, North to the canal.

Committee Member Fox asks who can qualify for those economic development monies and do they have to reimburse the city if they sell and make a profit on the sale.

Ms. Powell states that she will have someone from that department reach out to Mr. Fox with more information.

Mrs. Quintana shared that there many great things happening and we would appreciate the NAC members' help.

Committee Chair Cwik thanks city staff for all the efforts being made and that he does not see that in many other cities.

MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Committee Chair Cwik asks if Alma School and Ivanhoe are on the list for alleys. Ms. Powell responds that they are in the process now and signage has been in the alleyways for several weeks.

CALENDAR

HOA Academy, April 10, 2024, 4:00-5:30 p.m., virtual only, link will be provided

City of Chandler Boards and Commissions Appreciation Event, April 17, 2024, 7:30-9:00 a.m., City Hall Courtyard, 175 S. Arizona Avenue, Chandler, AZ, 85225

HOA Academy, April 17, 2024, 4:00-5:30 p.m., ASU Innovation Center, 249 S. Chicago Street, Chandler, AZ 85225

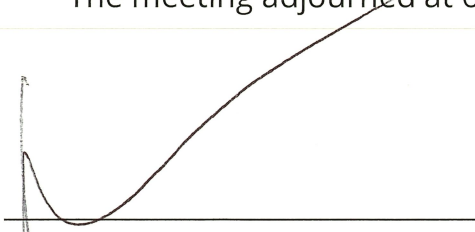
Golden Neighbors Physical & Cognitive Health Event, April 18, 2024, 9:30 – 11:00 a.m., Tumbleweed Recreation Center, Cotton Room South, 745 E. Germann Road, Chandler, AZ 85286

Kyrene de la Paloma Area Clean-Up Event, April 20, 2024, 8:00-11:00 a.m., Mountain View Park, 575 S. Twelve Oaks Boulevard, Chandler, AZ 85226

HOA Academy, April 24, 2024, 4:00-5:30 p.m., virtual only, link will be provided

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.



Jen Felker, Vice Chair



Tawna Mower, Recording Secretary