

JUDICIAL ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

January 2, 2002

The Judicial Advisory Board of the City of Mesa met in the lower level meeting room of the Council Chambers, 57 East 1st Street, on January 2, 2002 at 8:00 a.m.

COMMITTEE PRESENT

Chairman Joe Shipley
John Kerr
Judith O'Neill
Cecil Patterson
Joan Ruffennach
Marilyn Wilson

COMMITTEE ABSENT

James Keppel

STAFF PRESENT

Denise Bleyle
Charlie Ethridge
Pat Granillo
Debbie Spinner
Kelly Walsh

(Items on the agenda were discussed out of order, but for purposes of clarity will remain as listed on the agenda.)

1. Introduction of City Attorney Debbie Spinner.

City Attorney Debbie Spinner introduced herself to the members of the Judicial Advisory Board and provided brief historical background relative to her professional career. She voiced enthusiasm for her new position with the City and encouraged the Board to contact her for assistance regarding any legal issues which may arise.

In response to a question from Chairman Shipley, Ms. Spinner responded that the City Attorney's Office has a positive and close working relationship with both the City Manager's Office and the City Council.

Boardmember Wilson welcomed Ms. Spinner to the City and thanked her for her attendance at today's meeting.

2. Approve minutes of December 5, 2001 meeting.

It was moved by Boardmember Kerr, seconded by Boardmember Patterson, that the minutes of the December 5, 2001 meeting be approved.

Chairman Shipley declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

3. Review and consider items related to the reappointment of Magistrate Michelle Lue Sang, whose term expires June 30, 2002.

Management Assistant Denise Bleyle advised the Board that Human Resources Administrator Kelly Walsh will temporarily assume the duties of Senior Human Resources Analyst Kathleen Broman who is currently on maternity leave.

a. Application for Reappointment

Ms. Bleyle informed the Boardmembers that a letter has been prepared and signed by Chairman Shipley to formally invite Magistrate Michelle Lue Sang to apply for reappointment to the Mesa City Court. She said that the letter, along with a disk and a hard copy of the Application for Reappointment, will be mailed to Magistrate Lue Sang today and that the application must be completed and returned to the Personnel Office by January 25, 2002.

b. Letter to Commission on Judicial Conduct

Ms. Bleyle explained that Chairman Shipley has signed the Board's letter which will be sent to the Arizona Commission on Judicial Conduct to solicit the number of complaints or reprimands which may have been filed against Magistrate Lue Sang. She added that although it is not anticipated that Magistrate Lue Sang will receive any negative comments, it is standard practice to conduct a background check on all magistrates who are applying for reappointment.

c. Publicity

Ms. Bleyle advised the Boardmembers that with regard to this agenda item, legal advertisements will be placed by the Mesa City Clerk's Office, news releases will be submitted to the media, and community outreach will be accomplished through the utilization of Mesa Channel 11.

d. Courtroom Schedule

Ms. Bleyle stated that the Boardmembers were provided with copies of a courtroom schedule for Magistrate Lue Sang and offered a brief explanation of the abbreviations listed on the schedule. She also commented that Court Administrator Kathy Barrett has offered her assistance to the Boardmembers relative to this issue.

e. Review questions

It was moved by Vice Chairman O'Neill, seconded by Boardmember Wilson, that an Executive Session be convened at 8:15 a.m. for the purpose of reviewing the interview questions.

Chairman Shipley declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

(At 8:19 a.m., the Board reconvened their regular meeting and the Executive Session adjourned.)

3. Scheduling of meetings and general information.

In response to a question from Chairman Shipley regarding Boardmember Keppel's recent absence from the Board meetings, Ms. Bleyle advised that she has been in contact with his staff and that Boardmember Keppel is aware of the meeting schedule. She added that she will contact Boardmember Keppel's office later today in an effort to obtain additional information regarding this matter.

Chairman Shipley informed the Boardmembers that the next meeting will be on February 6, 2002, at 8:00 a.m.

4. Adjournment.

Without objection, the meeting of the Judicial Advisory Board adjourned at 8:20 a.m.

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Judicial Advisory Board meeting of the City of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 2nd day of January 2002. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK