

**CITY OF MESA  
HOUSING ADVISORY BOARD  
MESA CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, LOWER LEVEL  
57 EAST 1<sup>st</sup> STREET  
May 4, 2006  
6:00PM  
- MEETING MINUTES -**

**MEMBERS**

Mr. Paul Dugas (excused)  
Ms. Diana Yazzie Devine  
Mr. Bob Hisserich  
Ms. Siri Amrit Kaur Khalsa  
Ms. Trudy Licano  
Mr. Conrad Morin  
Mr. Marv Turley (excused)  
Ms. Deanna Villaneuva-Saucedo  
Mr. Jon Scott Williams

**STAFF**

Ms. Kit Kelly  
Ms. Lisa Hembree  
Ms. Jane Albin

**INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF**

Chair Deanna Villaneuva-Saucedo welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked Board members to introduce themselves.

**WELCOME BY MAYOR KENO HAWKER**

Mayor Hawker thanked the Board for their willingness to serve as members of the Housing Advisory Board and noted that it is a unique way to represent the City. He said they will be setting a lot of standards for housing and encouraged them to think beyond their areas of expertise. Mayor Hawker told them the importance of being very familiar with the *Housing Master Plan*. He feels that Mesa has done a good job of providing affordable housing; however, the need now is for executive housing as there is a correlation between that and jobs. For example, when Williams Gateway Airport becomes a job center, Mesa should have a good balance of executive and affordable housing.

The Mayor suggested some topics for future discussion. For example, the Board could look at how light rail will affect transit-oriented development. He said there will be opportunities for creative planning for affordable housing with the reuse of the abandoned car dealerships along the Main Street corridor. Ground level retail with residential above could provide a quality and sustainable product. Also, they might want to consider what to do with the four-plex boxes that are becoming a problem for the City. They are coming to the point of either being torn down or rebuilt. He also suggested they look at regional studies, such as that done by the Stardust Center, and glean good ideas from them to implement in the City of Mesa.

Mayor Hawker encouraged the Board to be sure that Council knows the importance of topics that are discussed at their meetings. Some of these topics could be brought forward to the Council at a Study Session. He encouraged the Board to contact him or a Councilmember

concerning an issue they feel passion about so it is duly noted and does not get lost. This would ensure that any discussion or recommendation of an issue is recognized and acknowledged by Council in the review and approval of their meeting minutes.

### **COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS**

Chair Villaneuva-Saucedo asked for comments from citizens present. There were no comments.

### **APPROVAL OF APRIL 6, 2006 MINUTES**

With no additions or corrections to the minutes, they were approved as written.

### **DISCUSSION AND ADOPTION OF HOUSING ADVISORY BOARD BY-LAWS**

As the Board received a draft copy of the proposed by-laws in their packet, they had an opportunity to review them prior to the meeting. Kit Kelly asked if there were any questions or comments regarding the by-laws. There being none, Diana Yazzie Devine moved and Conrad Morin seconded a motion that the by-laws be adopted. The by-laws were adopted unanimously.

At this point, the Board requested that staff keep them aware of major housing developments as they come through the planning, permitting and approval process.

### **PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION BY JULIE KRIEGH, ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY**

Ms. Kriegh gave a power point presentation regarding the Board's responsibilities concerning the open meeting laws, conflict of interest and ethics. Each Board member received a copy of the *Ethics Handbook for Elected Officials & Advisory Board Members*. Ms. Kriegh also answered some of the Board's questions regarding conflict of interest, a quorum and agenda items for 'discussion'. She also cautioned the Board to remember that their emails to staff, or copied to staff, are public record.

### **PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF OVERVIEW OF COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION DIVISION PROGRAMS**

Ms. Kelly gave a power point presentation about the role of the Community Revitalization Division as part of the Neighborhood Services Department and the part it plays in the CDBG, HOME, ESG and Human Services funding and duties. Following the presentation, some of the questions and discussion points included:

- The division's interaction with Mesa Town Center Corporation.
- The HOME Consortium. At a future meeting, the Board would like to discuss the possibility of the City of Mesa not being a member of the Consortium, thereby not having to pay a portion of its allocation to Maricopa County for an administration fee.
- More information on the housing affordability gap analysis as shown in the *Housing Master Plan*.

Ms. Hembree told the Board about ADDI (American Dream Downpayment Initiative), which is under the HOME program, and the agreement the City has with Housing for Mesa to administer the program.

## **DISCUSSION OF TOPICS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

- The target housing goals for Mesa as shown on page 50 of the *Housing Master Plan*.
- The gap analysis and how it was conducted.
- Substandard and deteriorated units—the baseline definition and guidance to develop and approve more detailed housing policies and programs.
- In-fill housing policies and fast track (Development Services)—Stardust Center; Governor's initiative on affordable housing/employee assisted housing. What has Mesa done? What needs to be done in order to change the zoning of a property?
- The planning and permitting process.
- Designs for aging in place.
- Building codes and existing housing stock—codes applicable for add-ons; redevelopment; improving existing stock.
- The future of Escobedo.
- The transit overlay district—Tempe and Mesa; transit oriented design.
- Light Rail; who are the major users—pedestrians or employees?
- Fiesta Towers.
- The trend of apartments being turned into condominiums.
- The Maricopa County HOME Consortium.
- Touring housing developments.

The Board will update staff with additional topics and possible speakers.

## **ADJOURN**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 1. With no other agenda items to be discussed, Chair Villaneuva-Saucedo adjourned the meeting at 7:32 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Jane M. Albin, Management Assistant I