

JUDICIAL ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

October 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 October 2, 2002 at 8:05 a.m.

COMMITTEE PRESENT

Chairman Joe Shipley
Judith O'Neill
Linda Rottman
Joan Ruffennach
Marilyn Wilson

COMMITTEE ABSENT

James Keppel
Cecil Patterson

STAFF PRESENT

Denise Bleyle
Kathleen Broman
Pat Granillo
Brian Poulson

1. Introductions.

Chairman Shipley welcomed newly appointed Boardmember Linda Rottman and announced that Ms. Rottman will be taking the place of former Boardmember John Kerr.

Boardmember Rottman provided the Board with a brief synopsis of her professional background and voiced enthusiasm for her new appointment.

Chairman Shipley and the members of the Board welcomed Ms. Rottman and congratulated her on her appointment.

2. Elect Chair and Vice Chair.

It was moved by Boardmember O'Neill, seconded by Boardmember Ruffennach, that Boardmember Shipley be reappointed Chairman of the Judicial Advisory Board.

Chairman Shipley stated that it was the consensus of the Board that he be reappointed Chairman of the Judicial Advisory Board.

It was moved by Boardmember Wilson, seconded by Boardmember Shipley, that Boardmember O'Neill be reappointed Vice Chairman of the Judicial Advisory Board.

Chairman Shipley stated that it was the consensus of the Board that Boardmember O'Neill be reappointed Vice Chairman of the Judicial Advisory Board.

3. Review notebooks – discuss schedule and work plan.

Management Assistant II Denise Bleyle stated that she has prepared individual notebooks for each of the Boardmembers and reviewed the contents of the information contained in the notebooks. She pointed out that the notebooks contain a roster of the Boardmembers' names, phone numbers, e-mail addresses and term expirations; the ordinance which resulted in the creation of the Board; the Board's procedures and guidelines; a listing of the current terms of the Mesa City Court Magistrates, and the Judicial Advisory Board Work Plan.

4. Review and consider items related to the reappointment of Magistrates Norine Richardson and Karl Eppich, whose terms expire June 30, 2003.

Ms. Bleyle reported that the Judicial Advisory Board will consider Magistrate Norine Richardson and Magistrate Karl Eppich for reappointment in 2003. She explained that Magistrate Richardson will be considered for reappointment for her first four-year term, and that Magistrate Eppich will be considered for his first reappointment for a two-year term. Ms. Bleyle commented that the term for new appointments and the first reappointment is two years, and that subsequent reappointment terms are four years. She added that both Magistrate Richardson and Magistrate Eppich have received a copy of a mid-term survey report for their review.

Ms. Bleyle noted that she has not received any adverse comments regarding the performance of either Magistrate Richardson or Magistrate Eppich. She emphasized, in fact, that all of the Mesa City Court Magistrates are carrying out their responsibilities in an exemplary manner and have all participated in the Judicial Advisory Board appointment/reappointment process. Ms. Bleyle also stated that in a recent City Council briefing with staff from the City Court, the Council commended the Judicial Advisory Board for its dedication and hard work.

Discussion ensued relative to the fact that there are currently no plans to create another division in the Mesa City Court due to space limitations, the defeat of a bond question by Mesa voters to approve funding to construct and improve the existing Mesa City Court building, and the fact that Presiding Magistrate Walter Switzer makes a concerted effort to ensure that City staff provides citizens who are seeking assistance at the City Court with the most efficient and timely service possible.

5. Scheduling of meetings and general information.

Boardmember O'Neill commented that she has learned that Boardmember Patterson may be unable to attend Wednesday morning Judicial Advisory Board meetings due to professional scheduling conflicts. She suggested that Ms. Bleyle consult with Boardmember Patterson regarding the possibility of selecting a more convenient meeting day that would be compatible with his work schedule, and to advise the Board of any changes as soon as possible.

Further discussion ensued among the Boardmembers relative to alternative meeting days.

6. Adjournment.

Discussion ensued regarding the cancellation of the December 4, 2002 Judicial Advisory Board meeting; that Ms. Bleyle will e-mail the preliminary interview questions to the Boardmembers for their review; that modifications and finalization of the questions will occur at the January 8, 2003 meeting, and that a completed draft will be presented to the Boardmembers at the February 5, 2003 meeting.

Boardmember O'Neill suggested that the December 4, 2002 meeting be cancelled and that the meeting's agenda items be consolidated into the January 8, 2003 meeting.

Chairman Shipley stated that it was the consensus of the Board that the December 4, 2002 meeting be cancelled.

Without objection, the meeting of the Judicial Advisory Board adjourned at 8:26 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 October 2002. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK