

**CITY OF MESA
MINUTES OF THE DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
MEETING**

DATE: September 15, 2005 **TIME:** 7:30 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jeff Jarvis, Vice Chair
Steve Chucri
Adam Decker
Michelle Dahlke
Gary Gallagher
Nabil Abou-Haidar
Dean Taylor

STAFF PRESENT

Shelly Allen
Patrick Murphy
Katrina Rogers
Amy Morales

MEMBERS ABSENT

Chuck Riekema, Chair
Christine Close

1. Call to Order

The September 15, 2005 meeting of the Downtown Development Committee was called to order at 7:30 a.m. in the City Council Chambers located at 57 E. First Street by Jeff Jarvis, Vice Chair.

2. Approval of Minutes of the August 18, 2005 Regular Meeting

It was moved by Adam Decker, seconded by Michelle Dahlke, to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2005 meeting.

**Vote: 7 in favor
 0 opposed**

3. Discuss and Consider approval of amendments to the City Code providing for a hearing officer for planning and zoning cases and guidelines for determining which cases can be considered through this option.

Dorothy Chimel of the Planning Department presented the proposed ordinance. Ms. Chimel stated that the proposed ordinance was one of many changes that will be proposed to streamline the planning process for development projects. Basically, this ordinance will allow the creation of the Zoning Hearing office to consider cases currently considered by the Planning and Zoning Board. The guidelines will be

adopted by resolution which delineate the type of cases to be considered by the Hearing Officer.

It was moved by Steve Chucri, seconded by Michelle Dahkle, to approve the amendments to the City Code allowing a hearing officer for planning and zoning cases and guidelines for determining which cases can be considered through this option.

**Vote: 7 in favor
0 opposed**

4. Discuss and consider the Legal Protest Filing deadline for Zoning Cases Citywide.

Ms. Chimmel stated that this ordinance recommends a change to the filing deadline for a legal protest for a zoning case. The current filing deadline is Friday at 12:00 noon, prior to the City Council meeting. The City Council reviews agenda items for their Monday meetings on Thursdays. Therefore this ordinance recommends that the new filing deadline for protests be Monday at 12:00, noon prior to the City Council meeting. She stated that by changing the deadline this will allow staff sufficient time to identify the shape of the parcel, ensure that those who sign the legal protest are the actual property owners and constitute 20% of an adjoining site, and will provide additional time to encourage and facilitate dialogue.

It was moved by Gary Gallagher, seconded by Adam Decker to approve the change in the Legal Protest Filing Deadline for Zoning Cases Citywide.

**Vote: 7 in favor
0 opposed**

5. Discuss and Consider Amending Section 11-18-8 of the City of Mesa Zoning Ordinance pertaining to adding Section 106 review fee.

Mr. Murphy reported that the purpose of this ordinance is to add a fee for Section 106 reviews, which are required by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires Federal agencies to take into account the effects of their undertakings on historic properties and afford a reasonable opportunity to comment on such undertakings. Mr. Murphy stated that the Section 106 process seeks to accommodate historic preservation concerns with the needs of Federal undertakings through consultation among the agency official and other parties with an interest in the effects of the undertaking on historic properties, commencing at the early stages of project planning. The goal of consultation is to identify historic properties potentially affected by the undertaking, assess its effects and seek ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate any adverse effects on historic properties.

Mr. Decker asked if anticipated revenues will be approximately \$2,400 per year.

Mr. Murphy responded yes, and stated that the majority of Section 106 reviews are for City related Projects, which fees are waived for city projects, but that the majority of revenues will come from the Cellular Towers.

It was moved by Adam Decker, seconded by Gary Gallagher to approve Amending Section 11-18-8 of the City of Mesa Zoning Ordinance pertaining to adding a Section 106 review fee.

**Vote: 7 in favor
0 opposed**

6. Director's report, Shelly Allen & Patrick Murphy

Shelly Allen reported that Patrick Murphy will discuss the transportation report that will be forwarded to City Council on the Pedestrian Pathway System.

Patrick Murphy stated that he has been working with the Transportation Department in preparing a written report to present to Council. Mr. Murphy stated that the north and south pathway has been implemented and is currently under construction.

Mr. Murphy listed grants that have been awarded for the Pedestrian Pathway and they are: 1). A grant to design the extension of the pathway from 1st Street to the Convention Center costing a total of \$30,000 and there is no match involved. 2). One grant for the design and construction from 1st Street to the library and there is a 30% local match. 3). One grant for the east and west pathways on Pepper from basically Lewis Street to Macdonald which also has a local match. The grants are from Maricopa Associates of Governments (MAG).

The report will discuss these grants and future pathways. City Council will be asked to provide direction to staff regarding implementation of the Pedestrian Pathway Plan.

Mr. Murphy asked committee members if they wanted to look at the staff report to make a recommendation to Council.

Mr. Jarvis, Vice Chair responded that the committee would review the report and support the Pedestrian Pathway.

Shelly Allen reported on the progress of the Mesa Community College downtown campus. She stated that the contract hiring the consultant's finalized. She stated that the consultants were hired as a neutral third party to help with negotiations between the City and the College. She reported that the City will enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with MCC to assist in facilitating half of the payment of the contract.

7. **Board member comments.**

No Board member comments.

8. **Items from Citizens present (No action can be taken).**

No items from citizens present.

9. **Adjournment**

With there being no further business, this meeting of the Downtown Development Committee adjourned at 7:47 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shelly Allen, Town Center Development Director
Minutes prepared by Liz Kuwamoto