



## MINUTES

### Town Center Committee

22358 S. Ellsworth Rd, Queen Creek, AZ

San Tan Conference Room

July 10, 2013

8:00 am

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chair Chris Webb at 8:10 am. The following people were in attendance:

Committee Members: Chair Chris Webb, Vice Chair Bill Smith, Deb Wood, Shane Randall, Jason Buche, Monica O'Toole, Council Member Wheatley, Nancy Diab (arrived 8:15)

Town Staff: Kim Moyers, Economic Development Specialist; Joy Maglione, Town Clerk Assistant; Troy White, Public Works Manager

Absent Members: Marquis Scott, Barbara Khalsa, Council Member Oliphant, Larry Hoel

2. Introductions & Announcements.

Trish Vercoe from Estate Metals was introduced. Mary Murphy-Bessler, design team consultant for the Ocotillo/Ellsworth Road project introduced herself to the committee.

3. Public Comment:

There were no public comments.

4. Items for Discussion and Possible Action

A. Consideration and possible approval of the May 8, 2013 minutes

Motion: Shane Randall                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Jason Buche

**To approve the May 8, 2013 minutes as presented.**

Motion carried unanimously.

B. Discussion and possible action on Chairman and Vice Chairman positions

Economic Development Specialist Kim Moyers stated that terms for Chair and Vice Chair are elected at the first meeting in July and the current Chair and Vice Chair both expressed interest in being re-elected to their positions.

Motion: Jason Buche                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Monica O'Toole

**To re-elect Chris Webb as Chairman and Bill Smith as Vice Chairman.**

Motion carried unanimously.

C. Discussion and possible approval of Town Center Art Project

Ms. Moyers said that Economic Development would like to use of some Town Center municipal funds for a beautification project using art in the Town Center. She re-introduced Trish Vercoe from Estate Metals who was asked to come back to provide conceptual designs for the metal rail art project. Ms. Moyers explained if the project is approved by the committee the request would then go to the Town Manager for review.

Ms. Vercoe presented a PowerPoint of various projects completed by Estate Metals. She presented preliminary designs specifically for Queen Creek. The design concepts illustrated standard metal fence panels (adobe brick pattern) combined with customized panels in the sidewalk area in front of the library and town center locations. The custom panel for Queen Creek included the town logo and elements from the 5 C's of Arizona (cotton, citrus, climate, cattle and copper).

Ms. Vercoe summarized some of the project details which included:

- Standard fence panel size is 3'x5' but can be made smaller if desired
- Many color choices and pattern choices are available. Powder coated copper or a more natural copper patina finish was suggested.
- Pricing: \$260 per linear foot plus a one-time art commission cost ranging from \$1000 - \$1500. Subsequent panels and replacement panels using the same artwork would be approximately \$1300.
- Installation: Estate Metals can provide licensed contractors who are experienced in installing their product. Installation fees are additional. The rails can easily be taken apart and moved at a later time if desired.
- Other options include planters and benches. Prices are \$2000 plus \$1500 for the one-time art commission fee.
- Fundraising programs are suggested where local businesses, organizations or families can work with the artist to create one-of-a kind custom panels featuring their business or local history.

Ms. Moyers said the town could consider approaching the San Tan Historical Society, who would use the project as a fundraiser. The society would help kick off the project by reaching out to sponsors for custom designed panels that would capture the heritage of the community. The Town Center Committee can determine where to locate panels once they are donated. Troy White, Public Works Manager suggested that the road design team also help determine location. He said the panels can be used in place of handrails or strategically located to hide utility boxes.

### COMMENTS & DISCUSSION

- Committee members discussed location and placement of the panels to achieve continuity. They mentioned the large amount of white fences currently in Town Center that they hope to replace with this project. Mr. White commented that most of the white fencing in Town Center is temporary and will be removed when improvements and sidewalks are complete.
- Project costs were discussed. The committee questioned if there are enough funds to make a significant impact and how many panels can the town afford to provide to supplement a donated panel?
- Some of the pros for the project included the benefits of the long term fundraising aspect; community involvement; a unique product not seen in many communities; creates visual art with a walk-ability factor that is lacking in Town Center; brochures describing the art panels can offer a teaching experience and historical value.
- Committee members asked if other proposals were received for this project and were other beautification/art projects considered for Town Center.

Motion: Shane Randall

2<sup>nd</sup>: Nancy Diab

**To recommend that we move forward with a Town Center art project involving custom metal panels pending adequate funding from the Town Center municipal funds and obtaining additional proposals.**

Motion carried unanimously.

### D. Discussion on Town Center Capital Improvement Projects

Public Works Division Manager Troy White distributed the CIP Project Map FY 13-14. He explained that designated CIP funds have been partially released and he gave updates on projects in the Town Center area:

- New traffic signals - estimated completion August/September
  - Rittenhouse/Cloud
  - 220<sup>th</sup> Street/ Ocotillo
- Parks/Trails – estimated completion next summer
  - Splash pad at Founders Park
  - Temporary dog park south of Town Hall
  - Extension of QC Trail from Desert Mountain Park to Crismon Rd
- Roadway improvements:
  - Rittenhouse Rd: Sossamon to QC Market Place – 5 lanes and sidewalks on south side
  - Ellsworth Rd – construction moving forward
  - Ocotillo @ UPRR – widening road April /May 2014

- Ocotillo Road: Power to Recker - add lanes/punch through to Recker Road (behind Trilogy)
- Ocotillo Rd: Ellsworth Loop to Heritage- alignment study to keep on current alignment to accommodate Circle K
- Riggs Rd (MCDOT projects) - Ellsworth to Hawes: 2 lanes each direction. Continue full improvements from Hawes to Power Road completed by next summer. Continue Riggs Road and punch through from Ellsworth to Meridian (under design).

Mr. White said that the improvements, particularly the intersection of Ellsworth and Ocotillo, will have a big visual impact in the Town Center. Public Works will seek input from the committee on the special features for the intersection in the future.

#### E. Update on Town Center project/businesses

Ms. Moyers reported on the RFP for development of a site in Town Center on the southeast corner of Ellsworth Loop Road and Maya. The triangular, one acre site is Town owned with the intended development of a local bistro style restaurant.

Maya Theatre negotiations were not continued. A new RFP for the 20-acre town owned parcel will be advertised soon. Harkins is still moving forward with a 14-screen movie theatre project in Queen Creek Marketplace.

#### F. Summary of current events – Reports from Chair, Committee Members and Economic Development staff

Ms. Moyers said that no Façade Improvement applications were received for this quarter. QC Nutrition has completed installation of their new signage.

Future meeting times and member availability were discussed for the next fiscal year. Ms. Moyers said she will send the members a survey to readdress scheduling options.

#### 5. Announcements

None.

#### 6. Adjournment

Motion: Nancy Diab            2<sup>nd</sup>: Jason Buche

**Motion to adjourn the meeting.**

Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:28 am.

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TOWN OF QUEEN CREEK

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Chris Webb, Town Center Committee Chair

Prepared by:

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Joy Maglione  
Town Clerk Assistant

Passed and approved on October 2, 2013.