

**MEETING MINUTES OF
THE CITY OF ELOY
DOWNTOWN ADVISORY COMMISSION
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, February 8, 2017
3:00 PM
ELOY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Benner called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Members Present:

- Dick Myers
- Mark Benner
- Isabel Morales
- Ralph Varela
- Ex-Officio Joel G. Belloc, Mayor
- Mary Jane Damron

Members Absent:

- Betty Peterson (excused)
- Jim Dinkle (excused)

Staff/Others Present:

- Jon Vlaming, Community Development Director
- Belinda Cruz, Planner
- Todd Neill, Neill + Young Associates, LLC

III. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None.

IV. MOTION TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 11, 2017 MEETING MINUTES OF THE DOWNTOWN ADVISORY COMMISSION

Chairperson Benner asked for a motion to approve the January 11, 2017 meeting minutes of the Downtown Advisory Commission. Commissioner Morales made the motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Myers seconded the motion. Chairperson Benner called for the vote and the motion passed 5-0.

V. NEW BUSINESS: POSSIBLE DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING: No action taken. Chairperson Benner asked if Mr. Vlaming could take over Agenda Items V.A through E.

A. MOTION TO ELECT A CHAIRPERSON FROM AMONG THE MEMBERS OF THE DOWNTOWN ADVISORY COMMISSION.

Chairperson Benner asked for nominations for a new Chairperson for the 2017 calendar year. Commissioner Myers made a motion to nominate Mark Benner as the Chairperson. Commissioner Damron seconded the motion. Chairperson Benner called for the vote and the motion passed 5-0.

B. MOTION TO ELECT A VICE-CHAIRPERSON FROM AMONG THE MEMBERS OF THE DOWNTOWN ADVISORY COMMISSION.

Chairperson Benner asked for nominations for a new Vice-Chairperson for the 2017 calendar year. Commissioner Morales made a motion to nominate Dick Myers as the Vice-Chairperson. Commissioner Varela seconded the motion. Chairperson Benner called for a vote and the motion passed 5-0.

C. DISCUSSION AND IDEAS TO CREATE THE PROPOSED LANDSCAPE PLAN CONCEPTS FOR THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF MAIN AND FRONTIER STREETS.

Mr. Vlaming gave a brief introduction of Mr. Todd Neill. Neill + Young Associates, LLC is a Landscape Architecture and Land Planning firm located in Scottsdale, Arizona that Eloy has retained to prepare this conceptual landscape plan. Mr. Neill passed around a packet of different examples of pictures of Eloy of previous parade, historic images, proposed gate entrance of existing metropolitan areas, murals to assist the Commission with more ideas. Mr. Neill asked if Vice-Chairperson Myers would like to share his ideas. Vice-Chair Myers mentioned that it would be important to bring the different cultures into this project with Native American, Hispanic, and African American. Possibly apply the U.S.A. Flag, Arizona State Flag and the POW/MIA flag as a symbol of citizen concern about United States military personnel taken as prisoners of war (POWs) or listed as missing in action (MIA).

Commissioner Varela asked what would be the use. Mr. Vlaming responded, it would be a gateway where individuals could take a picture for example. A space that has a unique brand something an individual passing by would like to capture because of the visibility. Ex-Officio Belloc commented about the street being wide and suggested planters, sculptures, to make it greener with palm trees.

Mr. Neill suggested possibly using column portals, something respectful of the community with the four cultures. Vice-Chairperson Myers suggested structures of skydivers; Ex-Officio Belloc suggested old farm equipment. Vice-Chair person Myers commented to keep cultures, and mentioned that the railroad has been traveling through

the City since 1880. Commissioner Damron mentioned she had read about a proposed informational kiosk. Mr. Neill also brought up an idea about a three dimensional (3D) pop out making it look like something coming out of the building without touching the building. Vice-Chair Myers suggested an LED sign and mentioned about a neon sign the Sunland Visitor Center owns from the old Toltec Tavern (the future site of the new Dollar General Store at the northwest corner of Frontier and Toltec Road.

D. UPDATE OF FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.

Mr. Vlaming commented that the Mayor and Eloy City Council approved the Façade Improvement Program at their January 23rd Council meeting. He mentioned that the owners of the Square & Compass Club (also known as “Masonic Lodge”) located at 718 N. Main Street (southwest of N. Main Street and W. 8th Street) have asked for an application. He explained that this program will be financed by the two (2) percent food tax and that there is currently One Hundred and Twelve-Thousand (\$112,000) that has been collected to date.. Mr. Vlaming mentioned that some of these funds will be utilized to repair the existing arcade (covered walking area) that are located along both sides of Main Street. The City is now waiting until the New City Hall has a theme/design to try to match some of its materials and colors.

Commissioner Damron asked if the funding of this program could be used on the façade of the Dust Bowl, Mr. Vlaming relied that is was a good suggestion.

Ex-Officio Belloc asked if Staff could approach the owner of Isabel’s Flower Shop and the next business owner and have someone translate in Spanish. Commissioner Damron volunteered and suggested Mrs. Cruz could be of great help in translating as well and that both could assist.

E. OVERVIEW OF FOOD TAX AND POTENTIAL PROJECTS.

(See above comments on item V.D.)

VI. COMMUNICATIONS:

A. CITY HALL UPDATE

Mr. Vlaming informed the Commission that at the last Council meeting, the City Council approved the contracts with all three design and construction firms and that their first kick off meeting is on Friday, February 10th. Staff is working on getting a 4’x8’ sign to be placed on the site that will display Future Site of City Hall. Ex-Officio Belloc asked if there will be an environmental study on the property. Mr. Vlaming responded not that he was aware of, but that he was aware that there was school previously located on the site.

B. DOWNTOWN ACTIVITY/EVENTS

- Friday, February 17 from 7pm to 11pm Night in Vegas hosted by St. Helen of the Cross.

- Saturday, March 4, 2017 from 6pm-10pm Boots & Buckles Western Night at the Hermosa Ball Room at Robson Ranch.
- Friday, March 8, 2017 at 8am Jim Dinkle will present “What’s Developing in Eloy at the Santa Cruz/Eloy Library.
- Friday, March 31, 2017 at 7:30am will be the Tour of Vacant Buildings and Lots in Downtown Eloy.

C. SAVE THE DATE: OPERATION ELOY CLEAN UP 2/25/17

Mr. Vlaming commented it was a volunteer effort where City Staff and members of the community participate and donate their time to clean unkempt properties. Twice per year, Code Compliance Officer Arik Brown coordinates the cleanup. Volunteers meet at the City of Eloy-Public Works facility and clean two or three properties during the morning.

D. SAVE THE DATE: ADOPT A STREET CLEANUP 4/1/17

Mr. Vlaming commented this was another volunteer effort where City Staff and members of the community participate and donate their time twice per year to clean up a mile stretch of either a local roadway with family and friends. The next Adopt-A-Street cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, April 1st at 7:00am.

VII. GOOD OF THE ORDER

- None.

VIII. MOTION TO ADJOURN.

Chairperson Benner asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Damron moved for a motion to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Commissioner Morales. The motion to adjourn passed 5-0 and the meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.