

City of Sedona  
City Council and HOA Outreach Meeting  
West Sedona School Multi-Purpose Room  
570 Posse Ground Road, Sedona, AZ  
April 18, 2013

Attendance: Mayor Adams, Vice Mayor DiNunzio, Councilor Litrell, Councilor Martinez, Councilor McIlroy, Councilor Ward and Councilor Williamson.

Staff Present: City Manager Tim Ernster, Assistant to City Manager Nick Gioello, Communications and Public Affairs Manager Ginger Graham, Director of Community Development Kevin Snyder and Deputy City Clerk Sherri O'Connor.

Community Present: There were 57 citizens in attendance.

Mayor Adams welcomed everyone and advised having these listening sessions helps guide the City forward with any issues that constituents may have. Mayor Adams gave a brief update on some of the Council priorities and the City's accomplishments. Mayor Adams stated that financially, he is proud to say, that we are in great shape. We ended our fiscal years, since 2009, with surplus in our operating fund. Presently the City has \$13,519,000 in the operating fund and finally the bed tax and sales tax has started increasing and slowly returning to levels that we experienced before 2008. As of February this year, the accumulative bed and sales tax collected this fiscal year of 2012/2013 is approximately 5.7% ahead of fiscal year 2011/2012. During the Council retreat in 2012 when this Council was seated, the City Council established a work program for the next two years. Some of the things on the work program include accelerated storm water management, which was listed as top priority. \$2.9 million dollars is allocated for drainage projects that are currently under way for this fiscal year. The City street maintenance has also been accelerated. The Wastewater Plant has also been upgraded to produce an A+ quality effluent and we are moving toward alternative effluent disposal methodologies that will allow us to utilize our effluent in a more environmentally and sustainable way. A new City park has been established out at the Wetlands. The new park will bring bird watching along with other recreational opportunities to the Wetlands. The Wetlands is the new name for the Wastewater Plant. Hundreds of thousands of dollars has been spent on upgrading our park system and amenities and we recently completed a park master plan which will guide us in the future in terms of amenities and facility upgrades that the City will be doing. The Council will be considering strategies to create the redesign of Barbara's Park Pavilion sometime in June. Mayor Adams also stated that the City Council has implemented several strategies to improve the transparency and accountability of our government. The financial reports have been standardized and the grant funding process has been revamped to take the politics out of the process. A comprehensive Community report was initiated in January that most should have received. The Community newsletter will be started up again and will be an ongoing process to update citizens on what is happening in the City. The City Council is doing Community outreach through Coffee Chats and other targeted meetings such as this. The City's website has been enhanced and is more user friendly. The Council meetings are now

televised and there is a Citizen's Academy that gives you a great exposure to the City and how it operates. The City continues to work on the traffic congestion, safety and parking issues. There was continual roadway lighting installed on SR 89A and the Council is considering strategies to improve signage and securing additional public parking. Council is working with ADOT to implement additional safety and improvements along the state highway corridors. The City is working with the Chamber of Commerce to develop a long range plan for Sedona tourism and corresponding revenue generation. Finally, the Community Plan is scheduled to be completed and put on the ballot for consideration in early 2014. This Plan will be the most important document that the City will utilize for decision making in the future.

The HOA members and the citizens present at the meeting brought up the following concerns:

- George Emmons, President of Shadow Estates, HOA – Mr. Emmons stated that they have two major issues. First issue is repaving of the interior streets in Shadow Estates and would like their streets added to a repaving schedule. The second concern is the amount of traffic that appears on Soldier's Pass Trail, not only the trail but the streets to the trail. The homeowners have vehicles parked in front of their homes. Additionally people are living in the forest which creates a concern of a fire hazard. He added that ATV's are a concern because people joyride through the subdivision and the ATV's are very loud. The HOA has contacted the Forest Service and has not received a response. The HOA is asking the City Council to work with them to find a solution.
  - Tim Ernster stated that he will follow up with Dan Neimy and also the Public Works Director to get an answer on the repaving of the streets. Mayor Adams advised that the issue with transients living in the forest and the signage issue for trails is at the City level and can be addressed. The ATV issue will need to be brought forth at a Council meeting and added to a future agenda. Mayor Adams advised that staff can assist with getting a meeting set up with the Forest Service to address these issues as well. Councilor Ward advised that Jennifer Burns will work with Council and the HOA to address these issues. He also mentioned that the Forest Service was given a grant to study the possibility of a shuttle service between the trailheads and will be reaching out to the City and Citizens to do this study.
- Ron Schneider, Sky Mountain Ranch – Mr. Schneider stated that most of his concern is the condition of the streets. He stated that the streets are on the repaving schedule for 2016 and 2017. The streets are eroding and deteriorating rapidly and drainage is an issue. Mr. Schneider stated that he would like the City to provide a written statement with regard to their obligation and commitment to complete the City of Sedona sewer system to Sky Mountain Ranch.
  - Mayor Adams advised regarding the streets, the City's Streets Department will need to respond to this issue. He stated regarding the sewer and the position of the City is that there is a moratorium in place and the purpose of the moratorium is to allow us to increase our capacity for effluent disposal out at the Wetlands. Mayor Adams advised that we are in the final stages of doing the research and at that point we will have a better idea in terms of the timeline in moving forward with sewer lines or not moving forward. The cost for sewer lines has increased and is approximately \$30,000 per household.

- Tom Purcel, Board of Rolling Hills HOA – Mr. Purcel stated that one of their main problems is the enforcement of littering and trespassing laws. Businesses are allowed to throw meeting notices and site seeing notices on driveways which is littering because they are not through the mail and littering laws are not enforced. A lot of residents in Rolling Hills are gone, and these advertisements add up on driving and become a safety issue. Trespassing is also an issue especially with surveyors. The surveyors come on private property and do not ask permission even though posted private property and put white crosses for surveying and then do not pick the crosses up, which is a littering issue. Mr. Purcel stated that they have brought this to the City’s attention before and nothing has been done.
  - Tim Ernster advised that he will follow up with the issue on the surveyors. Director of Community Development Kevin Snyder advised that it could be an education issue with businesses not knowing what the ordinance is on advertising but will review with his department to address issue.
- Ron Maassen, President of Sedona West POA – Mr. Maassen stated that the three top concerns from their residents are flooding and storm issues, roadway paving and complaints about the Posse Ground lights being on when park not being used. Mr. Maassen stated that an issue that he would like to bring up is the Parks Master Plan. He stated that it has been said that there has not been a master plan and this is untrue and there was a plan that has been in place since 1994 and updated in 2004. He stated himself and bordering residence are concerned that the new Parks Plan does not have land use designation and there is no protection for the areas that were originally designated to be natural, to be buffer zones or to be transitions zones between a park and residential zoning. Jordan Park also had a master plan done in 1996 and updated in 2006. He is upset because no one from the consulting firm who created the new Parks plan has contacted the Historical Society for any input.
  - No comments from Council.
- Larry Beddome, President of Crimson View HOA – Mr. Beddome advised that he is not here to squawk but here to praise and there is no issues with the City. He did advise that we should have signage or literature for how to drive in the roundabouts.
  - Mayor Adams advised educating people before they use the roundabouts is always a concern and with so many different people using them on a daily basis, it is an issue.
- Tom Doeller, Mission Hills HOA – Mr. Doeller advised that in 2008 there was a Committee that was put together to review Barbara’s Park and the primary use of the park was for family and citizens and not to be used as a band stand. Noise is a concern and the majority of the Community would like it to be a family park and not a huge auditorium.
  - No comments from Council
- Roberto Ancis, Sedona West Association – Mr. Ancis advised that one concern is the light issue and the City might consider using a timer or motion detector for this issue. The second concern is the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Laser Show and last year the vehicle parking was an issue. It was dangerous for people to walk back to their homes. Mr. Ancis requested that if planning the same event, that we have police or volunteers to control the parking issue.
  - Mayor Adams advised regarding the lights he will address this issue and get it fixed. Regarding the development of Barbara’s Park, this will be a discussion Council will have starting in June and the Community is encouraged to be involved with that discussion.

- Susan Gage, President of Mission Hills HOA – Mrs. Gage advised that they are located adjacent to the Posse Ground Park and their concerns are the City has not been reliable in the past on taking a look at their concerns on noise, lights and traffic. Last year at the 4<sup>th</sup> of July event the neighborhood was overrun with traffic and cars were parked in people's driveways. There was no traffic enforcement. She stated that we are looking for support and follow through from the City to address the issues of noise, lights and traffic.
  - No comments from Council
- Dave Soto, President of Broken Arrow HOA – Mr. Soto advised that the issues they have are street conditions and the streets are falling apart. There is a trailhead at the end of their track and he requests that there be some sort of priority is given to the subdivisions that have the trailheads and increased traffic to repair the streets and have the streets maintained. There is a street within the subdivision that crosses a major wash which is eroded and needs to be looked at and prioritized. There are a few missing streets signs in the subdivision as well.
  - Mayor Adams advised that there was a discussion about the thickness of the streets and if we are laying a thick enough street that would last or if we should add the extra expense of thickening the streets. This is being looked into. Tim Ernster added the City Council did approve an acceleration of our streets overlaying program last year and we will be recommending to Council a continuation so we will be spending a lot more money to speed up the program. There have been some modifications made for some streets with heavier traffic for thicker pavement.
- Dale Casey, Representing San Patricio Estates – Mr. Casey stated that the homeowners are directly affected by whatever the park is going to be and they would like to see it as a small family venue that is not going to impact his neighborhood. The traffic that was brought to their neighborhood for the Fourth of July event was unacceptable because you could not get an emergency vehicle through the neighborhood because of traffic. People were cutting through properties to get to the event and this is also unacceptable. They would like to see the future design of the park to be small and family oriented.
  - No comments from Council
- Charlie Schudson, President of the Vista Montana HOA – Mr. Schudson stated that the City staff and Council have been very responsive, very helpful and very good humor. He offered specific compliments to Nick Gioello and Victor Estrada for working with them on a problem. They have found the City staff to be working partners and no issues. Mr. Schudson advised that their HOA is trying to become environmentally responsible and a fully sustainable association and maybe other associations would want to do the same. A few things they did was turn off all the water to the grass and re-landscaped and saved water costs, beautified the area and made their residence more sensitive to environmental concerns. Mr. Schudson asked what is it that we as associations might do to become partnerships with the Council, staff, Forest Service to bring added effectiveness to the Community.
  - Mayor Adams commended Vista Montana for moving forward as an association to be more sustainable without direction or mandating by the City. He also stated that if there is a problem, give the City a recommended solution to the problem. This would be very helpful.

- John Biggers, Board of Mission Hills HOA – Mr. Biggers advised that he feels the Council will come up with a good solution to the Barbara's Park issue.
  - Mayor Adams thanked Mr. Biggers for his comment.
- Alton Cogert, Park Place Condominium Association – Mr. Cogert requested that when changes to the Park Place come forward to the City through the Planning & Zoning Commission that the City do nothing. Mr. Cogert stated they would like Council to deny changes and request develop as planned.
  - No comments from Council.
- Jack Wooldrik, Dry Creek Road – Mr. Wooldrik expressed his concerns about ATVs and Tom Cars and asked if there was a way City Council can limit the number of these vehicles that operate in town.
  - Mayor Adams advised this would need to be put on an agenda for a discussion in the future.
- David Bowers, San Patricio Estates – Mr. Bowers complimented City Council for spending time with them and asked if these meeting can be scheduled on a regular basis either one a quarter or twice a year. Mr. Bowers also asked if Council has priorities set on their spending. He is concerned about the cost of the soccer field being re-done instead of spending money on drainage.
  - Tim Ernster advised that the soccer field was a safety issue for children playing on the field and there were also irrigation issues that needed to be fixed.
- One citizen spoke regarding her concern of the helicopters and the noise associated with more flights with tourism.
  - Mayor Adams advised that the helicopters are regulated by the FAA and maybe we could meet with the Sedona Airport to express these concerns and to see if anything can be done.
- Councilor McIlroy thanked everyone for coming and stated that the Council will work very hard to address the issues that were brought up today. He also stated that when you own your streets that you should take some personal responsibility. An example would be if you have a neighbor that have stuff stacked up, be a good neighbor and clean it up for them. If there is an issue with trespassing or littering that cannot be resolved within the HOA, call the police department to make a formal complaint and let them assist. Councilor McIlroy also stated that with 4<sup>th</sup> of July coming up that the City would limit the amount of traffic going into the event and limit the amount of people for the event so we wouldn't have the same problems as last year.
- Vice Mayor DiNunzio thanked everyone for coming out today as well. He stated that knowing their concerns will help Council become part of the solution to these problems and respond to the things they need.
- Councilor Litrell also thanked everyone for coming today and bringing together our communities. She stated that she liked the idea Charles Schudson mentioned that the HOA's could have meetings of their own to exchange ideas. She also stated that Council will look at the issues and see how they can move forward to give solutions.
- Mayor Adams asked if everyone attending could email their comments to City Council. He stated it would be helpful for Council to initiate a follow-up with staff. The email is Sedonaaz.gov. Mayor Adams thanked everyone for coming and stated that they

appreciated the opportunity to listen to what everyone had to say and we will follow-up on a lot of the suggestions.

Meeting adjourned at 6:31 p.m.