Tempe

MINUTES
JUDICIAL ADVISORY BOARD
NOVEMBER 15, 2007

Minutes of the Judicial Advisory Board held on November 15, 2007, 4:30 pm at the Jury Deliberation Room, Tempe Municipal Court, Tempe, Arizona.

(MEMBERS) Present:
Mark Aceto
Judy Aldrich
Thomas Klobas
Margaret Stockton
Brad Tebow
Louraine Arkfeld, Ex-Officio Member

City Staff Present:
Jacque Frusetta
Mark Stodola

Meeting convened at 4:35 PM.

Agenda Item 1- Public Appearances

Judy Aldrich called the meeting to order and asked if there were any public appearances to be heard. There were no public appearances. Judy gave a brief overview of the agenda.

Agenda Item 2- Welcome and Introductions

Judy welcomed Judge Mark Aceto to the board. Mark is replacing Steve Sheldon who recently retired. Members introduced themselves as well as gave a brief bio. Judge Arkfeld provided Judge Aceto a brief history of the Judicial Advisory Board and its function in selecting and evaluation of judges in the Tempe Municipal Court.

Agenda Item 3-Discussion of Four Year Judicial Terms

There was discussion regarding extending the length of term of office for city judges from two years to four years. There was consensus that a four year term provided judges a better opportunity to implement changes, better recruit new judges to the bench and promote judicial independence for the City of Tempe. The board is in favor of a two year initial appointment term for new Judges followed by a four year term for reappointment for all subsequent terms. Judge Arkfeld will meet with Mayor Hugh Hallman to discuss the proposed changes and report back to the Board.

Agenda Item 4- Selection of Chairperson

Judy Aldrich asked if someone would consider serving as the chairperson of the board. It was a unanimous decision that Judy remain as the chairperson.

Agenda Item 5-Scheduling of Future Meetings/Reappointment of Judges

The following dates were set for future meetings to consider the reappointment of judges:
February 19, 2008 - Reappointment Hearing for Louraine Arkfeld
June 24, 2008 – Reappointment Hearing for Maryanne Majestic

Judge Arkfeld indicated that Judge O'Hair Schattenberg will be retiring and so will not be seeking reappointment to the bench. The Judicial Advisory Board will be responsible for oversight and participation in the hiring process for a new bench officer. This process should begin in September of 2008.

Agenda Item 6-Future Agenda Items

A future agenda item will be reviewing the existing judicial application form for new judges. Mark Stodola will contact other courts in the area to obtain copies of their judicial applications. The forms will be available for the board to review for possible modifications at the February meeting. The board will review the applications as well as consider any legal actions or requirements that have changed since the last hiring process for a judge.

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 pm.

Prepared by: Jacque Frusetta
Reviewed by: Mark Stodola

Judy Aldrich
Chairperson, Judicial Advisory Board
Tempe Municipal Court