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2008 Candidate Recommendations

In the September 2 Primary City Council election, Scottsdale residents will be faced with a field of seven new faces and four familiar faces – eleven candidates in all – three for mayor and eight for City Council. The incumbents are Mayor Mary Manross, Councilman Jim Lane who is challenging Mary Manross for the Mayor’s seat, Councilwoman Betty Drake and Councilman Ron McCullagh. Challenging Betty Drake and Ron McCullagh for seats on the Council are Joel Bramoweth, Lisa Borowsky, Oren Davis, Tom Giller, Suzanne Klapp and Nan Nesvig. John Washington is running for Mayor as a write-in candidate.

We held a candidate’s forum on July 17th to give our members and the public an opportunity to see the candidates and to hear what each candidate had to say. It was a lively evening, but due to the number of candidates and the two hours allotted, it was not possible to cover all the issues that will affect the

quality of life for Scottsdale residents.

Prior to the forum, COPP had asked each candidate to provide information on their background and experience and also to answer a number of questions on issues of importance to the governance of Scottsdale that influence the quality of life for all residents. A copy of the questionnaire can be found on our web site at www.coppeak.org if you would like to compare candidates and their platforms.

Your board of directors has evaluated each candidate to determine which ones we believe will best support COPP members’ values and concerns. Based on our recent survey of residents in the three northernmost zip codes, highest among those concerns are the completion of the McDowell Sonoran Preserve, questionable zoning decisions and traffic congestion. We weighed each candidate’s position on these issues, together with their

(see “Candidate” on page 2)

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COPP Member Meeting – September 18, 2008

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: Legend Trail Community Center

On the Agenda: Meet the newly-elected City Council Members and possible runoff candidates endorsed by the Coalition of Pinnacle Peak and COPP PC. They will be present to answer your questions about their views on issues important to Scottsdale residents.

Members of the public are welcome to attend.

Directions to the Community Center: Go north on Pima Road approximately 1.5 miles past Lone Mountain to Legend Trail Parkway. Go east on Legend Trail Parkway approximately 1.5 miles to the Community Center which is on the right.

COPP’s mission is to educate the public and hold government officials accountable to the public on any issue that poses a threat to neighborhoods, the environment, and fiscal responsibility.

Candidates

(continued from page 1)

experience, education and desire to change things for the better.

For mayor we recommend Mayor Mary Manross for a third term. While we have not always agreed with her decisions, she has a wealth of experience as a two-term mayor and her involvement in various positions in Scottsdale governance for the past twenty years. Of all the candidates, she has consistently been the staunchest advocate and supporter of Scottsdale's Preserve vision, which is unquestionably the primary concern of our membership. Challenger Jim Lane's four years on the council and his financial background are valuable, but we believe not enough to keep Mayor Manross from being returned for a third term as Scottsdale's Mayor.

The three council positions were a bit easier to evaluate. We believe electing Nan Nesvig and Tom Giller will give the city council a balance that is needed to provide a stronger voice for Scottsdale residents and neighborhoods. It is important for ordinary citizens to have elected officials who understand their concerns and represent them well in decisions that affect their quality of

life. Tom and Nan's emphasis on open government, protecting neighborhoods and keeping Scottsdale unique underscores their desire to make this happen.

We believe Nan and Tom will bring new energy and a different approach to governance with a transparent sense of governance for residents. We have interviewed them and believe we know them well enough to be convinced they will provide a fresh approach to the city council. We recommend a vote for both of them as agents of change for the future.

We also believe that Councilwoman Betty Drake should be returned to the city council for another four year term. Of all the current candidates for Council, she is the most knowledgeable about land use, city planning and related issues. Given the adoption of a new Downtown Plan in a few months and the updating of the General Plan for the entire city in 2011, we need to have someone of her experience and skills on the city council.

The Board of Directors

2008 Land Trust Reform Initiative Our Land, Our Schools: Proposition: 103

The citizen's initiative "Our Land, Our Schools" has been successfully filed with the Arizona Secretary of State and will appear on the November 4 ballot.

The Coalition is enthusiastically supporting this initiative which will modernize State Trust Land Laws. If approved by voters, the initiative will:

- Conserve and protect 570,000 acres of some of the most important natural areas in Arizona. Approximately 5,000 of those acres are in Scottsdale's McDowell Sonoran Preserve.
- Protect and guarantee essential classroom funding through improved management of state trust lands.
- Require the State Land Department and local communities to cooperate in planning for trust land.

We are pleased that this land reform initiative is in place which will also provide the tools to help Scottsdale complete the McDowell Sonoran Preserve. More details about the campaign to promote "Our Land, Our Schools" will become available during the next few months.

State Land Auction: East of Pinnacle Peak Park

On June 30, the Arizona State Land Department placed 16.3 acres of unimproved land adjacent to the Pinnacle Peak Park trailhead for auction. The sole bidder JTW Partners, LLLP (John Wanniger) paid \$12.75 million for this land which is zoned commercial (C2), Environmentally Sensitive Lands (ESL).

Although the land was described as a resort site by the Arizona Land Department any number of commercial uses can be developed by the new owner with the pre-existing C-2 zoning.

COPP worked closely with the

city about ten years ago as to how Pinnacle Peak Park would be developed and managed. Subsequently the park has become a first class recreational facility with a popularity to visitors that exceeds the limited 50 parking spaces provided initially.

It is COPP's current recommendation that the land adjacent to the trail head, the portion west of 102nd Way that bisects the parcel, be utilized to provide an additional 100 parking spaces for the park. In the near future, the Pinnacle Peak Patio will be acquired by the developer as it is on the parcel that

has been auctioned. Overflow parking has been permitted on the premises that will cease to be available.

The Coalition is urging the city to work out an agreement with the developer to provide the necessary expanded parking.

At the same time, COPP is remaining vigilant to make certain that the project's development plans adhere to the Environmentally Sensitive Lands (ESL), respect the low residential density of the surrounding residential area, and the character of the desert.

We will keep you updated as more information becomes available.

Development Updates

COPP Opposes Proposed High-Rise Hotel in North Scottsdale

The Coalition of Pinnacle Peak has gone on record in opposition to a proposal to rezone a 24-acre parcel north of Bell Road and east of the 101 from I-1 which allows a maximum building height of 36 feet to Planned Regional Center which allows a maximum building height of 60 feet.

The 24 acres is part of a 125-acre parcel of leased State Land located at the northeast corner of Bell Road and the 101 Freeway. According to the developer, the additional height is needed to allow them to build a 5-story hotel.

Among the concerns cited by the Coalition is that buildings of the height proposed represent a detrimental change to the character of the area and likely would lead to an influx of similar requests on the yet-to-be developed properties east and northeast of the 101. Additionally, we believe the views to the McDowell Mountains are important for residents and visitors and serve to complement the future Preserve Gateway that is planned on the east side of Thompson Peak Parkway just north of Bell Road.

The City Council is scheduled to hear this case on September 23. We encourage you to email or fax Council members urging them to oppose this application. The case number is 4-ZN-2008 – Scottsdale Epicenter. You can email all Council members at city-council@scottsdaleaz.gov, or fax your comments to them at 480 312-2738.

Small Cases Are Important Too!

The Coalition of Pinnacle Peak, concerned neighbors and supporters of North Scottsdale's rural lifestyle scored another victory when the owner of a 20-acre parcel located at the southwest corner of Stagecoach Pass and Windmill Road decided to abandon his attempt to rezone the property.

The applicant was a California developer who purchased the property in mid-2005 and promptly filed an application under the name of Stoneman Trail for a rezoning to R1-43 (one-acre lots) with a request for 13 lots where existing zoning allowed for a maximum of 4 lots.

When his original request was received less than enthusiastically from neighbors and residents of the area, it was revised to a request for rezoning to R1-70 and 11 lots, then withdrawn, then resubmitted as The Ranch at Stagecoach Pass with a request for 10 lots, subsequently revised to 8 lots. Clearly, the objective of the developer was to maximize the number of lots on the property to maximize his return on investment.

When it became clear that there was no neighborhood support for his plan and the filing of two legal protests made it necessary for the project to be approved by a super majority of the City Council, the developer decided to proceed with a project under the existing zoning designation.

The Coalition believes that one of Scottsdale's unique characteristics is that our residents can choose from a wide variety of lifestyles in deciding where they want to live. From the 24/7

Message from the Scottsdale Police Department

With monsoon season upon us, the Scottsdale Police Department is coordinating a joint response with various city departments to provide the best response to flooding streets. Barricades, signs, and cones will be placed at many known flooding sites in anticipation of flooding.

After closing a road, the roads will be monitored, with attempts to get the main arteries open first since they have the most impact.

Please drive carefully, and remember the water is often deeper and more dangerous than it looks.

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District 3 Crime Prevention Officer
jglenn@scottsdaleaz.gov
Phone: (480) 312-8802

Commander William Wilton
District 3 Commander
wwilton@scottsdaleaz.gov
Phone: (480) 312-7318

lifestyle of an increasingly urbanized downtown to master planned golf communities to low-density, large-lot single family residential projects with sweeping desert and mountain vistas, Scottsdale offers it all. There is no benefit to reducing the scope of those choices by doing away with any of the few remaining 5-acre zoned parcels in our city.

We will continue to support Scottsdale's variety of lifestyles by opposing future rezonings of this nature.



Coalition Of Pinnacle Peak, Inc.
 8912 East Pinnacle Peak Road, PMB 275
 Scottsdale, AZ 85255

Join COPP today! Your support will help COPP continue its mission as a volunteer organization serving the Northeast Valley.
 If you cannot join COPP right now, please consider making a donation.

COPP's mission is to educate the public and hold government officials accountable to the public on any issue that poses a threat to neighborhoods, the environment, and fiscal responsibility.

I support COPP's mission and would like to join COPP. Your membership and/or donation is greatly appreciated.

- Annual Membership** \$50 per household (Make check payable to COPP, Inc.) **COPP Political Committee Donation** of \$ _____ (Make check payable to COPP Political Committee)

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone (_____) _____
 Work (_____) _____
 Fax (_____) _____
 E-mail _____

Alternate Address

Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone (_____) _____
 Fax (_____) _____
 Start Date _____ End Date _____

In what neighborhood/HOA do you live? _____
 Comments/Suggestions _____

In which city do you vote? _____

Office Use Only

7/08

Have a question? Call the **COPP Hotline** at: 602.230.5233 or E-mail us at: COPPeak@coppeak.org
 Make your check(s) payable as indicated above. Please return this form and your check(s) to:
COPP • 8912 East Pinnacle Peak Road, PMB 275 • Scottsdale, Arizona 85255-3649

Calendar of Events

- July 31** Early voting begins for the September 2 Primary Election. To request an early ballot go to www.Maricopa.gov. Click on “Site Map”, “Elections”, then “Early Voting Ballot Request.” You can also request an Early Ballot by calling the Maricopa County Elections Office at (602) 506-1511 through close of business on Friday, August 22. In order for your Early Ballot to be valid and counted, it must be mailed in time to be received by the Elections Department by 7:00 pm on Election Day. You may also deposit your Ballot and affidavit at any polling place designated for this election between 6:00 am and 7:00 pm on Election Day.
- August 4** Last day to register to vote in the September 2 Primary Election. Citizens of the US and residents of Arizona who are 18 years of age or older by Election Day are eligible to register and vote.
- August 22** Last day to request an Early Ballot for the September 2 Primary Election.
- September 2** Election Day! Be sure to vote.
- September 18** COPP Member Meeting: 7:00 pm, Legend Trail Community Center (*see page 1 for directions*). Guests and Members of the public are welcome. **On the Agenda:** Meet the newly-elected City Council Members and possible runoff candidates endorsed by the Coalition of Pinnacle Peak and COPP PC. They will be present to answer your questions about their views on issues important to Scottsdale residents.