



City of Maricopa

Meeting Minutes - Final Task Force on Honoring Founders

*Mayor Nancy Smith
Councilmember Eric Goettl
Councilmember Bob Marsh*

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Monday, December 8, 2025

4:30 PM

City Hall John Wayne Conference Room

1. Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:38 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present 3 - Mayor Nancy Smith, Councilmember Eric Goettl, and Councilmember Bob Marsh

3. Agenda Items

TFHF 25-12 The Task Force will review any remaining questions for the founders list. Discussion and Action.

Mayor Smith reported that she had spoken with several individuals including Edward Farrell, Will Dunn, Denis Fitzgibbons, and Vanessa Bueras to confirm the founders list. She explained that through multiple conversations, it was determined that Denis Fitzgibbons was also part of the incorporation committee and provided legal services pro-bono. The Mayor's suggestion was to also include Denis Fitzgibbons as a founder.

The Task Force agreed that when the founders list eventually comes before the City Council for approval, the names would be included as an attachment to the agenda item. This would allow any members of the public who felt someone was missing to come forward at that time.

Councilmember Marsh motioned to include Denis Fitzgibbons to the list of Founder's to be recognized. Councilmember Goettl seconded. Motion passed unanimously, 3-0.

TFHF 25-13 The Task Force will hear presentation from Quinn Konold on monument concept. Discussion Only.

Quinn Konold presented the concept for the founder's monument, which would be located at the end of the historical timeline walk. He explained that construction is currently underway in that area and additional concrete might need to be poured to ensure adequate space for people to pass.

He stated that the group responsible for Heritage Park (Wilming) has agreed to take on this project as well, which could potentially reduce costs since they are already working at the site. He added that the monument design would complement the existing timeline walk but would be distinctly different.

The proposed monument would include: a 5-foot wide by 3-feet deep base, a plaque approximately 4.5 feet long, a shade structure above with possible solar lighting, and a

design that complements the existing timeline walk.

Councilmember Marsh suggested that the quote currently displayed as a placeholder should be attributed to its author. The Task Force discussed potentially finding a quote from the city's incorporation meeting minutes or asking the historical society for recommendations.

The Task Force agreed that Mr. Konold would work with the historical society on image selection for the monument, and that staff would investigate costs. Mr. Konold noted that if funds remain from the park construction, they might be sufficient to cover this project, but if a significant additional amount is needed, it might have to wait until the next fiscal year.

TFHF 25-14

The Task Force will hear presentation from Quinn Konold on proposed MOU with Historical Society for History Walk.

Mr. Konold discussed the possibility of creating a letter of understanding with the historical society regarding the history walk. He noted that the arrangement would formalize the current working relationship, where the historical society provides content recommendations and the city produces the actual plaques at its expense. He added that the letter would clarify that if the historical society wishes to change a plaque, they would need to request permission from the city, and likewise, if the city wishes to make changes, they would consult with the historical society.

Denny Hoeh from the historical society mentioned that volunteers currently help maintain the walk, keeping it clean and ensuring the displays are legible. Mr. Konold noted that while this maintenance responsibility is already included in the historical society's lease agreement, the proposed letter would specifically address content changes.

The Task Force agreed that while an informal agreement has worked well so far, a written letter of intent would be beneficial for future reference, especially as staff and leadership changes over time.

TFHF 25-15

The Task Force will hear from Historical Society for opinion on how many pedestals could be changed and how many will remain static. Discussion and Recommendation.

Gary Allen from the historical society reported that of the 15 total plaques on the history walk, approximately 8-10 could potentially be rotated or changed over time. He explained that the plaques on the right-hand side of the walk, which present the chronological history of Maricopa, should remain static as they tell the fundamental historical narrative. He added that plaques on the return path, which focus more on people and stories rather than milestone events, would be more appropriate for occasional changes or updates. Denny Hoeh added that they don't envision making massive changes all at once, but rather occasional updates as needed. Mr. Konold mentioned that there would be space for additional pedestals in the future if needed, including areas near the rail car or on the other side of the park.

The Task Force agreed with this approach, noting that the walk would ultimately end with the new founders monument, which would represent another major milestone.

TFHF 25-16

The Task Force will discuss next steps and next meeting date. Discussion and Recommendation.

The Task Force outlined several action items for the next meeting: staff and the historical society will work together on selecting images for the founders' pedestal, the

historical society will provide 3-5 quote recommendations for consideration, Mr. Konold will work on budget estimates for the monument and Mr. Konold will draft a letter of intent regarding the history walk maintenance and updates

The Task Force discussed whether there was any advantage to accelerating the process while the park developer still had equipment on site. Mr. Konold confirmed there could be a financial advantage but noted that Wilming would be completing this work after the park is finished in mid-February regardless.

The next meeting was scheduled for January 12, 2026, at 4:30 PM.

MIN 25-69

The Task Force will approve the minutes from the October 27, 2025 meeting. Discussion and Action.

Councilmember Marsh to approve the minutes from the October 27, 2025. Councilmember Goettl seconded. Motion passed unanimously, 3-0.

4. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:04 p.m.