**Minutes of the ONE-PS Events Committee of 4-20-2022**

Attending: Kathy Cohn, Raghda, Zacharia, Steven Moses, Don Barrett, Bernard Rottner, Bob Farran

The meeting was called to order by Bob Farran in the Development Services Conference room at City Hall. Public comment included a note to make sure you observe parking rules in the city parking lot. Self-introductions were made.

Candidate Forum Planning: The Rules for the Forum(s) were discussed. It was agreed to allow some questions from the floor by participants mindful of time limitations. It was also agreed to allow people to participate in planning that may have endorsed a candidate except for the Moderator and Committee chair. Bob will make some revisions and send out the next draft to the Committee for review. Rules will be adopted at the June committee meeting. Locations options were discussed with an offer from Mizell and from the Cultural Center both seeking use of their facilities. We have also held forums within districts. Given we do not know the number of contested races to date, we will gather input form Norgs in districts and review that input in June when we decide on locations. Weekend afternoon forums were recommended. An email address to gather potential questions will also be set up.

Home Tour: We agreed on a Saturday, October 15th tour from 10:00 to 3:00. Six homes are being sought with a few leads. Shann Carr has agreed to assist in finding home for the tour as she did at the last tour. Docents, photographers, writers and others will be identified for the event. Bob will send in a tentative proposal to Modernism to start the process officially.

Other fall events: We will participate in National Night Out if asked and the event is again held as it requires the booth only. We agreed to only have a booth at PRIDE (lowest cost booth-$400.00)and not be in the parade this year. We will seek participation in the Veteran’s Day Parade and submit an application for approval. Mary Clifford will be asked to again handle the balloon assignments for the Festival of Lights Parade.

Fund raisers were discussed with suggestions that included bingo night, movie night at the Cultural Center, a reception/dinner and/or donor opportunities. Having a public information spot on local radio was also suggested to inform the public about ONE-PS. It was agreed to talk to the Cultural Center about a possible movie night fund raiser as a first step. Bingo will also be researched.

Bob is seeking donors to fund a table with umbrella hole, simple signage and an umbrella so an easier option for a ONE-PS booth could be available making it feasible for one person to handle the logistics. The current booth and materials require an SUV or pick-up to manage the supplies and canopy.

Next meeting is Wednesday, June 15th at 10:00 am. Bob will be at NUSA in Little Rock during May so the report will be posted for the May ONE-PS meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Bob Farran bobfarran@yahoo.com

**ONE-PS and Neighborhood Organization Candidate Forum General Rules for 2022**

**District Elections**  -DRAFT, #2-

**Background:**

The election on November 8, 2022 will include elections for three Palm Springs City Council Districts and for other local races that include portions of the voters registered within the city limits of Palm Springs. For the other elections, maps are available vie each jurisdictions website. The closing date for filing is August 12, 2022.

Candidate Forum are being developed with the following goals:

 -Educate and inform the electorate about the districts and the role of City Council positions in addressing neighborhood issues.

 -Educate and inform Neighborhood Organizations about the process of conducting an open and fair candidate forum based on our experiences and research in this area, including training materials and sample formats and rules.

 -To take leadership in the development and implementation of these forums on behalf of ONE-PS while promoting the goals and image of the organization in the process.

 -Include other races for educational purposes that are within some portion of the boundaries of the City of Palm Springs including the nonpartisan races for: Desert Water District, Palm Springs Unified School District Board of Trustees, Desert Healthcare District and Desert Community College District.

**Considerations for NOrgs:**

Neighborhood Organizations (NOrgs) are prohibited from endorsing candidates or supporting one candidate or position over another. Given that neighborhood meetings are open meetings; candidates like all members of the public, are welcome to attend and to be introduced under your introductions and/or public comment sections of your agenda. Providing access to your membership beyond public comment and introductions is of concern. It is highly recommended that your NOrg Board be involved in any attempt to develop a NOrg candidate forum. ONE-PS Events Committee and Governance Committee representatives are available to provide you with technical information as requested. We also invite your NOrg to work with the Events Committee in developing the Candidate Forum in your District. Contact us at Events@ONE-PS.org.

**General Rules Regarding ONE-PS Candidate Forums:**

1. Members of the Candidate Forum Planning Committee(s) of ONE-PS or of NOrgs are encouraged to not have endorsed, given money to, worked for, provided campaign services for, or be related to any official candidate in that district for the 2022 elections until after the Candidate Forum is conducted in an effort to be as transparent as possible. We trust the good judgment of any interested volunteer. The Chair of the Committee, the moderator of the forum and the individuals screening questions shall not have endorsed, given money to, worked for, provided campaign services for, or be related to any official candidate in that district for the 2022 elections until after the Candidate Forum is conducted.
2. We are planning in-person candidate forums for 2022 while being cautious concerning Covid mandates that may be in effect at the time of the forum. We will utilize an electronic format only if health concerns and mandates dictate. Priority will be for contested races that have significant areas of voters withing the City of Palm Springs.
3. Questions for the candidates for City Council may be solicited prior to the events and screened and categorized by the Candidate Forum Committee, provided that the questions remain confidential until the time of the forum except for review by the moderator in final preparation for the event. A limited number of questions from the floor will be allowed as time permits with questions asked recommended to be on topics that all candidates for that position could address. Questions will first be asked for the contested races by the committee with limitations on time. For selected races where only one candidate’s name will be on the ballot, a “Meet the Candidate” approach will be provided with a set amount of time for a short presentation. ONE-PS may suggest topics for the candidate to address. No racist, sexist, or derogatory statements may be included in comments provided by any candidate, and such comments will be stopped as necessary and appropriate.
4. The ONE-PS Events Chair or their designee shall be responsible for inviting the officially recognized candidates after the close of filing and to obtain their written acceptance of the invitation and the format of recording the events and posting on selected platforms. The addresses on file with the City Clerk on the official filing paperwork shall be the first point of contact. The order of speaking at the forum shall be determined by the order the names appear on the official ballot if that is known at the time of the forum, otherwise lots shall be drawn under the direction of the Events Committee Chair.
5. All candidate shall be provided the same length of time, specific to each office and each individual forum, to provide statements and answer questions if allowed, with a timekeeper provided to assure compliance. A moderator shall provide a short overview of the rules and rotation process at the forum, as well as ask the approved questions. The rules shall be sent to participating candidates prior to the forum.
6. The ONE-PS Board will be asked to assist with news releases and outreach for each forum as well as posting on the ONE-PS website and other platforms as appropriate and determined by the Communications Committee and ONE-PS Board of Directors.
7. Moderators for each forum will be selected by the Candidate Forum Planning Committee. The Moderators will be required to meet the criteria in #1 above as to assure no bias. Specific skills will be required as to maintain order and to represent the organization in a positive fashion.
8. Additional rules and guidelines may be established by the Candidate Forum Planning Committee in each district, provided that these rules are consistent with the above and are approved and communicated to the candidates and participants. Sample scripts and formats will be developed in addition to these general rules and time limits. Any challenge to the official rules and other procedures may be made to the Chair of the Events committee and reviewed at the first meeting of the Committee following the Forum for review. Input, ideas and suggestions are always welcome and may be made via Events@ONE-PS.org.

**Updated Rules based on the previously approved rules. Bob Farran, Chair, Events Committee and Candidate Forum Committee, Events@ONE-PS.org Pending Final Approval of the ONE-PS Board. Not for public distribution.**

Candidate Forum Planning Worksheet: 4-20-2022

1. What is the best location for the forum(s)? We have been offered the use of the Palm Springs Cultural Center and Mizell. Last time we had City Council forums held within each district. If a position is unopposed, we have allowed the candidate to make a short statement about their priorities for the new term. We also include Water Board, school Board and Health District positions. Discussion:
2. Rules. Rules from the last forum will be discussed and hopefully a final version approved. This includes a discussion on the questions asked. Discussion:
3. Timelines: Letters will be ready to go at the closing of filing on August 12th. We will need dates and locations at that time. Last time we held the forums on weekend afternoons (Saturday and Sunday, at 1:00 pm). Discussion:
4. Tasks:
	1. Press releases for forum(s)
	2. Greeting at events-attendees and candidates
	3. Question development/review of proposed questions
	4. Room arrangements-candidate display tables, set up, mic, etc.
	5. Timer at event for answers
	6. Other