

Minutes (draft)
ONE-PS MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING
5.14.2024
4:30-6:00
PALM SPRINGS POLICE TRAINING CENTER

CALL TO ORDER at 4:30 by Chris Ruetz

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Paul Hinrichsen, 2nd by Carlene Hart passed with none opposed

APPROVAL OF MINUTES from 4.16.2024

Motion by Paul Hinrichsen, 2nd by Carlene Hart passed with none opposed

COMMENTS BY THE CHAIR

Chris Ruetz welcomed first time attendees from El Dorado Palms, Canyon Palms, Sonora Sunrise, Rogers Ranch, and Vista Norte Norgs, plus Palm Springs View Estates MHP. The 2024-25 ONE-PS budget and revisions to the Bylaws are posted on the website for review to vote on approval at the June monthly meeting. A \$2500 check was presented to the Parks & Recreation Department for the Camp Palm Springs summer program. This was from the proceeds of last year's LipSync competition which will be presented again July 7th, 2024. Liz Hernandez reports that PSDS has acquired the first electric waste truck in the valley for testing. It is parked outside and will be in testing for a week. Several vehicles plug-in battery electric vehicles will be considered due to extreme summer conditions before one is chosen to join the fleet permanently. There will be a vote that requires a quorum later in the meeting so everyone is encouraged to sign in using Slido to confirm we can proceed.

CITY LEADERSHIP REPORT

Mayor Jeffrey Bernstein provided an update on the 40+ million dollar library restoration/renovation project that continues to move forward. There is a steering committee receiving comments from the public who can use [EngagePalmSprings.com](https://www.engagepalm Springs.com) to make suggestions. The restoration portion of the project must be completed by 2026 to receive funds from the state grant. Council also announced Measure J community initiated projects funding of 6 million dollars with applications available in June and recommended for action in 2025. One option is fully funded and city managed which requires vetting before approval and is a lengthy process. The other option is for projects like the Mizell Center kitchen and wellness centers in schools that are self-managed and don't required oversight by the city. Non-profits can also apply for projects that are of benefit to the community. Direct funding by the city requires non-profit status but funds are also available to neighborhood organizations and other community groups. The conceptual plan for the airport is the largest city project ever. The 20 year 2.5 billion dollar project is based on the expected doubling of demand in air traffic. Funding sources will mostly come from the FAA, state, and federal grants. Some options for additional parking facilities include a 5 story parking garage north of the Wexler building, a new facility nearer to Ramon and another closer to Tachevah and Farrell. Outreach is ongoing for the parks department seeking comments in community meetings and on line through [EngagePalmSprings.com](https://www.engagepalm Springs.com). A closed session council meeting was held last month to discuss Section 14 concerns. There are documents on the city website and also now on [EngagePalmSprings.com](https://www.engagepalm Springs.com) about a possible settlement of the potential lawsuit and to make programmatic efforts to address various parts of the community. The efforts are to make this a healing process for all of the city to come together and move forward in a positive way. The College Park Specific Plan includes discussions about affordable housing in the immediate area, a healing center, and economic development The Caravanserai Project, in which the city participates, provides funding through grants, sponsorships, and

mentorships for entrepreneurs from marginalized and under-resourced communities to launch new profit and non-profit businesses. Last year the city sponsored 80 different organizations and the applications for funding are due by the end of May this year. There were 108 applications, which closed April 30th, for seats on commissions. The first round of interviews will commence on May 20th. The appointments will be made by the end June to start their terms July 1st. An all boards and commissions meeting will be held on June 17th at the convention center, to which the public is invited, where the commissions will give an overview of the previous year's progress and a preview upcoming goals. Numerous traffic calming projects around the city were approved. Traffic calming studies and community engagement are ongoing for Racquet Club from Farrell to Little Tuscany. There will be a COD update May 29th at the Palm Springs Cultural Center. There will be proposals for vacant lots in Desert Highlands on the council agenda May 23rd and Pacaso is returning on June 13th. Budget updates will be in June and the Parks Masterplan and Serena Park updates are on June 27th.

Scott Stiles updated progress on the Navigation Center being nearly full every night. The center is sensitive to the surrounding neighborhoods and maintains respect for them. Modular units continue to be installed and are expected to open in August. Community initiated projects are also to restore, replace, and improve existing elements in our neighborhoods not just for new facilities. June 21st is Palm Springs Power Night which is free with an ID that shows Palm Springs residency. The 2024 Ride in Silence event is tomorrow at 6:30p in Ruth Hardy Park. The Airport Masterplan will have a community outreach event at the convention center on June 4th at 4:00p.

MONTHLY TOPICS

Carlotta Rinke with the City of Palm Springs Human Rights Commission presented information about who the commission is and what they do. The commission has reflected on and redefined itself after COVID. The mission of the Palm Springs Human Rights Commission is to promote and protect the diversity of our community and to improve human relations through education and community awareness. The group is not decision making but advocates, collaborates, and educates through community education programs and mediates instances of discrimination. Individuals can register a complaint and contact the commission through the city website. The commission also promotes diversity in the appointment of candidates to the other city boards and commissions. By participating in community events such as Black History, Pride, Harvey Milk Breakfast, and the ONE_PS Annual Picnic the Human Rights Commission confirms the city's awareness and appreciation of the rights of a diverse population. The selection of community service award recipients from the Coachella Valley, not just Palm Springs, for outstanding work is also a function of the commission. The rules and standard procedures were updated and amended for the first time since 1998 as a major project by the current commission. The meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of the month, except August, in the large conference room at 5:30p and the public is welcome.

Fire Chief Paul Alvarado and Captain Ron Skyberg reminded everyone of the Fish Fry event June 1st from 6-10p at Ruth Hardy Park. Chief Alvarado acknowledged the upcoming 1 year anniversary of the devastating fire in Lahaina HI by announcing a renewed mitigation effort by PSFD. 70% of the annual rainfall has already occurred and with 87 acres of city owned vacant land the clearing of brush has begun. Little Tuscany, historic Racquet Club and Araby neighborhoods have already been started. The Fire Department and Code Enforcement are starting an education campaign to remove brush from the approximately 1200 residential acres in vulnerable locations around the city.

ACTION ITEM-VOTE ON NEIGHBORHOOD EXPANSIONS

A motion was made by Ernest Ceceña to annex the Los Pueblos HOA into the boundary of the Tahquitz Creek Golf Norg, 2nd by Dené Sanders and passed with none opposed. A motion was made by Cat Gallivan to annex the élan Community Association into the

boundary of the Tahquitz River Estates Norg, 2nd by Tim Schoeffler and passed with none opposed.

CITY DEPARTMENT UPDATES ON NEW ITEMS

Lieutenant Mike Villegas reported on the Do The Right Thing program. The program acknowledges school-age youths for their positive attitude, behavior, and accomplishments. 600 students have been recognized in the past year and 60 of them were honored at an awards ceremony hosted by Palm Springs Police Department. The Palm Springs chapter of the Do The Right Thing program received an award for its efforts by the Riverside County Juvenile Detention Department. Career Day is May 22nd at Raymond Cree Elementary. May 15th is Peace Officer Memorial Day to acknowledge the sacrifices made every day. The city is hosting the California Police Chiefs Conference May 19th-22nd. When the Navigation Center opened Operation Relentless Sun transitioned to Operation Restoring Hope to assist getting the unhoused population off the street. The April stats included 64 arrests, 8 from the 'bait bike' program, 26 citations for various infractions, and 4 unhoused individuals were reunited with their families. The public is encouraged to report encampments to the Police Department as the city has contracted a cleanup crew to remove them and 76 were taken down in the month of April. In the process 102 shopping carts were recovered. Emergency Operations Manager Danny DeSelms announced a training session on June 25th from 4:30-6p inside council chambers in conjunction with the Red Cross and Racquet Club West. The topic will be heat stress management with a focus on elderly populations. The El Dorado Palms Estates Norg will have a simulated earthquake disaster drill in July with Emergency Management participation.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

An attendee raised concerns about Resolution No. 25147 from the council meeting on October 12, 2023 addressing foreign policy issues that are not within city control. An attendee was pleased to see drainage issues being addressed in multiple parts of the city. A concern was also raised about the use of blowers due to the dust problem always present in the city. The process of 'hat-racking' to trim trees in the city was called into question.

ADJOURNMENT motion and a 2nd was made at 6:00.