

Minutes (draft)  
ONE-PS MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
11.12.2024  
4:30-6:00  
PALM SPRINGS POLICE TRAINING CENTER

CALL TO ORDER at 4:32 by Chris Ruetz

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Carlene Hart, 2nd by Bob O'Neill passed with none opposed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES from 10.08.2024

Motion by Carlene Hart, 2nd by Tim Schoeffler passed with none opposed.

NEW VISITORS

Chris Ruetz welcomed new attendees from Twin Palms, Historic Tennis Club, Sonora Sunrise, and Rogers Ranch NOrgs.

MEMBERSHIP TOPICS

Carlene Hart commended city departments for responding to the issues concerning construction traffic on Linden Wy and Matthew Dr. The construction company agreed to halt operations during times of school bus pickup and drop-off to enhance safety.

CITY LEADERSHIP REPORTS

The Mayor's Report by Jeffrey Bernstein announced that the Find Food Bank report to council in October indicated 15% of our residents are considered food insecure. The Community Food Bank at the Center has moved to a new location on East Alejo Rd and needs the support of all of us. Also at that meeting an appeal made by the Mesquite Country Club Condominium HOA and Desert Chapel to a Planning Commission ruling in favor of Prescott Preserve was denied. This allows the funding grant for improvements to move forward. The mayor attended the International Gay and Lesbian Travel Association meeting in Japan last month. The conference will be held in Palm Springs in 2025 with thousands of representatives from 50 different countries attending. The inclusion of diverse populations was a theme of the convention and Palm Springs was selected to host as being representative of that goal. The State of the City address included topics of multiple master plan updates, city finances, plus arts and culture in general and specifically related to the Agua Caliente Cultural Museum. Connectivity between downtown businesses, attractions, hotels, restaurants, convention center, and neighborhoods was also a focus of the address. The COD groundbreaking ceremony will be held on Thursday the 14th. The schedule is still to open for students in the spring of 2027. The architecture degree with an emphasis on modernism in conjunction with CalPoly and the only casino gaming degree in the country with tribal cooperation will be offered. The council meeting on Thursday will discuss Section 14 in open session. November 21st will be the last general business meeting of the year before new council members are seated. The fall Modernism tour was a great success and next year is the 20th anniversary of the spring event with great things planned to celebrate it. Leather Pride, Halloween, and Gay Pride were all huge events without any unfortunate events due to our excellent public safety departments. Vista Sunrise II opened last month on the DAP campus with a total of 141 housing units available there. The new DeMuth Park playground opened with Baristo, Ruth Hardy, and James O Jessie still to come. Measure J passing allows for bonds to be issued to fund the new fire station, library renovation, and convention center renovations. Palm Springs Sister City San Miguel de Allende students and ours from Vista Del Monte collaborated by Zoom in both Spanish and English on traditional milagros art projects for exchange between the schools.

Restaurants from San Miguel were represented at the Palm Springs Food & Wine Festival and exchanged cocktail recipes with local eateries. COD students who assisted chefs with prep work for the festival were invited to 2 week internships in the hotel restaurants there in the true spirit of sister cities. Dream Hotel will have another groundbreaking on December 12th with plans to go vertical in 2025 and be open in 2026. The city is requiring proof of financing for each section before allowing construction to continue.

The City Manager's Report by Scott Stiles challenged the membership to remember music from 1979. Sister Sledge headlined the main stage at Pride and Scott noticed that our ASL interpreters got their 'groove on' during the concert as well as providing translation services. There is a new hire for Parks and Recreation Director. Nick Gonzales formerly led the same department for the City of Ontario and will start on December 8th. Residents are moving into the recently opened modular units at the Navigation Center. Brush clearing is continuing along the west and south sides of the city which is especially important in light of the recent fires in counties to our west. Pride weekend passed without any arrests and only a couple of heat related emergencies due to the preparedness of all city departments involved. Slurry seal is starting and a complete schedule can be found on EngagePalmSprings.com.

#### MONTHLY TOPICS

Women of Impact did not present at this meeting.

The Sustainability and Recycling Department's Juliet Agtang presented an overview of an ordinance proposal to update a home's energy efficiency. The update would be triggered by the age of the home and dollar amount of the project as described on the building permit application. The scope of the permit such as new A/C, water heater, roof, electrical panel, would all have additional requirements in conjunction with the original work being done. The focus of the proposal is on single family homes as they are the predominant type of residential structure in the city. Increasing residential energy efficiency will further enhance the State of California and City of Palm Springs climate action plan goals. Homeowner assistance programs will be put in place before the proposal is presented to council for approval.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Nominating Committee Report by Peter Sipkins introduced the nominees for the ONE-PS Board of Directors. Peter worked with past and present board members, council members, and NOrg chairs to recommend Dan Fast and Corinne Griswold be the new nominees as 9 of the current members are continuing on. Ardine Thompson resigned earlier this year and Megan Rodriguez Hernandez is not continuing on. They will be missed as valuable members of the board. Kate Castle has chosen to step down as Vice Chair but continue on the board. The slate consists of 11 members of which 4 are officers. The nominated officers are Chris Ruetz as Chair, Tim Schoeffler as Vice Chair, Cat Gallivan as Treasurer, and Patrick Stonebraker as Secretary. The vote will occur at the meeting on December 10th. Tim Schoeffler reported the Fall Modernism Tour was successful but more help is needed to prepare for the next one. The tour is a citywide endeavor and more NOrgs could nominate homes to participate. Evelyn Yardley, who is the Neighborhood Tours Coordinator, has expanded the parameters of modernism so that more homes should qualify for consideration. Tim thanked the docents, many of whom are members of ONE-PS, for their contribution to the event. Approximately 350 guests toured the homes for a gross profit near \$25,000. Denise Goolsby reminded everyone that the Festival of Lights Parade, on December 7th, has 11 NOrgs participating this year with a full slate of wranglers in place. The Christmas tree lighting in Frances Stevens Park is the day before the parade. Cookies with Santa and Mrs. Claus events are scheduled and listed on EngagePalmSprings.com. ONE-PS will be participating in the Black History Month Parade and event on February 22nd. The annual picnic is on March 22nd and as always volunteers are needed to make it successful.

## CITY DEPARTMENT UPDATES ON NEW ITEMS

The Police Department's Lt. Mike Villegas reintroduced Lt. Gus Araiza as the department liaison to ONE-PS. Lt. Villegas will become the department PIO among other duties and Lt. Araiza will also become the North Area Commander starting January 5th. Lt. Villegas detailed the behind the scenes security measures that allowed the Pride and Veteran's Day Parade events to go off without any major incidents. A mishap with a bicyclist and a motorist which resulted in minor injuries and a fall from a float, also with minor injuries, at the Veteran's Day event were the only issues that needed attention. The department Pickleball Tournament to benefit the Shop with a Cop program will be held on November 23rd. Lt. Araiza explained the greater use of technology in the department by giving an example of the Chula Vista PD 'Drone as a First Responder' program and the success they have had with it. Lt. Frank Hutchinson is working to evaluate it for use in Palm Springs.

Chief Paul Alvarado opened his remarks by expressing how much the partnership efforts between our Police and Fire Departments are second to none. The Chief also remarked that the relocation of Fire Station 1 will aid in the goal of increased connectivity between the attractions downtown that Mayor Bernstein mentioned in the State of the City address. Chief Alvarado also recognized Emergency Operations Manager Danny DeSelms for his role in relocating the Emergency Operations Center from a small room in city hall to a more appropriately sized facility across the street. Danny explained what to include in a survival kit and the importance of readiness. He also advised to make thoughtful purchases for your emergency kit and stressed that canned water is preferable to bottled water and to be mindful of the season. Multifunctional tools are also recommended over those with a single use for availability and space considerations.

LP McCloy, Director of the Office of Sustainability, gave kudos to her team for their work on the energy ordinance as well as the recent shredding events. She also explained the flow of recycling from residential bins to the Edom Hill Transfer Station for initial sorting to the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) to separate single-stream recyclables to be sold to end buyers. The whole concept of recycling is that there is a market for the materials to be reused into new products.

The Desert Water Agency report by Xochitl Peña announced the next dates for the CV Water Counts Academy beginning on January 28th. The academy is a joint effort of the six water agencies in the Coachella Valley. The five week program educates community members on local water issues such as water quality, conservation, and sustainability.

PSDS report by Chris Cunningham explained the requirement for putting food waste into plastic bags inside the bin. The type of compost procedure used in the Coachella Valley is called chip and grind. Food waste is combined with yard waste in a specific ratio in order to create a 90 day turnaround for the end product so it must remain separated until added to the mix. The citywide curbside cleanup event was successful and perhaps the heaviest in recent years at 25+ tons. Palm Springs residents get free pre-arranged bulk item pickup by calling the office to make an appointment. The next shredding event is in January. PSDS is testing electric 15 ton collection vehicles which have some challenges and technical issues but promising. Hydrogen fueled vehicles are also being considered and may be spotted on the streets in the near future.

PUBLIC COMMENTS were not made.

ADJOURNMENT by consent of the body at 6:07