

Minutes (draft)  
ONE-PS MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
10.08.2024  
4:30-6:00  
PALM SPRINGS POLICE TRAINING CENTER

CALL TO ORDER at 4:31 by Chris Ruetz.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Bob O'Neill 2nd by Tim Schoeffler passed with none opposed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES from 9.10.2024

Motion by Chris Campbell, 2nd by Carlene Hart passed with none opposed.

PSPD Sgt Miguel Torres led a moment of silence to honor the lives of the officers lost eight years ago today in the line of duty.

NEW VISITORS

Chris Ruetz welcomed new attendees from Four Seasons, El Mirador, Canyon Corridor, Sonora Sunrise, and Palm Canyon NOrgs.

MEMBERSHIP TOPICS

In a followup to Corinne Griswold's presentation of the Gene Autry NOrg history Let's Go Travel has arranged a tour of the Gene Autry Museum in Los Angeles. Fliers are available on the back table for the February event.

CITY LEADERSHIP REPORTS

The Mayor's Report by Jeffery Bernstein announced that Pride Honors Awards went to Chief Andy Mills and his wife Cathy. Jasmine Waits was also honored for her contributions. The north building of the Thompson Hotel opened while the south building is still being built out. City staff led by Scott Stiles worked tirelessly to make that happen. The Navigation Center also opened the 80 transitional housing units to complete the continuum of care available to our unhoused population. The Access Center continues to be the starting point for entry into the system for overnight and/or transitional services. The Monarch Apartments affordable long term housing opened earlier this year to be followed soon by Vista Sunrise II on the campus of DAP to complete the path to permanent housing. Palm Springs is also one of the local communities in California to receive funds to address homelessness in the form of a 5 million dollar grant. The ribbon cutting/groundbreaking for the COD West Valley Campus will be held on November 14th. The first construction contract for ground work has been signed on the way towards a 2027 opening for classes. The Victoria Park and DeMuth Park playgrounds have opened and Council will approve the Ruth Hardy Park playground contract this week. The City of Palm Springs has achieved the Certified Neurodiverse Workplace designation highlighting the City's commitment to a more inclusive work environment. Council approved cannabis related events at the Amtrak Station and Gene Autry but indoor locations were left open for the future. Council approved a turf conversion for the lawn at City Hall which was originally designed by Garrett Eckbo. Part of the landscape will be used as a demonstration garden for desert-environment friendly plants. The Planning Commission approval of the minor modification for the Prescott Preserve will have a public hearing at this month's council meeting due to challenges from surrounding property owners. The State of the City address is at the Art Museum on October 30th at 6pm. A paid reception at the museum is being held at 5pm benefitting the Chamber of Commerce. Mayor Bernstein referred everyone to the [EngagePalmSprings.com](https://www.engagepalm Springs.com) website for information about upcoming events in the city to schedule NOrg functions in advance. A Palm Springs Holiday event is

being planned to include carolers, tree lighting, and the annual parade. Village Fest will also include the holiday market. The Musical Theatre University has not yet been confirmed but are believed to be interested in performing a holiday show for three nights downtown. Ballots are out for the election this year and Measure J is among the issues. The Library, the Convention Center, and the downtown Fire Station are at least partially funded by Measure J and all have more than one project manager assigned to them. The financing of future projects depends on a steady income stream which is why the removal of the sunset clause is so important going forward.

The City Manager's Report by Scott Stiles extended kudos to Deputy City Manager Flinn Fagg, Fire Chief Paul Alvarado, and Chief Building Official Dana MacAllister for their work to get the Thompson Hotel open. The Victoria Park playground is open and the ribbon cutting for DeMuth Park playground is coming up shortly. PSFD received a request several days ago to return to the Line Fire so a crew will be heading back up there. Work is continuing on the Convention Center Masterplan. The grant to clean up homeless encampments has some restrictions on its' use so the focus is how to put the funds to their best benefit. The City's commitment to the neighborhood surrounding the Navigation Center for entry being facilitated by Martha's Village and Kitchen through the Access Center is being honored. Neurodiversity training allows city employees an awareness to provide a better level of service to our customers and community. Upcoming events include Modernism Week, Palm Springs High School Homecoming Parade, Pride, Veterans Day Parade, and Festival of Lights. Village Fest will have a Halloween Spooktacular event on October 31st starting at 6pm. Voter drop boxes are located at City Hall, the main library, James O. Jessie Desert Highland Unity Center, and DeMuth Community Center.

#### MONTHLY TOPIC

Debby Chen and Mark Waier of Daley Strategies provided an update for the Airport Master Plan. Mark gave credit to Jeffrey Bernstein, Scott Stiles, and Kevin Corcoran of the Airport Commission for encouragement to update the plan. The Airport Master Plan is a federally required document to provide for future growth. The current airport was built to accommodate 1.5 million annual passengers which it has already far exceeded. The vision for the future focuses on preserving iconic elements of the airport while creating a better passenger experience specifically for rental cars, baggage claim, airport safety regulations, and new sustainability initiatives. The update is at the point where feedback on the identified alternatives for the rental car center and traffic impact studies is being evaluated. Should all go as planned for approval by city council the environmental studies would start in 2025 and completion of the facilities in 2029. Funding for the 2 billion dollar project, the largest ever capital investment in the Coachella Valley, is self-generated by airport operations. No local taxes are used to support the project. The next public meeting will be held November 7th at 5:30pm at the Palm Springs Pavilion and Recreation Center.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Josh Zipperman of Burke Rix Communications announced the 2nd community meeting for 1st update of the zoning code since 1988 will be on October 16th at 5:30pm in the DeMuth Community Center. The recent audit of the existing code and the path forward as a result of it will be discussed. More information is available on EngagePalmSprings.com.

Don Barrett, chair of the committee, provided a recap of the Candidate Forum. Over 100 attended, unfortunately with chairs for only 60, to hear the candidates answer questions submitted by residents from Districts 4 & 5 and the city at large. Don acknowledged the efforts of Kathy Cohn, Richard Allegra, Mark Talkington, Patrick Stonebraker, and Ardine Thompson in making the event a success.

Rosa Romo of Parks & Recreation accepted a check of \$3280 for the department's Camp Palm Springs program. The funds were generated by the LipSync Contest held on July 7th. The ONE-PS Board Nominating Committee is accepting names of interested parties to be a

member of next year's board. Nominations will be announced at the November membership meeting and the vote will occur at the December meeting.

Tim Schoeffler reminded the group that the Home Tour is a major fundraiser for ONE-PS. The morning session is almost sold out and the afternoon tour still has tickets available as of now. There is still a need for 8 more docents to adequately staff the 5 homes on the tour this year. Assignments for the docents already signed up will occur shortly.

Bob O'Neill, Festival of Lights Committee chair, requested participation from NOrgs to wrangle the balloons for the parade on December 7th. 6 NOrgs have signed up and 3 of the balloons have been claimed. The parade route from Ramon and Palm Canyon to Tachevah takes approximately 90 minutes to complete.

#### CITY DEPARTMENT UPDATES ON NEW ITEMS

Police Department Sgt Miguel Torres reported that the recently hosted open house was a successful event. Expected attendance was 100-200 and more than 300 actually participated. A recent homicide did involve a celebrity named Eduardo Xol. The suspect was known to him so it was not a random act. The victim in a shooting in the 200 block of N Palm Canyon was uncooperative so there is limited information available. Staffing is being ramped up in advance of parade season with outside agencies participating also. Former President Trump's arrival in the city will require additional staffing also although he will just be passing through.

Fire Department Capt Ron Skyberg alerted the membership to the possibility of seeing flames coming from the airport. Federally mandated multi-day training is taking place with the Airport Rescue and Firefighting (ARFF) team and members of PSFD. One of the two recently purchased Type 3 Brush Trucks will be going back with a crew returning to the Line Fire. A firefighter attending paramedic school will complete his program in the next couple of months to do an internship with another fire department for evaluation and then return to PSFD as a nationally registered firefighter paramedic.

Emergency Operations Manager Danny DeSelms announced a second training with the Red Cross in conjunction with ONE-PS and the Racquet Club West NOrg for earthquake and fire emergency preparedness at the McLean Building on October 17th. The 2nd Annual Fall Health and Safety Fair will be held October 19th from 10am-2pm at the James O. Jessie Desert Highland Unity Center. Road closures at undisclosed locations will occur due to the former president being in the valley so be aware of the possibility for travel disruptions. Sustainability Report by Benito Villa advised of the shredding event on Saturday October 19th in the Convention Center parking lot from 8am-12pm or until the bins are full. Pre-shredding is available at the City Hall lobby October 15th-17th from 8am-5pm. There is a community survey for greenhouse gas emissions on [EngagePalmSprings.com](http://EngagePalmSprings.com) and social media.

Desert Water Agency Public Affairs Manager Xochitl Peña announced the Fall Tour on October 23rd. If you already signed up you should be getting a confirmation email soon. The morning tour is 7:30am-11am and the afternoon is from 12:30pm-4pm.

PSDS' Chris Cunningham announced citywide community cleanup next week the 14th-18th. Place bulky on the curb to be picked up on your regular day of collection, as a rule. The drop-off location for other items will be at the Convention Center parking lot on the 19th not at City Hall as with past events.

Office of Neighborhoods Denise Goolsby requested a heads-up from NOrgs to let her know in advance of events if city official representatives are to attend. The calendar on [EngagePalmSprings.com](http://EngagePalmSprings.com) has all of the city events such as council meetings, commission meetings and holidays to use so there is no potential overlap for attendance requests. Send events to go into the monthly newsletter with pictures and some text to go with it.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

The annual Los Compadres Beef Tip BBQ is on Saturday November 2nd. Tickets are available at the event and there is music and dancing too.  
ADJOURNMENT at 5:48 by common consent of the body.

