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## **Minutes City Council's Public Safety & Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee December 11, 2007**

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Minutes of the City Council's Public Safety & Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee held on Tuesday, December 11, 2007, 3:30 p.m., at the Tempe City Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conference Room, 31 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Tempe, Arizona.

**Committee Member Present:**

Councilmember Ben Arredondo, Chair  
Councilmember Onnie Shekerjian

**City Staff Present:**

John Barton, Fire Battalion Chief  
Neil Calfee, Deputy Mgr, Dev  
Tom Canasi, Comm Svcs Mgr  
Angel Carbajal, Asst. Police Chief  
Jim Gaintner, Asst. Fire Chief  
Kate Hanley, Ex. Dir, TCC  
Shelley Hearn, Comm Relations Mgr  
Cliff Jones, Fire Chief  
Jan Koehn, Code Compliance Admin  
Jaclyn Levin, City Clerk Intern  
Jayson Matthews, TCC Mgmt Asst  
John Osgood, Dep Pub Works Mgr  
Mark Richwine, Parks & Rec Mgr  
Tom Ryff, Police Chief  
Chris Salomone, Comm Dev Mgr  
Shauna Warner, Neighborhood Svcs Dir  
Mari Yennie, Council Aide

**Guests Present:**

Joe Pospicil, NAC member  
Stephanie Salazar, ASU  
Beth Fiorenza, TCAA

***Councilmember Ben Arredondo called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.***

**Agenda Item 1 – Committee Scope of Work**

Councilmember Arredondo stated that the Council approved the scope.

Shauna Warner is now in charge of highlighting and working on the scope and will be keeping everyone informed throughout the year.

**Agenda Item 2 – Discussion Regarding Mobile Home Relocation Policy**

Jayson Matthews, TCC wants to work with city departments and Council to come up with a workman policy to help owner developers who wish to develop in mobile home parks. This would also include moving residents into a better environment.

TCC has been working on a framework of what they can and cannot do to put this policy into affect. They are also working with the Transportation, Housing and Environment committee to properly deal with this issue.

This policy would come into affect only when a property owner decides to rezone.

**Direction:** Staff was directed to take to Council once more background and perimeters are established

**Agenda Item 3 – Update on Tradewinds Mobile Home Park**

Kate Hanley wanted to congratulate everyone from development services on a job well done with the success of the project.

Jayson Matthews updated the committee on the progress made including the complete removal of mobile homes from the park location.

**Agenda Item 4 – Alley/ Trash Update**

John Osgood addressed the issue of educating the community on alley maintenance. He distributed a hand out of tips on maintaining your alley. This includes the do's and don'ts and city contacts.

John wants to work with Shauna Warner to get people who own homes with an alley to obtain a brochure.

There is a new “No Dumping” sign that will be put up in alleys to clarify what can dumped into the trash.

John also handed out a Don't Trash Tempe brochure which is a guide of all the key services the city has. This brochure includes the location of the free dump, what illegal dumping is, the recycling program, the collection schedule including the ten day rule which means you can put your bulk garbage out only ten days before pick up, and a reminder to think before you throw.

Brochures were distributed in a mass quantity and soon to follow will be recycling brochures that will have the same impact.

An article is prepared monthly for the Tempe Today newsletter that goes out regarding solid waste issues . Guides are also on the website

Councilmember Shekerjian suggested putting this information on channel 11. She would also like to provide this information to schools to educate children. She also suggested creating a clean-up day to beautify the community as well as to get to know your neighbor.

**Direction:** Staff was directed to present the information and brochures at the next IRS Council.

**Agenda Item 5 – Neighborhood Grant Program Changes**

Shauna Warner summarized the neighborhood grant program. Council allocates \$225,000 annually for neighborhood initiated projects. Right now associations can apply for up to

\$12,000. However,, to see an impact in the neighborhood that amount would need to increase.. The review board is looking at having a one mega grant worth \$50,000. The review board would look more closely at associations applying to see if it would make a real impact on the community and how much involvement there is in the community. The applicant who gets the grant can only obtain it once every five years. The board is currently seeking approval to go into affect next year.

**Direction:** Staff is directed to send a Friday packet memo to update the Council.

#### **Agenda Item 6 – Part Time Code Compliance Inspectors Update**

Jan Koehn summarized that the part time code compliance inspections have been very successful. The inspections have been proactive and the public has been more responsive.

Challenges have occurred with the greater concern with the staffing issues. Since these positions are 19 hours, nights, and non-benefited, it has resulted in a lot of staff turnovers. This has been taking up a lot of time in resources and in training new employees. Another problem is employees having to share cars with permanent staff since there are not enough vehicles available.

Part time employees are doing the work of 3 ½ people. Code compliance would like to move forward through a budget supplemental for staffing three (3) more permanent inspection positions This would further allow for oversight or supervision through promotion of a full time employee to a night time supervisor and getting some administrative support.

Councilmember Arredondo suggested that Jan Koehn meet with the Mayor with the proposal and then take it down to the Ad hoc Rental Housing Task Force Committee to be reviewed during the budget process time.

#### **Agenda Item 7 – Police Department Update on Neighborhood Policing Efforts**

Assistant Police Chief Angel Carbajal summarized items that have a direct impact on quality of life issues in the neighborhoods.

- The **Crime Suppression Team** started in June and involves all bureau managers and commanders who discuss issues on a regular basis and focus resources on serious concerns. It has been very successful. From January through October, the City has a 197.5% reduction in violent Part 1 crimes compared to last year, as well as a 31.4% reduction in auto theft, and an overall reduction in property crimes of 8.7%.
- The **Party Patrol** was kicked off on August 17<sup>th</sup> and 285 public service notices and 10 criminal complaints have been issued, with 600 staff hours provided.
- There are two **ACTION** teams addressing crime trends in the neighborhoods. From July 17<sup>th</sup> through November 9<sup>th</sup>, the two teams made over 397 arrests for a variety of criminal offenses.

- For the first eleven months of the year, the Special Enforcement Motorcycle Squad **(SEMS)** has responded to 321 complaints, issued 1037 citations, and provided over 680 staff hours.

Assistant Chief Carbajal stated that the Police Department is working with Human Resources classifying and staffing positions.

- Special events that will need extra officers on duty include:
  - Insight Bowl/ Block Party
  - Super Bowl
  - Saturday Night Party before the Super Bowl

Chief Ryff added that January will be the first time in seven years that the Police Department has been fully staffed. There has also been a significant reduction in the crime rate of all of Tempe.

Councilmember Arredondo asked Chief Ryff and Shauna Warner to send a memo to Council on the neighborhood near Mills Mall indicating the improvements made, including more speed bumps, lights in the park, park rangers, and more police officers in uniform at Mills Mall.

#### **Agenda Item 8 – Review Remodeling of Fire Station #4 and Fire Training Center**

Fire Chief Jones indicated that Fire Station #4 is located at 300 E. Elliot Rd. This station is the only station that has not had any remodeling since opening in the '70s. There are two current projects that will come to Council on January 28.

Asst. Fire Chief Jim Gaintner discussed the projects that need to be done to the Fire Station. There will be some upgrading on the lighting, building female restrooms, upgrading the kitchen/dining room area, and expanding the exercise room.

Councilmember Arredondo asked Chief Jones to update the Committee at the next meeting as to what stages the projects are in.

Battalion Chief Barton continued with the idea of adding a medical simulation lab on the patio of Fire Station #4. This would include a highly sophisticated medical simulation manikin. It would make more sense to turn one of the patios into a lab then to dismantle the manikin after every use. This is a very expensive piece of equipment and having to take it apart after every use would wear it down too fast.

#### **Agenda Item 9 – Future Agenda Items – Next meeting February 12, 2007**

Councilmember Arredondo reminded the group that any concerns or issues that come up should be given to Shauna Warner to be place on the next meeting agenda.

***Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.***

Prepared by: Jaclyn Levin

Reviewed by:

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Jan Hort, City Clerk