



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

Saturday, October 28, 2023 :: 10:00 AM :: Indian Canyons Golf Resort North Clubhouse

Attendees

Members Victoria Balthazor, Brian Balthazor, David Blaber, Brian Bloke, Pilar Blaber, Wally Brown, Shelia Brown, Jeffery Burnell, David Carlson, Eric Chiel, David Claver, Thomas Eich, Hung Fan, Michael Feldman, Barbara Gay, Roger Gendron, Mann Hawks, Jennifer Hixon, Jeff Hoffman, Larry Johnson, Terry Johnson, Michele Johnson, Laura Miller, Carol Munro, Paul Rafail, Laurie Ridgeway, Andy Rohrer, Greg Roth, Stephanie Shops, Paul Stevens, Lei Udell, Tony Vardaro, Betsy Veal, Curtis Veal, Ron Weaver, Robert Webster, Michael Wollaeger

Guests Mayor Grace Garner, Police Lt. Mike Villegas

Welcome, Introductions of Advisory Board members

The meeting was called to order by Carol Munro at 10:17 AM. She welcomed everyone and shared the purpose of the meeting. Advisory Board members were introduced.

Approval of Minutes (emailed in advance)

There was a motion and a second to approve the minutes of the March 24, 2023 General Membership Annual Meeting/10th Anniversary Celebration. The minutes were approved.

Self-introductions of attendees.

All attendees were asked to introduce themselves.

ACTION ITEM Approve appointment of new Advisory Board Member

Carol said the Advisory Board had recently appointed David Carlson to fill out the term of one of the vacancies on the Board. Per our By-Laws, such appointments are presented at the next General Membership meeting for ratification. It was **Moved/Seconded/Carried** to approve David Carlson to the Advisory Board for the balance of the current two-year term.

Presentation of Certificate of Appreciation

Carol Munro presented a Certificate of Appreciation to retired Board member Jeffery Burnell. She thanked him for his service and many outstanding contributions to the organization, especially his leadership in upgrading our social media presence and communications outreach to our

membership and the general public. It was noted that although Jeffery has moved out of Twin Palms, he has continued to volunteer for us.

Guest Speaker

Lt. Mike Villegas, a veteran of 22 years on the PSPD, was the next speaker, who shared updates within the police department. These included the addition of two new bicycle officers, two new canine teams, a new DUI officer, and increased presence at the airport. Three officers were recently promoted to sergeant and they are hoping to hire five more officers. He also spoke of Operation Relentless, a police program to identify homeless individuals and help those who want help. This includes a new Navigation Center which will have 80 beds and is scheduled to open in February 2024.

ACTION ITEM Concur with Changes to Community Grants/Neighborhood Initiative Policies (emailed in advance)

Carol Munro reported that, over the summer, the Advisory Board undertook a review of the Community Grant and Neighborhood Initiative policies adopted by the membership in 2014 and 2015. These policies specify the priorities, funding guidelines, and procedures for distributing TPNO funds for charitable grants or neighborhood initiative projects. Our By-laws specify that the membership must be informed of any changes made to these policies at their next meeting.

Recently, the Board voted to retain the following 5 current funding priorities, and add 1 new one:

- Specifically target the Twin Palms Neighborhood
- Benefits the residents of Twin Palms and/or the City of Palm Springs
- **NEW** *Mid-Century Architectural Preservation and Education*
- Improve property values
- Reduce crime and/or improve neighborhood safety and /or
- Increase public awareness, visibility, and favorability rating of our neighborhood.

The Board made the following changes to current funding caps:

- For Community Grants, increase the cap from \$2,500 to \$3,500
- For Neighborhood Initiatives, increase the cap from \$3,000 to \$5,000 with a simple majority vote, and from \$5,000 to \$7,000 for a unanimous Board vote.

While not required by the By-laws and current policies, the Advisory Board requested that the general membership vote to concur/approve these changes. It was **Moved/Seconded/Carried** to approve these changes.

Community Grant for Restoration of Ocotillo Lodge Portico Signage (see handout)

Carol Munro reported that the Board recently approved a \$3,500 Community Grant to the Ocotillo Lodge for the restoration of the signage on their portico. The signage reflects William Krisel's original design and hand-drawn font. It looks just as it did upon the opening of the Lodge in 1957, including backlighting of the lettering and the irregular 11-sided amorphous framing that surrounds it. Tony Vardaro, on behalf of the residents of the Ocotillo Lodge, thanked TPNO for this

grant towards the total \$15,000 cost. He said the sign restoration is a significant step in their overall efforts to restore and repair the Lodge to reflect its historic mid-century heritage.

TPNO Website: Preview of New Look

Jeffery Burnell and Larry Johnson gave a brief overview of the progress on the redesign of our TPNO website. The new version will make it easier to update the site and to navigate the site. It will be more user-friendly on a smart phone since it is more vertically based than horizontal. They showed pictures of some of the new formats and improved manageability and functionality. The goal is to launch the new site in early 2024.

Ongoing Activities

Financial Report/2023 TPNO Membership Dues

Larry Johnson, Treasurer, said that copies of the October 28, 2023 Financial Report are posted on our website, and copies are on each table. He said income to date was \$77,109.97, expenditures \$25,074.24, leaving a balance of \$52,035.73. Larry said that we are still accepting 2023 voluntary \$25 membership dues and thanked those who paid their dues today.

Walking Tours for residents (October 14th and November 4, 2023)

Carol Munro thanked Eric Chiel for his recent walking tour of the neighborhood that is free to Twin Palms residents. She asked Eric to come forward and thanked him for his ongoing efforts to provide these free periodic tours to Twin Palms residents. Eric said that the October 14th tour was well attended, and the upcoming November 4th tour only had a couple spaces left.

William Krisel Exhibit Newest Panel—Beyond Krisel

Eric Chiel pointed out that the newest panel in the Krisel Exhibit is on display today. Entitled "Beyond Krisel," this panel highlights some of the other key architects who have designed homes in Twin Palms. Eric also noted that we have also added a new video display to the Exhibit that features some of the key events and media coverage of TPNO over the past few years, including two TV news feature stories featuring Eric discussing the neighborhood and Tony Vardaro discussing the Ocotillo Lodge. Carol thanked Eric for his outstanding efforts over the years to continue to expand the Krisel Exhibit.

ONE-PS Update

Carol reported that she and several other Twin Palms residents have been attending the monthly ONE-PS meetings. She said the meetings are very informative and encouraged anyone interested in attending to check out the ONE-PS website for details on their meetings and activities. Twin Palms is one of over 50 neighborhoods organizations that belong to ONE-PS.

Planned Activities

January 20, 2024 General Membership Social Event—William Krisel Film

Planning is underway for our general membership social meeting in January. We will be showing the updated version of the 90-minute film on William Krisel at the Camelot Theatre, as organized by Michele Johnson. Carol said that this was a very informative and enjoyable film about Krisel's life and his work. The film's producers have waived their normal fee for public showings. Following the showing, there will be a reception with refreshments and a no-host bar. Eric discussed the previous Palm Springs screening of the film during Modernism Week of February 2023 as part of Modernism Week's celebration of TPNO's tenth anniversary.

February 19, 2024 Modernism Week Home Tour

Carol reported on the upcoming 2024 Modernism Tour of 6 homes. This will be our ninth Home tour since our first one in 2014. Michele Johnson, Volunteer Coordinator, said that volunteers are still needed for the tour. She noted that volunteers will get complimentary ticket to take the full tour and are invited to the volunteer after party

People who want to volunteer to help with the Tour were encouraged to fill out a Volunteer Interest form, copies of which are on each table. People can also use the form to volunteer for other TPNO volunteer opportunities.

2024 Annual Membership Meeting (Election of Advisory Board members—2-year terms)

Carol said that planning has begun for our Annual General membership meeting in Spring 2024. This will be our bi-annual meeting where we elect people to the Advisory Board for two-year terms. Anyone interested in considering running for the Board is encouraged to talk with one of the current Board members. Details about the date, time, and location will be announced in early 2024.

Guest Speaker

Mayor Grace Garner, City of Palm Springs, was the next guest speaker. She discussed the city's emergency preparedness, and how well we rode out Hurricane Hilary in August. She discussed a state grant for an Indian Canyon Drive bridge over the wash, and reminded us that a bridge on Vista Chino over the wash has been funded but not yet begun. Next she discussed airport upgrades, including utilizing local vendors so that the airport's commerce area will "look like downtown." She also discussed the new Navigation Center.

Open Membership Discussion/Public Comments

Carol Munro opened the floor for public comments and questions for the mayor. Questions/topics included homelessness, the half-built hotels, closed businesses on S Palm Canyon Drive, road pavement progress, and the ONE-PS organization.

Adjournment

Carol Munro thanked everyone for attending today. She encouraged everyone to pick up their boxed lunch and to stay and enjoy the beautiful location and interact with their neighbors.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 AM.

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APPROVED