



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP FALL MEETING MINUTES

Saturday, November 8, 2025 :: 9:45 AM :: Ocotillo Lodge Clubhouse (1111 E Palm Canyon)

Attendees Carol Munro, Michele Johnson, Tom Eich, Larry Johnson, Michael Faulkner, Tony Vardaro, David Carlson, Brad Armistead, Colleen Clark, David Ross, Eric Chiel, Tom DeSimone, Laura Dohrmann, John Ferrara, Kevin Fruhwirth, Connie Fruhwirth, Charles Zukow, Jennifer Hixon, Robert Webster, Val Jack, Ron Jack, Marcel Lajoie, Kristen Laymon, Marilyn Mwesereau, Laura Miller, Paul Rafail, Arrington Williams, Cheryl Vardaro.

Guests David Ready, Matthew MacLean

Welcome

Carol welcomed everyone to our Fall General Membership meeting. The meeting was called to order at 10:14 AM.

Introductions

Carol introduced the Advisory Board members in attendance. Then all attendees were asked to introduce themselves.

Approval of Minutes

There was a **motion and a second** to approve the minutes of the March 29, 2025 General Membership Annual Meeting. The minutes were approved.

Keynote Speaker

David Ready, Councilperson District 5, City of Palm Springs

Our District Council person discussed several topics and answered several questions. Among the things he spoke about included comparing being the city manager versus a council person. He was the city manager for 21 years in Palm Springs. He also supported the idea of adding several stop signs in the Twin Palms neighborhood. He mentioned that the South Palm Canyon bridge project is coming along and will probably take another year, but it's scheduled to be completed four months earlier than projected. He also answered questions about construction delays and some stagnant hotel projects. He mentioned that the new housing development next to the Travelodge is in a period of stasis as we await the next plans from the developer. One resident asked about installing a crossing at the intersection of Twin Palms Drive and LaVerne. He mentioned that there will be a bike lane coming on South Palm Canyon Drive in 2026 and that the Toledo

Street repaving will be done in 2026 which will include a sweeping up of sand that has been on the road for quite a while, causing a hazardous situation for bikers.

Battalion Chief Matthew MacLean, Fire Department, City of Palm Spring

Chief MacLean also discussed several topics and answered several questions. He spoke of fire department personnel staffing, which now includes 5 firehouses with four firefighters on duty 24/7/365, which is considered full staffing; several firehouses had been understaffed in the past. He did mention that the public can visit fire stations and recommended they do so to get to know their local firefighter teams. He was asked about the purpose of a red light that comes on periodically on the Firehouse #4 rolling vehicle door facing La Verne. He said he did not know why it does so or anything about it. He was also unsure why our neighborhood risk assessment has gone up, but said that those assessments come from state and county assessments, not locally. He was asked why we seem to have several red trucks now when we've always had white trucks in the past, and mentioned that the red ones are rentals. He said we have several fire trucks on order, and the red rental trucks are filling the void in the meantime. He also mentioned that neighbors can visit the city website for the fire department and that there are links to disaster preparedness including fire mitigation and earthquakes.

Accomplishments Since Last General Membership Meeting (March 2025)

Carol Munro recapped our most recent primary accomplishments.

- *Adoption of 2025-26 Organizational Objectives which encourage neighborhood identity, building a sense of community, following organization bylaws and best-business practices, and facilitating interaction with the city of Palm Springs.*
- *Community Grant to Palm Springs Modern Committee for the BEAM Program which benefits local students interested in architecture.*
- *Neighborhood Initiative Grant for Twin Palms Krisel Exhibit for repairs.*
- *October 13th Neighborhood Guided Tour for residents by Eric Chiel, which Eric offers for free to Twin Palms homeowners and business owners.*

Ongoing Activities

Financial Report – Larry Johnson, the TPNO Treasurer, discussed our reserves and how Modernism Week's new rule (where neighborhoods can only have tours every other year) will impact the organization's finances going forward.

2025 TPNO (Twin Palms Neighborhood Organization) Membership Campaign – Those in attendance were asked to consider becoming paying members of the organization, if they weren't already.

Update on Little Free Library operation, usage, and feedback – Discussion included how the library system seems to be working well and very popular, however it was noted that there have been several times when someone has depleted the library – one time removing all books – and that that is a concern. Carol mentioned she added a sign asking people to take no more than a couple of books at a time. Carol thanked resident Laura Miller, who volunteers as the librarian.

Local West Nile Virus Update – We reviewed the mosquito infestation in our neighborhood over the summer and mitigation efforts to deal with that.

ONE-PS Update – Carol invited members to explore and perhaps attend ONE-PS meetings and events.

Planned Activities

Events Calendar — January 24, 2026 Social meeting, and Spring General Membership Annual Meeting (Elections) in March or April – these items were discussed, and neighbors were invited to attend.

Twin Palms Traffic Study – Tom led a discussion about TPNO's efforts to have a study done during tourist season to see if the amount of traffic necessitates installation of stop or yield signs at several intersections. Several neighborhood intersections are uncontrolled (no stop signs in any direction).

Status/Monitoring of Potential new housing development on E Palm Canyon Drive – Neighbors were updated by Tom regarding the proposed housing development in the lot adjacent to the Travelodge. Larry, Tom, and Eric have all attended prior meetings. The project is progressing, and folks seem to be pleased that the developer has retained the services of renowned Modernist Revival architect Sean Lockyer to work on the design.

Measure J Community Initiated Projects – neighbors were asked to send the TPNO suggestions for projects that might qualify for Measure J financing.

Grants and Initiatives Ideas – neighbors were asked to send the TPNO suggestions for these projects. Previous projects were reviewed, including donations to the Plaza Theatre, the Ocotillo Lodge, the blade sign project, the monument sign, and others.

Volunteer Engagement Opportunities – neighbors were asked to consider how they could help the TPNO.

Modernism Week 2027 – It was mentioned that we were already in the planning stages for the February 2027 neighborhood tour, and neighbors were asked to consider offering their homes. We will be celebrating the 70th anniversary of our neighborhood during Modernism Week events in 2027 and will have several events besides the tour.

Open Membership Discussion/Public Comments

Several owners complimented the Board and thanked them for their service.

Tony Vardaro talked about improvements and restoration work that has been done at the Ocotillo Lodge and encouraged donations or for neighbors to consider buying some Ocotillo Lodge branded merchandise that was for sale in the lobby.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45.