

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**CITY OF GLENDALE**  
**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION ON NEIGHBORHOODS**  
**Glendale City Hall**  
**5850 W. Glendale Avenue**  
**Wednesday, November 7, 2012**  
**6:00 p.m.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Barbara Cole - Chair  
John Geurs – Vice Chair  
Carl Dietzman  
Alfred Dixon  
Melissa Neighbors  
Manuel Cruz  
Cathy Corella  
Rebecca Ontiveros

MEMBERS ABSENT: Josh Marshall

STAFF PRESENT: Sam McAllen, Code Compliance Director  
Angie Wilkie, Neighborhood Services Coordinator  
Paul Hernandez, Code Compliance Assistant Director

**I. Call to Order**

Chair Cole called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

**II. Roll Call**

Chair Cole conducted roll call and noted that Commissioners Marshall and Neighbors were not present.

**III. Approval of Minutes – September 5, 2012**

**Commissioner Cruz motioned to approve the September 5, 2012 meeting minutes as written. Commissioner Geurs made the second. The motion passed 7 - 0. [Commissioner Neighbors was not yet present.]**

**IV. Business From the Floor**

Mr. McAllen stated that a display of upcoming events and informational City pamphlets was set up in the meeting room for the Commissioners.

Commissioner Dixon thanked Commissioner Cruz for his willingness to run for Mayor. Commissioner Cruz replied that he was honored to run for the position.

**V. Follow-Up on Business from September 5, 2012 Meeting**

Mr. McAllen stated that Ms. Rosie Miller attended the September meeting to express concerns regarding the bee attack at her neighbor's home and to inquire about City code

for the keeping of bees. Ms. Miller initially was told by another City department that the City did not have a code regarding the keeping of bees. Mr. McAllen commented that Staff researched the issue and will be presenting follow-up information at this meeting. Mr. McAllen noted that Ms. Miller was previously given the information that will be presented tonight.

Mr. Hernandez explained that the City does in deed have a zoning ordinance that deals with bees. Mr. Hernandez noted that bees are allowed on A1 Zoning, which is agricultural property. Mr. Hernandez commented that agricultural properties are typically larger farms and ranches which are allowed to have horses, cows, farm animals and raise crops. Mr. Hernandez explained that the zoning code does not specifically state that bees are allowed but that bees are a common agricultural accessory.

Mr. Hernandez commented that the property that the bees were on is zoned R16 and the City does not allow bees on this type of property. Mr. Hernandez noted that, because the bees were in the backyard, Code Compliance would not have known about the bees unless a neighbor called in.

Mr. Hernandez explained that on the day of the incident, he received a call from the Glendale Police Department asking for City Code regarding the keeping of bees. Mr. Hernandez provided the police with the General Nuisance Code which has been used in the past regarding the keeping of bees. The General Nuisance Code basically states that a resident cannot have anything on their property which is a danger to their neighbors or detracts from another's enjoyment of their own property. Mr. Hernandez asked the police officer if a Code Compliance Staff member should be at the property and the police officer declined the offer. Mr. Hernandez called the officer again at a later time to see if a Staff member on site was needed, but the officer stated that the situation was under control.

Commissioner Dietzman stated that the incident occurred near 58<sup>th</sup> and Morton.

Commissioner Geurs noted that Ms. Miller had inquired if there was anything in the City Code which would allow the victim to recoup treatment costs from the offending neighbor. Mr. McAllen replied that the police officer does have a right to issue as citation, but the issue of recouping hospital expenses would have to be handled by a court of law.

Mr. McAllen added that the General Nuisance Code is the most commonly written violation. If a resident is served with this violation and does not comply, Staff can serve the resident with a civil citation and a judge can decide to fine the resident. Mr. McAllen noted that the highest fine currently allowed is \$300.00.

Chair Cole asked for clarification of issues not visible from the street. Mr. McAllen explained that Code Staff must be able to see the violation from a right-of-way, unless it is a public safety issue such as a green pool or beehive. In that case, if a neighbor calls in the violation, Code Staff can then tackle the issue. Mr. McAllen noted that in the recent bee case, the resident brought bee boxes onto the property. Mr. McAllen stressed that the best tool in Code Compliance is education.

Chair Cole wondered what course of action the bee victim could take against the offending neighbor. Mr. McAllen replied that the victim could take the case to civil court.

Commissioner Cruz wondered if the Commission could recommend more clarified wording regarding the keeping of bees to have included in City Code. Mr. McAllen explained that the re-wording of zoning would actually fall under the Planning Commission.

Commissioner Dietzman wondered who would be responsible for a swarm of bees in a vacant house. Mr. McAllen replied that anything that occurs on a property is the responsibility of the homeowner. Mr. McAllen added that there is a professional beekeeper who does work with the City and will provide bee removal free of charge for those who need bees removed. Commissioner Dietzman suggested that Mr. McAllen share this contact with the Police and Fire Departments.

## **VI. Update on Neighborhood Activities that Took Place during October**

[Commissioner Neighbors entered the meeting at 6:25 p.m.]

Ms. Wilkie provided an update on October Neighborhood Activities, which included the following information:

- In September, there were 15 volunteer activities.
- In October, there were 25 volunteer activities.
- For both September and October, there were 1,000 volunteers in total.
- The Rock-n-Roll Paint-A-Thon was the biggest event in October. Seventeen homes were painted over two different weekends.
  - The Vineyard Church painted five homes on one morning at the Blue Sky Mobile Home Park with the help of 100 volunteers. Furthermore, the Vineyard Church brought professional landscapers who belong to the Church. They trimmed the palm trees, removed dead trees and pulled weeds. Lunch was served to all volunteers and community residents.
  - The Community Church of Joy coordinated a project in its adopted neighborhood: the Heart of Glendale. Five homes were painted with the help of approximately 200 volunteers from the Community Church of Joy, the Grand Canyon University Baseball Team, the Grand Canyon Explorers and the New Life Church. Afterward, there was a party in the park with food and refreshments.
  - Faith Bible Church worked in its adopted neighborhood: Grenada Estates. House painting and clean up was completed. On October 31<sup>st</sup>, a Halloween Party was held in the neighborhood at which there was food and music. Approximately 75 families attended the event which was intended to build relationships.

Ms. Wilkie expressed gratitude to Rebuilding Together, which is an agency that donates all of the paint and supplies for the Rock-N-Roll Paint-A-Thon.

Chair Cole asked if the empty lot next to Grenada Estates has been kept tidy since the previous clean up. Ms. Wilkie replied in the positive.

Ms. Wilkie reported on GAIN Night:

- Ms. Wilkie and Mr. McAllen attended a few neighborhood parties.
- There were approximately 50 events that evening.
- The night was organized by the Glendale Police Department.

- On GAIN Night, three new neighborhoods were registered for a total of 195 registered neighborhoods.

Chair Cole stated that she attended a few GAIN events and had a very nice time. Chair Cole also showed up to participate at the Paint-A-Thon in the Heart of Glendale.

Mr. McAllen reported on the following for October:

- There were 25 volunteer activities.
- There were 620 volunteers who participated.
- The total volunteer hours logged reached 3,250 hours.

Mr. McAllen thanked all of the Commissioners who were able to attend the GAIN Kick-Off and visit the GAIN Night parties.

Ms. Wilkie announced that the Central Christian Church has adopted the Shamrock Mobile Home Park and will hold its first volunteer event on Serve Day in 2013.

Ms. Wilkie stated that November 17, 2012 is the Annual National Family Volunteer Day.

- The purpose of this day is to encourage families to volunteer together.
- Ms. Wilkie is working with Mr. Ken Ross in Code Compliance on the project.
- The focus will be on Karen Drive from 44<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- A \$1,000 grant was received from GenerationON, which is part of the Points of Light Foundation.
- The project will include painting houses, painting house numbers on curbs, yard cleaning and a celebration afterward.
- All Commissioners are invited to volunteer.

Commissioner Cruz volunteered for the Rock-N-Roll Paint-A-Thon and stated that it was a very rewarding experience and amazing to see so many volunteers helping others. Commissioner Cruz added that the result is an increased sense of neighborhood pride and a ripple effect whereby residents want to continue to upkeep their yards and homes.

## **VII. Identified Department Budget Reductions**

Mr. McAllen discussed the recently proposed budget reductions, which included the following information:

- The Budget process included various City Council Workshops, four Public Meetings and various outreach to City agencies, departments and Commissions.
- Reductions in the Neighborhood Partnerships Office include the following:
  - A reduction from five employees to one employee.
  - A freeze on any non-mandatory spending.
  - There will not be a traditional Holiday Event, Leadership Forum or Spark Awards.
  - Education programs, such as the HOA University and Glendale University will have reduced scheduling. Most likely only offered once a year.
  - A reduction in supply expense.
- Other City departments have eliminated vacant positions.
- The CAP Office will move back into City Hall from an off-site location.

- There will be a reduction in the funding to CASS and the YWCA from the City's General Fund. The agencies will still apply for CDBG federal funding in January 2013.

Mr. McAllen stressed that Staff is working hard to reduce spending while maintaining service levels.

#### **VIII. Neighborhood Newsletters**

Ms. Wilkie stated that in September, a new online template for neighborhood newsletters was rolled out to the public and presented to the Commission.

Ms. Wilkie announced that six neighborhoods have contacted Staff regarding the new templates and the following neighborhoods have actually used the templates:

- Thunderbird Palms
- Chaparral Ranch I
- Desert Sunset
- Sands Estates
- Monarch Point

Ms. Wilkie reported that 1,500 newsletters were mailed since September 2012. Ms. Wilkie noted that the neighborhoods are allotted two free newsletters per year.

Ms. Wilkie noted that the Commissioners are emailed each neighborhood newsletters and samples were also brought to tonight's meeting for review.

#### **IX. National Family Volunteer Day**

Previously discussed.

#### **X. Discussion About December and January Meetings**

Mr. McAllen suggested that since the budget for the traditional Holiday Event has been eliminated, a smaller, simpler gathering could be held during the Commission meeting whereby small snacks and refreshments could be served. Mr. McAllen proposed only officially inviting fifty people or less to the meeting which would be intended to thank those people who have been heavily involved in neighborhood rebuilding, leadership or improvement. Mr. McAllen stressed that the meeting could not be held in any room which had to be paid for since there was no budget for rental expense.

Commissioner Geurs suggested the cafeteria at City Hall. Mr. McAllen will follow-up on this suggestion. Ms. Wilkie stated that the lobby of the Council Chambers might be a good location as well.

Commissioner Geurs suggested that all Commissioners contact local businesses for donations of food and refreshments or for a sponsorship of the event.

Mr. McAllen and Ms. Wilkie will work on the guest list and invitations. Mr. McAllen noted that because the night would still be an official Commission meeting, members of the general public would be welcome to attend as well.

**The Commissioners agreed to hold the Holiday meeting/event on December 5<sup>th</sup> 2012 by consensus.**

**Commissioner Dietzman motioned to hold a Commission meeting on January 2, 2013 as would be regularly scheduled. Commissioner Neighbors made the second. The motion passed 8 - 0.**

**XI. Adjournment**

Mr. McAllen announced that Commissioner Marshall did call in to state that he was unable to attend this evening's meeting. Commissioner Geurs wondered if Staff had found any Bylaws for the Commission. Mr. McAllen stated that there are no Bylaws for this Commission so the Commission follows the City's General Boards and Commissions Rules which state that if a Commissioner has missed two or more consecutive meetings, the Council has the option to remove the Commissioner. Commissioner Geurs wondered if an email could be sent to all Commissioners regarding an upcoming, planned absence and if that would violate Open Meeting Laws. Mr. McAllen will follow up on this inquiry.

Commissioner Corrella enjoyed the meeting and Commissioners Cruz and Dietzman agreed.

Commissioner Geurs announced that Councilmember Clark asked him to serve as Vice Chair and he will be sworn in on November 13, 2012. The other Commissioners congratulated Commissioner Geurs.

Commissioner Ontiveros apologized for missing the last meeting.

Commissioner Dixon stated that he learned a great deal from the meeting.

Chair Cole enjoyed the Rock-n-Roll Paint-A-Thon and the GAIN Night events.

**Commissioner Dixon motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m. Commissioner Cruz made the second. The motion passed 8 - 0.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Kazmierczak