

**Thousand Palms Community Council Minutes**


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Thousand Palms Community Center  
31189 Robert Rd, Thousand Palms, CA 92276**September 30, 2010****Find these minutes on line at [www.rivco4.org](http://www.rivco4.org) 1**

<b>In Attendance:</b>	X	Bob Alcumbrac, Chairman
		Karen Esposito, Vice Chairman
	X	Patricia Saleh, Secretary
	X	Roy Nokes, Council Member
	X	Greg Pinney, Council Member
	X	Michael Gialdini, Liaison to 4 <sup>th</sup> District Supervisor John Benoit
<b>Call to Order:</b>		Chairman Bob Alcumbrac called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. After the roll call and the Pledge of Allegiance he called for the approval of minutes. Minutes were approved as written for both May 27 and June 24, 2010. He then called for Staff Reports.
		<b>Mike Gialdini</b> – Explained that he is the liaison to Supervisor John Benoit. He gave the State of The County meeting report that he attended this morning. The report stated that the economy is weaker and less funds are coming into the County. They've had to cut services. Otherwise most of the services have continued. Youth groups can make money by helping the County clean up areas that need it. He then gave an overview of the upcoming presentation on Cathedral City's impending sphere request over the western flank of Thousand Palms and the new proposal they made to LAFCO that Cathedral City would consider taking all of Thousand Palms.
<b>STAFF REPORTS</b>	A.	<b>Riverside County Sheriff's Department</b>
		Reporting: <b>Deputy Lori Hardcastle</b>
		Announced that Lt. Bill Sullivan will be taking over for her in this area. She has been reassigned to Palm Desert. Introduced Sargeant Darrin Oliver, Watch 3, the Supervisor of the Swing Shift. Oliver gave an overview of burglaries in Tri-Palms. Since Sept 1, 2010 nine burglaries were reported in Shenandhoah Springs/Tri Palm Estates. Based on similar geographic areas the crimes appeared to be related. Based on what he's seen, the burglars were saturating the area but have now gone. In his experience he's worked in Desert Hot Springs and other places and what he's seen is that burglaries come in cycles--he doesn't know if it's kids – but then they leave the area. Roy Nokes asked if we'll get a new County Security Officer in Thousand Palms. Oliver said that Lt. Sullivan is working to get another CSO, whether it's Lori Hardcastle or someone else. He said that due to the budget it's going to be a little harder right now. Attendee Thomas Hughes asked if it was the 55+ section of Tri-Palms that was being hit, and Oliver said it was in the family section. Attendee Jan Carlton asked if there are a lot of problems with the park here at night. Oliver said no. Don Donnelly asked if the Council would make a resolution to get a new CSO in this area. Mike Gialdini said that this wasn't necessary that he will ask the Supervisor to request the CSO.
	C.	<b>Code Enforcement</b>
		Reporting: Senior Officer Eddy Delgado
		After he reported on the current code cases ongoing in Thousand Palms, Patricia Saleh asked if Code Enforcement had started ticketing in front of Della Lindley School. He said that because they do not have jurisdiction to do more than cite for parking violations. Karla Wilson thanked him for helping in Tri-Palms. There are 40 opened cases in Tri-Palms in the family section. Delgado, referring back to the

		<p>student safety problem in front of the school, said he can talk to Transportation about putting signs up not to park in front the houses in front of the school.</p> <p>Betty Weiss said that there are people coming in on trash day and going through her trash, and she's actually had people going up to her porch and take boxes she was going to use away. She also reported that too often people allow their grandchildren or children to drive the golf carts. She saw one situation that was extremely dangerous where children could have been hurt. She lives on Acupulco. Another attendee who also lives in Tri-Palms said that she heard that Code Enforcement would ticket vehicles that are not registered and are being left on the streets for days. He said that CE does have a 72-hour rule. "When I have to ticket I do but I try not to do it if I don't have to," he said.</p>
	D.	<b>CalFire/Roy Wilson Fire Station in Thousand Palms</b>
		Reporting: Gretchen Gonzales
		<p>We had a rather busy August -116 calls, 60% were medical, the others being traffic collisions. No fires here in Thousand Palms. An attendee asked if the station would allow a child to come visit. Gonzales said that it's a public facility so you can knock on the door and if she's there she'll open the door. Don Donnelly thanked Gonzales indicating that when his wife Betty had heart palpitations he took her to the station and they tested her. An audience member asked if we could have earthquake preparedness meetings here. Gonzales will look into it and announce it at a Council meeting in the future. Another fireman stated that certification training is available through the County</p>
<b>UNFINISHED BUSINESS</b>	A.	<b>Redevelopment Funds</b>
		Reporting: <b>Liza Lizarraga</b>
		<p>Lizarraga reported the EDA has awarded an architectural firm, STK Architects, with the job of creating architectural guidelines for Thousand Palms. Roy asked if we can come together and talk about the guidelines. She said that they will be discussing the guidelines at forthcoming community council meetings. Alcumbrac asked her if it's possible to put a monument sign on Monterey leading into Thousand Palms. Projects currently up for design approval for façade improvements are the Ranch Market, Oasis Bar and Emmett Trailers. She explained the façade program for those who may not be familiar with it. Bob Alcumbrac said that although the Council received drawings of these façade improvements by e-mail it hasn't had the time to review them. Gialdini said they can be put on the October agenda.</p>
<b>NEW BUSINESS</b>	A.	<b>KPSP Channel 2 has new Thousand Palms section on KPSP Web site</b>
		Reporting: David Stern
		<p>David Stern of KPSP Channel 2 reported that the TV station has a new Web site dedicated to Thousand Palms. People interested in posting event fliers or other news about Thousand Palms can upload them at the site.</p>
	B.	<b>Rotation of Thousand Palms Community Council Offices</b>
		Reporting: Mike Gialdini
		<p>Community Council officers are rotated each year. In compliance with that tradition Chairman Bob Alcumbrac nominated Karen Esposito as chairman. Patricia Saleh nominated Greg Pinney as Vice Chairman and then asked if she could remain as secretary since she will be taking minutes anyway to report to community</p>

		organizations. Gialdini said she could. Nokes and Alcumbrac will be council members.
<b>PUBLIC COMMENTS</b>		<p><b>Saleh</b> announced that the Della Lindley School PTG will be holding a McTeachers Night fundraiser at McDonald’s in Thousand Palms on Oct. 7. McDonalds will donate a portion of all funds raised to the PTG to be used on behalf of Della Lindley School.</p> <p><b>Saleh</b> also reported that Palm Springs Unified School Board candidates Craig Borba and Karen Cornett announced at the last Thousand Palms/Desert Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce Mixer that the Pinnacle Fund will be the beneficiary of a fundraising golf tournament where golfers can choose to play for the school of their choice. Funds will be used to supply the winning school with computer and other technology upgrades. There is, Borba said, a million-dollar prize in play for a hole in one. Local golfers are encouraged to participate.</p>
<b>COMMITTEE REPORTS</b>	A.	<b>Desert Recreation District Presentation</b>
		Reporting: <b>Rob Carson</b> , Thousand Palms Community Center Coordinator
		Carson reported that participation has tripled at the Community Center’s after-school program since the District lowered its per-child fee to \$25 a month. He also said that participation in classes has tripled, particularly for Zumba and yoga lessons. The baseball pony league currently playing at Big League Dreams in Cathedral City is working on moving to the Thousand Palms park to benefit from its central location and lower charges to parents. Carson said that the Center had 1,159 units of service this month, double what it was last month.
	B.	<b>Thousand Palms Preservation Action Group Report</b>
		Deferred to Agenda Item D
	C.	<b>Crossing Guard for Della Lindley School</b>
		Reporting: Saleh
		<p>Saleh read correspondence from Roy Hill, Director of Security for Palm Springs Unified School District reported that he and PSUSD Transportation Director John Biggie both observed traffic in front of Della S. Lindley Elementary School on September 13 and found that the “vehicular/pedestrian/bus traffic was heavy for approximately 10-12 minutes at the end of school, but the amount of adult presence and supervision of their students was exceptional. He said that, “The City Police Departments provide school crossing guards at many of our elementary schools located within the City limits of Palm Springs, Cathedral City and Desert Hot Springs, if the County chooses to provide a crossing guard, that would be their decision.” Saleh reported that she replied to him that it is her concern that watching the traffic problem for one day might not hold true for the rest of the school year. She asked if Code Enforcement has started to ticket adults who endanger the safety of students by calling them across Robert Road to their cars and he has not as yet replied, but he did say that he is still working on the problem through another route, Safe Routes to Schools. Della Lindley PTG President Bill Senso reported to Saleh that Code Enforcement has not started ticketing.</p>
	D.	<b>Discussion of current Sphere of Influence application by Cathedral City and discussion of potential Sphere of Influence over all of Thousand Palms</b>

		<p>Leading the discussion was: George Spiliotis (Local Agency Formation Commission); Tina Grande (RivCo Exec Office) and Alex Gann (RivCo Exec Office), Leisa Lukes (Cathedral City Planning Director), Andy Hall (Cathedral City Public Outreach and Development Director), Greg Pettis (Cathedral City Councilman), Bud England (Cathedral City Councilman), and Riverside County 4<sup>th</sup> District Department representatives. A PowerPoint presentation was prepared jointly by Cathedral City representatives, Patricia Saleh of the Thousand Palms Preservation Action Group and Michael Gialdini, liaison for Thousand Palms to Supervisor John Benoit. Attendees were given the opportunity to ask questions and get answers on Cathedral City potentially annexing all of Thousand Palms. Future town hall meetings will be held.</p>
		<p><b>Update on I-10 Corridor Improvement Meeting on Signage</b></p>
		<p>Reporting: Ren Annelle</p>
		<p>Ren Annelle, owner of Little Sisters Truck Wash, announced that the next I-10 Corridor signage meeting will be held on Oct. 7 at 6 PM at Safe House of the Desert in Thousand Palms.</p>
<b>NEW BUSINESS</b>	A.	<p><b>KPSP Channel 2 has new Thousand Palms section on KPSP Web site</b></p>
		<p>Reporting: David Stern</p>
		<p>David Stern of KPSP Channel 2 reported that the TV station has a new Web site dedicated to Thousand Palms. People interested in posting event fliers or other news about Thousand Palms can upload them at the site.</p>
		<p><b>Mark Weber</b> introduced himself as the new director of the Enterprise Zone and said that the Enterprise Zone is very targeted on helping businesses down by Rio del Sol and Varner.</p>
<b>AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING</b>		<p>RDA Façade Improvements</p>
<b>ADJOURN MEETING</b>		<p>Saleh moved to adjourn. Nokes seconded. Adjourned at 9:05 PM</p>
<b>NEXT MEETING</b>		<p>October 28, 2010, 6:00 PM</p>
		<p>Respectfully submitted,</p> <p> Patricia Saleh, Thousand Palms Community Council Secretary, 760-343-2440</p>