

THOUSAND PALMS COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Thousand Palms Community Center
31189 Robert Road, Thousand Palms, CA 92276
Find these minutes on line at www.rivco4.org
5-26-2022


	In Attendance:		Christopher Mitchell , Chairman, absent
		X	Bill Senso , Vice Chairman, conducting
		X	Patricia Saleh , Secretary
		X	Alice Tibbetts , Council Member
		X	Samantha Wright-Watts , Council Member
		X	Alexis Perez , Liaison to 4th District Supervisor Perez, 760-863-8211
	Call to Order:		Vice Chairman Bill Senso opened the meeting at 6:01 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Secretary Patricia Saleh-Swaim called the roll. Senso asked for a vote to approve the minutes. Minutes accepted as written.
	Council Reports:		Senso reported that the Thousand Palms Chamber Mixer at the Palm Springs Air Museum had 500 people attending. On June 8, there will be a Bingo mixer at the Chamber office with food provided by Jersey Mike's. 19th Hole will be the next mixer July 13, 2022.
	Staff Reports:		Alexis Perez reporting : Updates: Offroad Participation Survey: They don't have the finalized summary. Approved Cannabis dispensaries (21+) and (F2). Senso said that Canyon Road was approved and is scheduled to open this week. Bulldog is ready to open and Catalyst had one of its dispensaries approved. They're ready to open. Thousand Palms Canyon Road is in progress. Portola Overpass progress: It is on hold due to lack of funding and right of way permission. Another project at Miguelito and Desert Moon is lacking funding but asking for funding, per Tibbetts. Sidewalk has been built near Monterey and San Miguelito. A sidewalk is desperately needed there.
	Sheriff's Dept.		Sargeant Gelinis reporting March 2022 1,231, calls for service; 2021 there were 19 burglaries and in 2022 there are 22.
	Hwy Patrol		NA
	CHP		Officer Espinosa reporting: Does not have too much to report. He wants people to keep reporting on the abandoned vehicles in the area. They have checked one out on Haskill Road. Not much more to report. Senso said that the RV on Hesper Road was removed from one place and another has been parked on Monterey. No one can be evicted from their own RV but they can be asked to move.
	Fire Dept:		NA

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	Code Enforcement:	NA—Wright asked if we can come back to Code Enforcement to see if CE is in attendance for the homeless encampment. Alexis will follow up.
	Desert Recreation Department:	Ana Velasquez reporting: June 3, there will be a new senior program at 10 AM at the Thousand Palms Community Center. There will be the End of Year Celebration, also on June 3. The chamber has partially funded the Water Day portion of the celebration from 8 AM to 6 pm. She has recently hired two sports instructors. One is a specialist in basketball and 1 in soccer.
	Cathedral City Econ Develop.	NA—Stone James will be available at 7 pm. James reporting: Director of Economic Development. The City of Cathedral City has been having dramatic growth, and projects that were sitting idle for a long time are now active. Downtown is doing very well. They've been working on programming and building a structure on the north side of the freeway. Corporations inquiring and will bring utilities across the freeway. They will be updating the plans they currently have for north of the freeway. Saleh asked for update on Annexation. Stone replied that the City Council has asked for a financial analysis of the potential for annexation. What would be prohibitive will be the cost of maintaining or improving the services. Bond to 2030 and any time in the near future there will be exhaustive discussions. The current Cathedral City council is thinking that bonds from redevelopment money will cover the costs of the inbetween area. Wright responded that right now the Acrisure Arena is marketed as Coachella Valley, and current address is Thousand Palms. The Classic Club address says Palm Desert, but the Arena is Thousand Palms.
	New Business:	Acrisure Arena and Firebird Hockey Traffic Report by Riverside County Transportation Department :Traffic Engineer Kevin Tsang Reporting: Giving update on Arena project traffic managing planning. The project itself was approved with a condition that they present a management plan 180 days prior to any event before they can hold the event. They have many events between 2 to 5 PM. G-week basketball is between 10 and 11 AM in the off peak hours. So far they have not submitted a traffic plan, Philip Rumsford replied that the traffic report for the grand opening on Dec. 22,2022 will be submitted it in mid June.
		Acrisure Ice Rink: William Deiter reporting: It is beginning to take shape. They expect to be fully enclosed and dried in by November 1. On the inside of the building 98 percent of walls are framed and boarded. Parking lot is being built. West and South parking lots are being built. Ice equipment, 30-foot long, has been delivered to the inside of the building. The first concrete floor will be poured next week. They have actually started prepping for the arena. All underground utilities are in on the side. IID trucks have arranged feeders on Cook at Varner, and they will then head east.
		Disaster Preparedness Network: Carla Sullivan-Dilley reporting Non-profit organization to provide the citizens of the Coachella Valley with disaster preparedness. The initial focus was mobile home parks and they have a good working relationship with first responders. 6-hour disaster plan program available. The Listos Grant provided them with information they can distribute to 128,000 people. They coordinate with FEMA and the local emergency services, American Red Cross. CVDPN.org provides information. They will continue to expand their resource library. They are the resource network for this valley and soon to be for this region.

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	NEW BUSINESS (Continued)	CV Disaster Preparedness Network: Carla Sullivan-Dilley reporting (Con.) Anna Valasquez is on their board. They started with the 9 cities and they're now expanding into the unincorporated areas. They are support to all the emergency services. They only share what the experts tell them. 911, when they have a catastrophic event, will not be there. If all people are prepared and have a plan, they will be able to take care of each other. Her email cvdpn.org. Saleh asked if Find or any other food supply organization will be available to help people in the unincorporated areas. They know that people are living day-to-day and it's not realistic to think that they can stockpile food in advance to just let it sit there. No complete answer yet.
	Meet. Schd. 2022:	September 22, November 17.
	Public Comments:	Rick, homeowner off Robert Road, reported that they are drowning in sand. At times the County has come out and bulldozed the sand, but not in years. They've sent people out to tie up the fences, etc. but he's digging out the neighbors' gutters and it's becoming exhausting. They live in the newest tract in Thousand Palms but he feels they look like the oldest. He is also concerned that offroad vehicles are using the piled up sand to drive their vehicles. He and his wife are considering moving out of Thousand Palms because of the sand intrusion. He's afraid that Cathedral City won't want to take over Thousand Palms and he'd like to see the infrastructure improved. Tibbetts said to remind the attendees that Thousand Palms runs all the way to Washington Street. Senso reported that Anna with the DRD was going to talk to her boards about the Community park that they are planning. Rick said that he knows that we can't stop the sand, but it could be helped 80% by the park that DRD said would be put in. We need help, he said. A big wind event will occur again this weekend. He will spend the weekend shoveling sand and helping his neighbors. Wright asked about the contributions that were expected to be contributed by the Cannabis Club. Alexis said she would look into it.
	Agenda Items for Next Meeting:	Noble and IID Community Solar report Dispensaries in the business park areas of Thousand Palms previously approved. Traffic Plan for the Arena being line item Number 9 as a permanent addition to the agenda for the next year. Noise problem on Desert Moon. BBQ at corner of Varner and Ramon.
	Adjournment:	Saleh-Swaim moved to adjourn at 7:27 PM. Senso seconded. Meeting adjourned. Next meeting: September 22, 2022
		Respectfully Submitted,  <hr/> Patricia Saleh, Thousand Palms Community Council Secretary