

CITY OF COMMERCE
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES FOR MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 13, 2019, 6:30 P.M.
City Council Chambers

Call to Order

Chairperson Gonzalez called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.

Flag Salute and Invocation

Commissioner Acosta led the flag salute and invocation.

Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Baker, Acosta, Gonzalez, Viesca

Commissioners Not Present: Equihua, Jr.

Staff Present: Liaison Shumway, Clerk Meneses

Staff Not Present: None

Public Comment

None

SCHEDULED MATTERS

1. **Approval of Minutes**

Commissioner Viesca motioned to approve the minutes of the meetings held October 11, 2018 and January 10, 2019. Commissioner Acosta seconded the motion. All present were in favor, motion passed. Yays: Baker, Acosta, Gonzalez, Viesca. Nays: None.

2. **Continuance of Discussion on Strategies to Enhance the Neighborhood Watch Program, Block Captains Participation, and Establish Guidelines for Selection of National Night Out 2019 Parties.**

ComCats and Block Captains were in attendance tonight.

Commissioners received a memo stating the following: 84 Block Captains are on the list; 8 attended a recent meeting; regular meetings will be held; and Block Captains/ComCats were invited to tonight's meeting.

The memo's recommendations for National Night Out: Only active Block Captains can host a party, by lottery system; City will sponsor 8 parties & extra parties by Block Captains will be self-funded; parties could be merged into 1 location; parties must start by 6pm (except for Sr. Center).

Commissioners also suggested: In the same neighborhood, have parties at opposite ends to have more attendance; incorporate more neighborhoods.

Vice-Chairperson Viesca motioned to recommend to Council the ideas presented above. Chairperson Baker seconded the motion. All present were in favor, motion passed. Yays: Baker, Acosta, Gonzalez, Viesca. Nays: None.

3. **Staff Reports**

NW = Neighborhood Watch

Liaison Shumway reported the following:

- **On-line Reports** – we are looking at implementing an app for residents to report problems on-line, when our new website goes **live**.
- **Illegal Fireworks** – A NW meeting was held on 2/28 to address complaints of fireworks at Ayers/Bandini.
- **Homeless Count** – Commissioners assisted, and we had a count of 160. An ordinance was passed for “no living in vehicles” and “no overnight parking.” Enforcement will begin in March.
*Commissioner Acosta requested an agenda item to discuss a strategic plan for the homeless who are displaced after enforcement. She suggested staff contact District Attorney Lacey’s office for information on mental health help available.

4. **Commission Reports**

Commissioner Acosta reported/stated the following:

- Requested an update on the Ferguson wall
- Inquired about the sidewalks that were approved for Ferguson Drive
- Her military vet friend cannot obtain a picture for the banner program.
*Moyra Garcia will reach out to her
- There are still issues with stop signs at Gaspar/Ferguson. Big rigs, busses, & cars not stopping at stop signs. Residents requested stop signs be placed elsewhere. Requested a traffic report at the next meeting.
- Athens Trash picks up trash at 6am (too early), instead of 8.
- City should have a plan to address the 2028 Olympics
- Requested a status on the roosters in her area

Vice-Chairperson Viesca reported/stated the following:

- He attended the Block Captain Mtg.
- He participated in the Homeless Count
- Requested last year’s crime report for Commerce, to deploy CSO deployment to areas that need it.
- CSO Ride-alongs should be available to show residents what CSO’s do.

Commissioner Baker stated that:

- We should have a plan to address derogatory thoughts of CSO's & Sheriff's
- Inquired about the alternatives to the Bell Shelter
- We need a plan to help the homeless, such as hiring them to clean streets

Chairperson Gonzalez reported the following:

- Residents want the CSO's & deputies to engage more with the community.
- Suggested we have a donuts & badges meet and greet
- Thanked the ComCats for attending the Block Captain meeting
- He participated in the Homeless Count
- Asked if the City could have a re-entry program
- Requested that we promote the Teen ComCat Program & offer school credit, if possible.
- Suggested a Youth Days Program and collaborate with Parks & Rec

Public Comment – Re-opened

David Diaz, 7343 Neenah

Guerrero Forklifts owner creates dangerous situations by having 20 forklifts on the street. He also causes rat infestations in the area. He questioned why the owner is given privileges yet others cannot park their cars on the street.

Adjournment

7:34 p.m., Chairperson Gonzalez adjourned the meeting.