

CITY OF COMMERCE
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES FOR MEETING HELD: FEBRUARY 13, 2020, 6:30 P.M.
City Council Chambers

Call to Order:

Commissioner Gonzalez called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Flag Salute and Invocation:

Commissioner Equihua

Roll Call:

Commissioners Present: Gonzalez, Viesca, Equihua

Staff Present: Liaison Vilko Domic; Code Enforcement Supervisor Ralph Vivero; Senior Office Specialist Liz Chavez

Public Comment:

None

SCHEDULED MATTERS

1. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Gonzalez motioned to approve minutes of the meeting held November 14, 2019. Commissioner Viesca seconded the motion. Motion passed.
Yays: Gonzalez, Viesca, Equihua Nays: None

2. Presentation Update by MIG Consultant Lisa Brownfield

MIG Consultant Lisa Brownfield gave a presentation on the City's General Plan. The City is looking at developmental growth for the next 15-20 years. MIG has done some community outreach over the last year and have had workshops over on Everington Street, Farrar Street and Atlantic Boulevard; Teen Center; National Night Out; Senior Center and at the 4th of July celebration. Surveys were sent out to residents and a total of 250 were returned. Most of the feedback was to see Supermarkets, housing, Restaurants, Movie Theatre, Commercial or Office space. The primary response from the surveys was to reduce noise from businesses, reduce traffic. Other questions on the survey were to add a walking and biking trails at the parks, to improve a healthier way of life for the community. The Industrial Council will set up meetings with the businesses to get their input.

MIG will be evaluating community centers and recreation centers. Another part of the project is called "Snap Shot" which will show how Commerce is right now. Questions were also brought up about law enforcement, which will be on the Snap Shot as well. In concluding the presentation; Community workshops will continue as well as the electronic surveys. MIG is also interested to hear what the Commissioners thoughts are. This concluded the presentation.

Commissioner Viesca stated that MIG seems to have it under control, but that the amount of surveys they received was low. He also stated that maybe in the future, in regards to the surveys, they could come up with a different approach to get a hire number of surveys from the residents. He

also suggested the use of the city's social network page to get a better idea as to what everyone wants in the future.

Commissioner Viesca mentioned he has not seen any of the surveys. MIG Consultant stated they will reach out to social networking.

Commissioner Gonzalez thanked MIG Consultant for the presentation and mentioned he had attended some of those meetings and he'll spread the word to the residents. Ms. Brownfield stated that the more residents they can reach the better. This concluded the General Update from MIG.

3. Discussion: City of Commerce Crime Statistics in Residential Areas

Sergeant Larry Villareal presented the residential crime stats in the various areas in Commerce. In the Bandini area crime is slightly up with property crimes and burglaries and a couple of stolen vehicles.

Bristow Park area assaults were slightly up in 2019, sometimes gang related issues. Rosewood area theft is slightly up. Veteran's park vehicle theft is slightly up.

Commissioner Viesca asked if it would be possible to have some of the CSO's help out from midnight to 5 or 6 a.m. Sergeant Villareal stated that there are no specific times that car thefts and crimes happen. He stated that these crimes could be happening between (7pm and 5am). Commissioner Gonzalez mentioned that in the Bristow Park area there has been a couple of shootings, gang related in that area as well. He mentioned that the Sheriffs have a tough job out there and thanked them for their work.

4. Discussion: Traffic Mitigating Efforts in Bristow Area

Public Works Director Daniel Hernandez gave an update to the Commission about traffic mitigating efforts in the Bristow Area. Stop Signs with Flashing Lights will help in the area of Triggs and Duncan. Cars seem to speed in that area and they pass the stop sign. The flashing lights should get their attention. A recommendation was made for the same stop signs at Marianna and Eastern. Right now the main focus is East of Bristow Park. Commissioner Gonzalez thanked him for his presentation.

5. Discussion: Ways to Promote Crimes Awareness for Residents

Commissioner Gonzalez mentioned a while back regarding some type of link to the city webpage so that people can report crimes that are non-emergency where they can report problems i.e., tagging, illegal dumping, etc. and be dispersed to the proper channel. Commissioner Equihua reported that he mentioned to city council that city employees that work on the field should be reporting that kind of information to the city and it doesn't get reported. Therefore, trash gets left there for weeks. Commissioner Gonzalez stated that he is always calling Ralph Vivero even on the weekends.

Liaison Domic mentioned he is in the process of interviewing CSO's to get a better understanding and assessing what their responsibilities and duties are and what is currently in place and using the information gathered as an educational piece moving forward. As a public servant, no matter who it

is that is patrolling the streets, should be reporting some of the things that are visual outside of the community. Commissioner Gonzalez mentioned that all employees should work as a team, CSO's and Transportation because they are always out on the field.

Commissioner Viesca suggested that CSO's should be patrolling all areas of Commerce. He feels having the CSO's work all night will reduce some of the crime that is happening in the city. He feels the CSO's could be utilized a lot more and can be given a map of each area to patrol.

Liaison Domic mentioned he is also working with the Sheriff's Department and will report back to the Commission.

6. Discussion: Consideration to Recognize United Families of Bristow

Commissioner Gonzalez stated that he would like to give recognition to United Family of Bristow for all the work they do and helping out with the scholarship program. They fundraise to help out with different organizations and help the community when there in need. Commissioner Gonzalez made a motion to recognize the United family of Bristow. Commissioner Viesca seconded. All in favor. motion passed. A certificate of recognition for United Families of Bristow will be presented at the next meeting.

7. Staff Reports

Car Racing concerns: Discussion on the subject of car racing and possible ways to cite the racers. Pictures of license plates can be taken and provided to the Sheriffs. Sergeant Villareal is working on tactics to better communication with surrounding cities working together to follow and make presence. Liaison Domic shared that they are working for possible placement of movable cameras with license plate readers and a weekly deploy to hot spots to help mitigate as much as possible.

Homeless Encampments: Three sites have been cleaned up (Noakes/Duncan/and Wash/Telegraph Sites). RV Issues: Liaison Domic mentioned they are diligently working to address the RV issues and hot spots and will report back to the Commissioners at next meeting. The placement of the "no overnight loading" "no parking" signs is just about complete.

8. Commission Reports

Commissioner Equihua: had nothing to report at this time.

Commissioner Viesca: reported receiving several complaints about an RV parked overnight that's leaking waste parked on Eastern Ave. at the Senior apartments. He would like an update at the next meeting.

Commissioner Gonzalez: reported and asked to keep an eye out on Elite Comfort Solutions a business at 4542 Dunham Street a truck driver that is driving carelessly and there's been reports of a couple of close calls with residents walking on the street.

9. Adjournment:

Commissioner Gonzalez adjourned the meeting at 7:33 p.m.