

Citizens Focus Group Meeting - Tuesday, 02-18-2014

Present: Andrea Gardner (City Manager), Marty Smith (Council Liaison), Kevin Keller (PIO), Marcie Lowery, Timothy McGinnis, Chris Mulvey, Mark Payne, Azeita Taylor, Ronnie Viss, Sandy Vegh

Absent: Gail Pierce, Ray Torres, Regina Vargas

Kevin welcomed everyone to the newly appointed Citizens Focus Group and we took an opportunity to introduce ourselves. Andrea then spoke briefly regarding the Citizen and Employee Surveys, as well as some of the goals of the committee. One of the original active members, Ron Gerner, had to withdraw from the group; Alternate Timothy McGinnis was moved into an active member position. The members of this committee are as follows:

Active – Marcie Lowery, Timothy McGinnis, Chris Mulvey, Mark Payne, Ray Torres, Regina Vargas, Ronnie Viss

Alternate – Gail Pierce, Azeita Taylor, Sandy Vegh

Andrea began discussion by asking each member for their three specific “Likes” of the City:

- Ronnie – Growth, heart of the City
- Timothy – Low crime rate, community activities, City size (smaller)
- Sandy – Quiet, citizens, Ogletree Gap pavilion, Hills of Cove Golf Course
- Mark – Abundant parking, low traffic, safety, opportunities, cost of living
- Chris – Community friendliness, low crime rate, sole business proprietorship
- Marcie – Growth, new businesses development, City leaders timely response to issues
- Azeita – Activities/events, citizens, business development
- Andrea – CCISD, City Employees, Citizens of the Community

Andrea followed by asking each member for their three specific goals which they would like to see the City Council accomplish:

- Marcie – Downtown revitalization
- Timothy – Attract more businesses/restaurants, enforcement of codes/ordinances
- Mark – City should be more business friendly (too much discretion by employees on interpretation), Code Enforcement consistency
- Chris – Downtown revitalization, EDC issues, Citizen awareness of recycle/waste management
- Sandy – Control the growth of the City (do not get too big), more “Green” space, Impact Fee for businesses and residential (water, sewer, road fees)
- Azeita – Parks revitalization, neighborhood committees,
- Ronnie – Make utilities transfer smoother (Andrea suggested “2 Turn It On” on the website)

During the next meeting we will present a template of Bi-laws so the committee can discuss and begin drafting their own set. Andrea will also plan an EDC educational presentation for a future meeting. There was discussion as to how frequently meetings should be held. The majority of the committee felt it would be beneficial to conduct bi-monthly meetings until better established. Meetings will transition to monthly at a later time.