

**MAYOR'S AD HOC COMMITTEE ON
STRUCTURED SOBER LIVING HOMES
THURSDAY MARCH 10, 2016
PRESCOTT, ARIZONA**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY OF PRESCOTT'S MAYOR'S AD HOC COMMITTEE ON STRUCTURED SOBER LIVING HOMES HELD ON THURSDAY MARCH 10, 2016, in the COUNCIL CHAMBERS, located at CITY HALL, 201 SOUTH CORTEZ STREET, Prescott, Arizona.

A. Call to order.

Meeting was called to order by Glenn Martin, Chair at 5:00 p.m.

Roll call.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Glenn Martin, Chair
Constance Cantelme, Member
Philip Goode, Member
Karen Jordan, Member
Tom Montague, Member
Lauren Newington, Member
Jeri Smith-Fornara, Member

ABSENT:

Kristi Latcham, Vice-Chair

City of Prescott Mayor Harry Oberg addressed the Committee. He thanked everyone for serving on the committee, and thanked those that had read about it in the paper, and those who were in attendance for the first meeting on structured sober living.

Prescott Police Chief, Jerald Monahan mentioned that the support work for the committee was done by several City personnel who were in attendance, which included; Jon Paladini, City Attorney; Michael Fleming Code Enforcement Supervisor; City of Prescott Fire Chief Dennis Light; Tom Guice, Community Development Director; George Worley, Planning Manager; Councilwoman Billie Orr, Prescott Police Department Commander Lt. Amy Bonney; Alison Zelms, Deputy City Manager; Mark Woodfill, Finance Director; Dana DeLong, City Clerk; and Administrative Support Prescott Police Department Records Supervisor Joyce Marshall.

Chair Martin shared that in attendance were members of the Northern AZ Recovery Housing Association.

B. Committee Role and Function

Chair Martin talked about the role, process, and purpose of the committee. (see attachment)

C. Open Meeting Law and Committee Operation

Jon Paladini, City Attorney, presented an Open Meeting Law and Committee Operation power point presentation.

D. Identification of Initial Topics to Address

Chair Martin asked each committee member to share a little background about themselves at which time committee topics were discussed.

Glenn Martin, Chair: retired store director, Ralphs Grocery, Kroger division in southern California, Retired and relocated to Prescott. Had a 22 yr old son that overdosed in a rehab facility. Met Mayor Oberg at the Ad Hoc meeting and asked to be a part of the committee.

Jeri Smith-Fornara, member: moved to Prescott at 2 months old, received degrees at Berkley in California in abnormal psychology, Master of Science, counseling experience.

Phil Goode, member: 32 years in senior healthcare management, oversaw 17 western states medical supplies and devices. Experience working with Government regulations and restrictions. Affordable Care Act, HIPPA regulations, Federal housing experience. Has been a resident of Prescott since early 2015. Was a 6-year U.S Army Veteran, Combat Infantry Veteran from Vietnam. Volunteered with the V.A to work with the PTSD and substance abuse issues of the younger generation veterans dealing with transition to the community and substance abuse. 12 year resident of Huntington Beach, Newport Beach and Costa Mesa federal housing requirement experience.

Constance Cantelme, member: 10 year Historic Prescott retired resident, Father retired in Prescott in the early 70's after 30 years in the Air Force. Lived downtown in the Marc's House in the 1980's. Very concerned citizen, owned a construction company for 35 years employing several addicts with mixed results, preservationist.

Tom Montague, member: 25 years with Isuzu Police Department, in California. Double certified police officer. Worked with Code Enforcement in Prescott in the 90's. Taught officers at the police department how to write civil admin fines, how to enforce code on a police level. Worked with HUD for many years, academy instructor for 7 years, real estate license for over 20 years, certified state

mediator. Worked with drug rehab houses started drug inspection program with our City, hearing officer for many years, and retired back in 2010 in admin.

Lauren Newington, member: 42 years in public education, K-8 grade, worked at schools of all spectrums. (gangs, drugs, high performing) Goal of student achievement, student learning, maximize their potential. Moved to Prescott 4 years ago, lived across the street from a rehabilitation home. First hand witness of people being kicked out of the treatment. Urging exceptional recovery in Prescott.

Karen (Sue) Jordan, member: she and husband moved to Prescott 7 years ago from Indianapolis, Indiana. Been an RN for over 40 years, experience working in chemical dependency, helped people with detox, how we can bring peace and security to our neighborhoods.

E. Public Comment

Glenn Martin, Chair, opened the discussion to public comments.

Chief Monahan mentioned that if any action needed to be taken in reference to facts and information, the Police Department was ready to do so.

MARGARET FOGELMAN, Willow Hills resident H.O.A secretary asked about the specific definition of a “recovery home”.

GLENN MARTIN, Chair called forward a Northern AZ Recovery Association member to answer the questions. **PETER THOMAS** came forward to answer. Expressed that was the problem and why the Mayor was working on a local ordinance and regulation. **JON PALADINI, City Attorney** responded by explaining how the zoning code and land development code defined a definition of family due to the Fair Housing Act and HUD as well as what the city considers a community residence home.

CONSTANCE CANTELME, member asked if the residents for the structured sober living homes and sober living homes were tethered to a facility and going into the I.O.P clinics. **JON PALADINI, City Attorney** responded they should have a connection to a licensed department of health treatment facility. (Continued discussion on legalities of homeowner/renter of the community residence as well as Police procedure when contacting the homes)

GEORGE WORLEY, Planning & Development: shared that the ordinances containing the sober living definition are located on the city’s main website page under “Planning”.

JERI SMITH-FORNARA, member referred to a home in the Prescott Area 5 years ago that she had to get the Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco in Washington D.C.

involved because nothing was being done locally. Expressed neighborhoods are the “Heart & Core” of Prescott.

JEFF GROUBERT, Prescott resident served long term recovery and said he had been sober for 27 years. He said that addicts were disabled and that was the law. He thought that the public should be able to have access to the list of community residences, and asked what the committee was going to do. Further comments were discussed about the road to recovery and helping the addict, and what the law says about kicking someone to the street.

GLENN MARTIN, Chair thanked the speaker and congratulated him on his sobriety. He said that people such as Jeff are the solution and the people that the committee needs to hear from. **JON PALADINI, City Attorney** stated the list of homes were available for public request but likely not 100% accurate. It is a voluntary registry and is added to by public input. 160 homes per planning and zoning. He said it was a “group home” list not a “sober living home” list.

PHILLIP GOODE, member congratulated **JEFF GROUBERT, Prescott resident** and stated the goal is to identify the scope of the problem, create business licenses, reate an ordinance to limit the growth and proliferation of the homes. He said research has been done in other cities on a re-lapse policy in other facilities. **GLENN MARTIN, Chair** mentioned an “Exit Plan”. People removed from homes and placed on the street. **JERALD MONAHAN, Chief of Police** said “exit strategy” was a problem. He talked about supporting the recovery industry in code of conduct, and what it meant to be a good neighbor.

JOHN SCHEWDAER, 10 yr Prescott resident and retired mental heath and substance abuse counselor, chemical dependency Yavapai Guidance Counselor discussed relapse, treatment, and legal placement. He talked about people being kicked out, and the ones running the facility should be creating a safe environment, and promoting a good exit strategy.

NANCY PAYOLLA, Prescott resident since April 2015. She was concern about property value declining. She said in a 14 house community, 5 were community residences.

NELLY OWENS, Prescott resident in North Prescott addressed sewage/septic issues. She thought a possible movement to flag the rentals as a secondary residence was important and additional property tax.

JON PALADINI, City Attorney suggested that reports should be made to code enforcement to do an investigation. **JERALD MONAHAN, Chief of Police** talked about a complaint form on the City website, and officers flagging homes as community residences. **PETER THOMAS, Chapter 5 spokesman** shared that they were a fully licensed facility, residents volunteer and give back to the community, and he mentioned a good neighbor class at NARA.

KELLY SAMELI, Prescott resident and ex-code enforcement employee, suggested a business license registry.

F. Next Meeting

Chair Martin stated that the next meeting scheduled on April 14 would be changed due to a conflict of interest by some members. He said the date of the next meeting was to be determined.

G. Meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Glenn Martin, Chairman

Attest:

Joyce Marshall,
Police Records Supervisor