

MAYOR'S AD HOC COMMITTEE ON  
STRUCTURED SOBER LIVING HOMES  
WEDNESDAY JUNE 8, 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 WEDNESDAY JUNE 8, 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, Chairman at 5:00 p.m.

Roll call.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Glenn Martin, Chair man  
Phil Goode, Co-Chair  
Constance Cantelme, Member  
Tom Montague, Member  
Lauren Newington, Member  
Jeri Smith-Fornara, Member

ABSENT:

Sue Jordan

Chair Martin called on Member Cantelme to read aloud the purpose of the Mayor's Ad Hoc Committee. Chair Martin briefly expressed his view on addiction and that there are other reasons as to why people become addicts not just because someone likes to party and that the community needs to support these homes and help them become members of our society as well as the safety of the public.

B. Approve May 11, 2016, minutes

Chair Martin asked if there were any questions or changes to the minutes of May 11, 2016. No changes were requested to be made by the committee members.

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C. Old Business: Follow up on Health Net – Noel Campbell

Noel Campbell came forward and revisited the HB2107 that was passed and the reasoning behind it. The bill gives permissive authority to cities and counties to allow these structured sober living homes to give a report to the city and or county as to who is running it, number of person in the home, where the homes are, to have good supervision requirements for the homes and gives the cities the capability to set standards for those that are running the homes in addition to developing an Exit Strategy. In reference to Health Net, Campbell stated that they stopped making payments since December and started taking a harder look at the homes. Campbell called Health Net and was reassured that they are working on it. Campbell shared that he would see if state action could be taken.

Member Smith-Fornara stated she has attempted to speak with the county board of supervisors and has got nowhere. She then asked Campbell why he couldn't call the Attorney General. Campbell stated he would attempt to contact her tomorrow and start addressing the issue from the Legal end of it being that she is the Insurance expert. Campbell stated he is not going to contact Health Net anymore due to getting the same runaround.

Member Goode thanked Campbell for his efforts and stated that it's up the City and county to take action and to get these ordinances into effect so the patients are properly protected. He stated he was currently present at a recent County meeting where the director of Development indicated they didn't need to take any action due to their current zoning. Campbell went on to discuss that the industry is growing with the drug abuse epidemic. He went on to say that the worst thing we did as a city was ignore it. As to the county, they can keep their head in the sand for so long, but you do not want to wait till you do have this problem to deal with it. It's too big. We are suffering from it here in Prescott.

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Chair Martin asked Paladini where does the city of Prescott stand at this point. Paladini went on to share that the HB2107 law does not go into effect until August 6 and that the City cannot take authority under the bill until August 6. He went on to share that there is a draft ordinance completed at a Staff level. They are looking at other examples in other cities and municipalities. It will be staffed with Police Department, Code Enforcement, Finance Department, and Management office, Community Development, Building and Safety. Hoping to have a final draft for Council review in a July council meeting. Co-Chair Goode mentioned that he read an article from Kaiser Health Net, Kaiser is one of the largest Health Care providers in the western U.S and they also mentioned Health Net suspensions there in California. Member Cantelme asked Campbell if there will be any input from the facilities as to the molding of the requirements, example of medical training. Campbell said the city would be taking feedback from the public and council. The beauty of the bill is that it's permissive. Member Newington went on to ask if there would be consequences for the ordinances. Paladini shared that once the ordinance is staffed it will be put to council, then it will be put on a work shop agenda; those may or may not allow public comment at that time, but will eventually at some point in time. We do not want to rush the process. Member Cantelme asked if Paladini could give an idea as to what the ordinance will read. Paladini reiterated this is just a draft; it talks about minimum qualifications for house managers, certain period of sobriety. Minimum qualification up to the City; training. Member Newington asked if we are reinventing the wheel or are there already places that have something in place that are operating successfully that we could be starting with some information as to what has been successful. Paladini said that State authority is different state to state. California is different than the state of Arizona. More states grant their cities more authority than that state of Arizona does.

Chair Martin asked Campbell if he had plans for the evening so in case the public had questions they could ask him. Campbell stated he was staying till the very end.

Chair Martin said that it's nice to have be involved with such pro-active people in a pro-active community. The people of Prescott are very lucky.

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D. New Business: Code Enforcement – Mike Fleming

1. Fleming stepped forward and shared that in the month of April tax licensing did a survey of the homes and came back with approximately 74 of the homes no longer in operation. Fleming himself did checking and determined that 7 of the 74 are in fact still operating. Possibly 14 more places that need more follow up. In 2013 it was voluntary to register with the City. Overtime no one comes back to the City to inform them they are no longer using it anymore. There may be, not confirmed, a reduction of 53 homes from the list today.

Member Smith-Fornara expressed there needs to be another full-time Code Enforcement employee. Member Cantelme asked how they could get a list of the outstanding problem homes, ones not in compliance. Fleming said the Police Department keeps stats for violating laws, ordinances. If the establishments are not compliant and not registering is with Community Development and then Planning and Zoning. Member Newington asked if a residence was a home and then not a home for 6 months or a year, it is not grandfathered in. Fleming said that they have to know about it.

2. TreeHouse speaker – Molly McGinn

Molly McGinn co-founder of residence here in Prescott called TreeHouse Recovery that is a recovery for students came forward to speak. She shared they started here in Prescott as a pilot program about 5 ½ years ago because they saw there were ½ a million young adults going thru recovery and that 70% of them were naturally going to college and going to a college campus. Molly expressed that they would form a community of students that want to go to college. McGinn shared that she has 23 years global corporate leadership development for multi-national companies. McGinn went on to present a PowerPoint presentation about the ideas and training module for house manager implementation of the homes.

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Member Newington asked McGinn if the content was in a 24 hour period 4, 6 hour days and thought it was a lot of content. Member Newington asked for a copy of the schedule as well and who was paying for it. Member Montague asked if there would be continuing education after the certification. McGinn stated the answer would have to be yes. Member Cantelme questioned if an applicant came to the certification program, how long would they need to be into sobriety. McGinn stated that would be something that would already be included in the ordinance. Member Co-Chair Goode asked about HIPAA regulations and confidentiality.

Marie Tooler, design and development team answered that there is a module that will address client confidentiality and professional ethics. McGinn stated that they could get copies of the PowerPoint to everyone.

Chair Martin thanked McGinn for speaking and sharing the information with the committee. Martin welcomed the industry representatives to come forward to speak on behalf of what they heard from TreeHouse.

3. Industry Representatives guest speakers:

AZRAH representative, Susan Padilla, stated that she and AZRAH will be meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> of this month but will be back to speak on what the organization came up with. She went on to share her personal thoughts that the training is great. There is not a whole lot of money coming in for the house managers to get training and it's needed and will have a major impact on the community. She believes the house managers will take their jobs seriously.

Recovery in the Pines, Albert Black, thinks it's a great place to start. He shared that from their experience their staff is paid very well. Their staff looks like the people in this room. Supervision is most important. Their supervisors start at \$50,000 compared to someone that starts at \$20,000 making \$400 a week plus free rent. It's a whole other different level of a person hiring someone at \$50,000. You pay someone making \$10 an hour that's what you get compared to someone getting

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\$20, \$30 an hour that's what you get. Doug Dolan, co-owner got up to speak sharing that HB2107 is a great start. He thanked TreeHouse for their start on the curriculum. Dolan stated that if you set the standard of the staff lower you are going to get a lower quality of care.

Member Cantelme asked Dolan if the curriculum is not stringent enough and if it needs to be taken seriously. Dolan shared that it's a starting point. He has high expectations of what Molly is working on. Member Cantelme asked if it's enough in his professional opinion. Dolan would need more time to look at it. Member Cantelme expressed that it is not enough hours. Dolan said there is an indicator that something is wrong when you show up to a 12 step meeting and you can't tell the difference between the patient and the staff. It comes down to the quality care of the patient. Member Co-Chair Goode commented seeing this as not necessarily raising a bar but building a bar. Better environment and better outcomes that would lead to advanced credentialing to then raise that bar and generate a more functional industry and not only provide better outcomes but eventually build careers for people.

Chair Martin asked Paladini if citizens of Prescott have the question as to the level and length of education where and who would they ask. Is that a City Council function? Paladini commented that the ordinance is going to lay out the minimum requirements and went into further comment on the topic. We want to do this the right way the first time.

Peter Thomas with Chapter 5 got up to speak and expressed that this is a critical piece. He shared that the individuals who have the most direct client contact are the people with the least training. It's difficult to find someone with a bachelor's degree or master's who wants to fill that role even if there is good pay. If we do it wrong we have more potential to do wrong. Many of these people are new into sobriety. When you put these people into high level stress situations you are putting the patients at risk. Because addiction and alcoholism qualify you as a disability under the ADA you are also protected under the workplace. Chapter 5 had to remove their 1 year sobriety out of their job description because of that. Member Co-Chair Goode asked Peter who advised them to remove that and he responded it was Legal advice.

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E. Public Comment:

Richard Steele, Prescott resident came forward. Steele expressed concern about if you go to treatment you keep yourself out of prison. Steele expressed that the owners from Recovery in the Pines are the ones who should set the bar. They don't have group homes. Steele said that his neighbors are doing what they're doing and he calls the police. The police are there for 20 minutes and then gone. Steele said that the police are not getting it done. He said that a home across the street was being built and the contractors' equipment was gone. Steele commented there is serious work to be done here in Prescott. Steele then went on to hold up a map that had red dots pointing out where the "heroin addicts" live in the community.

Member Smith-Fornara commented that she has witnessed this happen over the last 29 years and that she has had 7 break-ins at her home. One point when she was in the hospital she didn't bother to even call the police. She lived in the same house for 61 years. She knows where it all happened and commented that we had 2 long term mayors of Prescott that allowed it to happen and they had friends who were running the homes. Member Cantelme, shared she feels his pain and that we are all there to do it in a lawful way to make it in benefit the patients and homeowners.

Deputy Chief Reinhardt addressed the matter of the police department taking the matter seriously. He shared there are statutory requirements that the department has to follow. There are always supervisors on duty if they feel they did not get a proper response. Member Co-Chair Goode commented on the officer not filling in the disposition. Reinhardt explained the disposition codes for the department and if an officer takes a report or not. Even though they were called out doesn't mean paperwork was taken. Chair Martin asked Paladini about numerous phone calls being made. Once a property has been deemed a disruptive property there is a fee for service charged for call outs. Chair Martin asked if it is public record and Paladini stated the city codes are on-line.

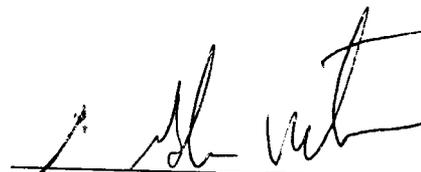
Chair Martin reiterated that the reason we have sober living homes is because this is an industry covered by the ADA, there are federal laws to be followed. The city can just go

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around and close houses down. Member Cantelme informed Reinhardt that there needs to be documentation on the homes that are an issue. Member Montague confirmed that we utilize a CAD system and that there is in fact a log kept for the calls for service.

Member Newington requested if the suicide calls in the calls for service be broken down into attempted and completed at these sober way homes. How often is that happening?

- F. Next meeting – 5:00 p.m. Wednesday July 13, 2016, City Council Chambers
- G. Meeting adjourned at 7:09 p.m.



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Glenn Martin, Chairman

Attest:



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Joyce Marshall,  
Police Records Supervisor