

MINUTES CANYON PALMS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

NOVEMBER 6, 2019

2041 S MADRONA DRIVE, PALM SPRINGS, CA 92264-9220

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm by David A. Vignolo, Director. The following Directors were in attendance: Wendy Anderson, Catherine Congleton, Howard Goldberg, Matt Lancellotti, Kenneth J. Patrick, Greg Tormo and Kim Zakowski. A quorum was established. In addition, Mrs. Maureen Specchierla, Mr. Larry Specchierla, and Mr. Joe Zakowski were present. Mr. Vignolo advised the other Directors that Director James Sizemore had resigned from the Board, effective November 6, 2019.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: A motion to approve the agenda for the meeting was made by Mr. Vignolo, and seconded by Mr. Goldberg. **With all Directors present voting in the affirmative, the motion to proceed passed.** There was some discussion about moving “New Business” to the beginning of future meeting agendas so that Members and the general public could speak without having to wait until the end of the meeting. Ms. Anderson noted that having “New Business” at the end of the agenda would provide Members and the general public, who otherwise might not be fully engaged with the neighborhood organization, the benefit of staying through the Board meeting, learning more about the current activities and issues facing the neighborhood organization, since they would not be inclined to leave immediately after “public comments.” The Board decided to keep New Business at the end of future agendas for now.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DETERMINATION OF TERMS: As there were no declared candidates for Officers, Mr. Vignolo asked if there were any Directors present who wished to serve as an Officer. The Board discussed briefly the duties of each position, and what attributes and skills each Officer position might require. A motion was made and seconded to elect the following Directors for one-year terms: Chairperson – Greg Tormo; Vice Chairperson – Catherine Congleton; Treasurer – Michael J. Lazzari; Secretary – David A. Vignolo; and Communications – Howard Goldberg. **With all Directors present voting in the affirmative, the motion passed.** A motion was then made by Mr. Vignolo that the terms for the remaining ten Directors be determined by each Director selecting one piece of paper from a box in which ten pieces of paper had been placed. Five pieces of paper were marked “2020” and five were marked “2021”. For the two Directors absent (i.e. Ms. Kaminsky and Mr. Lazzari), Mrs. Specchierla, not being a Director, was asked to draw for those Directors. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. The Directors and their corresponding terms are:

1. Wendy Anderson – 2020
2. Catherine L. Congleton – 2020
3. Howard Goldberg – 2021
4. Janice Kaminsky – 2021

5. Matt Lancellotti – 2020
6. Michael J. Lazzari – 2020
7. Kenneth J. Patrick – 2021
8. Greg Tormo – 2021
9. David A. Vignolo – 2020
10. Kim Zakowski – 2021

DESIGNATION OF NORG'S OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE AND OFFICIAL ALTERNATE(S) TO ONE-PS: The Directors discussed the duties of the Official Representative to the ONE-PS organization, and agreed that ideally the Official Representative should be an individual who would have the time and flexibility to both attend the monthly ONE-PS meetings (i.e., 2nd Thursday of each month at 8:00 am, except in August when there is no meeting), and report back to the Board of Directors at its Board meetings. **With this in mind, Ms. Zakowski made a motion, seconded by Mr. Patrick and Mr. Tormo, to designate David A. Vignolo as the NORG's Official Representative to ONE-PS.** The Directors unanimously agreed that for now, in the event he is unable to represent the NORG at a ONE-PS monthly meeting, he will reach out to one of the other Directors to seek a volunteer to act as the Alternate Representative.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE INAUGURAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING OF OCTOBER 26, 2019: A motion was made by Ms. Zakowski, seconded by Mr. Goldberg, to approve the final version of the minutes of the inaugural General Membership meeting of October 26, 2019. **The motion was unanimously passed.** Pursuant to Article IX, Section 11 of the current Bylaws, the Secretary shall file these minutes with the Office of Neighborhoods and ONE-PS.

LESSONS LEARNED AND ENHANCED COMMUNICATIONS DISCUSSION: The Board discussed lessons learned from the October 26th inaugural General Membership meeting. The consensus of the Board was that going forward, the Board must respect all property owners and residents in the neighborhood, model exemplary social behavior, and exhibit best practices and leadership. The Board agreed to strive to ensure all Members are given every opportunity to participate in the NORG, and have access to information about the Board's deliberations and decisions, especially those which could affect the residents of Canyon Palms NORG. Several Directors reiterated that it was essential to listen and meet citizen's concerns expediently and respectfully, and to be proactive in addressing concerns. The Board felt strongly that with strong leadership and improved, consistent communication with Members, any concerns within the NORG could be mitigated. The Board did feel that as long as our actions were "by the book", there should be no issues going forward and that this approach would help to create further buy-in from the community.

Mr. Goldberg then presented various communications options and the Board agreed on the following:

- 1) Keep using a free Mailchimp service to collect member emails and keep those members fully informed and notified.
- 2) Going forward, have the Mailchimp email subscription signup form <http://www.eepurl.com/gtMiYX> double as a membership application.

- 3) Register a Gmail account, canyonpalmsneighborhood@gmail.com, to send email and use the associated Google Drive to store board materials.
- 4) Register CanyonPalms.com as a web domain for \$15.95 plus \$12 for privacy protection, cost to be fronted by Mr. Goldberg for eventual reimbursement if possible.
- 5) Mr. Goldberg agreed to design a WordPress website as soon as possible and co-host it on an account he uses for other websites, at no cost to the NOrg.
- 6) Long-term the Board shall use as many avenues of communications as possible, including Facebook and Next Door, to reach people where they are at.

NEW BUSINESS/PUBLIC COMMENTS: Mr. and Mrs. Specchierla expressed their appreciation and support to the Board for its efforts to get the NOrg started. As they were unable to be present at the October 26th, they requested the Secretary provide them with a copy of the final minutes of that meeting. The Board unanimously agreed to table for now a motion to amend Article VIII, Section 3 so that it would reflect the current number of Directors and the expiration of their terms. The Board briefly discussed the option to design blade signs for the neighborhood. Mr. Vignolo advised the Board that each blade sign costs \$250.00, although the City of Palm Springs does not charge to attach them to City-provided street signs. The Board agreed to discuss design and roll-out at future meetings. Ms. Anderson noted that within the Canyon Estates HOA, blade signs would not be permitted.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: The Board unanimously agreed to use the scheduling tool, <https://doodle.com/meeting-scheduler>, to schedule the next Board meeting for a date and time within the first two weeks of December, 2019. The Secretary will initiate the scheduling request to the Board.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made to adjourn the meeting and seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

David A. Vignolo, Secretary and Official Representative to ONE-PS
Board of Directors of the Canyon Palms Neighborhood Organization