

Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee Meeting

7 PM February 22, 2015

College Park City Hall

1. Call to Order & Introductions

- Meeting called to order at 7 p.m.
- Attendees reintroduced themselves

2. Review of minutes

Last meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

3. Change of agenda

- Home ownership moved to first sub-committee report to allow Randall Toussaint to present a video and depart for his 1.5 hour commute.
- Item V. Change of NQoL Chairs: Since being elected as Major, Patrick Wojahn has resigned as a NQoL co-chair. P.J. Brennan has been appointed to serve as Co-Chair with Stephanie Stullich.

4. Membership on sub-committees

Discussion was held regarding committee members listed on page 16 of the report. Some will need to be replaced due to unavailability for the coming year. The Co-chairs should review and advise the City Council with recommendations for replacements.

5. Sub-Committee Reports

Home Ownership

- Randall Toussaint, City Economic Development Coordinator, presented a visual presentation of the "Live College Park" draft web site. Mr. Toussaint and Councilman Brennan have been working on this project. Roll out was reported to be anticipated for summer 2016.
- A motion was made to recommend that the City Council fund this project.
- It was reported that 3 home buyers grants have been awarded. It was motioned that the City Council continue to fund these grants.
- A discussion followed regarding the process for sub-committee and NQoL full committee recommendations to the City council. There is no clear process. Many of the NQoL recommendations have been implemented by the City through routine administrative and budget action.
- It was reported that there were 954 registered single family rental properties within the City in 2014, and 970 in 2015.

Code Enforcement & Public Safety

- City staff reported that revised first notices of violations would be rolled out in March 2016. These will allow more detailed descriptions of the observed violations.
- A proposed letter to rental property owners was discussed. It is to be determined if the City would mail this along with other property owner information.
- A new property owner orientation program was discussed. See the Best Practices for Property Owners report

- City staff reported on improvements to the City software programs which support code enforcement. A migration of old data to archives storage has been completed. The City software vendor is in the processing now of upgrading related programs. Staff training on new software will be conducted in June 2016. Funding for further software upgrades will be included in the FY 17 budget.
- Lisa Miller discussed the CMAST process. She suggested that a CMAST presentation be made to the community at the next NQoL public forum.
- Aaron Springer suggested that a 5 year look back on CMAST data be included.
- Dave Lloyd reported that calls for service over all have decreased.
- Chief Mitchell led discussion of various programs for reducing complaints and calls for service
- Mayor Wojahn suggested that we look at other possible tools to decrease incidents and improve police and code enforcement effectiveness
- Lisa Miller recommended we focus on prevention and education

Best Practices for Rental Owners

- See the report provided by Paul Carlson
- Paul reviewed the proposed orientation skit/role play program . Committee was asked to send comments to Paul
- discussion included residents role in reporting vacant properties

6. Motion to Accept the NQoL Report

Motion Springer, second Miller to accept the report with any technical corrections. Approved unanimously.

7. Next Meeting

TBD

8. Adjourned 9:05 p.m.