

Pona Meeting
11/19/09

Meeting was started by President Rick Doyle at 7PM

- 1) Sept "Yard of the Month" award. It is a late award because recipient could not attend in Sept., but he made it to tonight's meeting. Fred Huppert of 7229 Spicer Drive came to receive his award for a nice yard.
- 2) Traffic sign distribution (Connor Burke) needs names and addresses. We stole the idea out of Tacoma, Washington. "Someone can take the sign tonight about how fast should I drive where your children play?" We keep the signs moving around the neighborhood.
- 3) City Manager, Henry Tingle was introduced. Here are some highlights;
 - He has made Citrus Heights one of 6 cities in CA that are fiscally sound. We are the only city in the region that is in the "black". He does 0 based budgeting. He lines expenses with revenue. This is his 11 year as CH city manager and he holds the title of the person in the region that has the job the longest.
 - Most cities relied on revenue fees, but CH relies on "a pay as you go" bases.
 - The new building will be open for tours on the Christmas lighting ceremony on Dec. 3rd
 - He makes sure that money is put in the reserve each year. We have a reserve of 46 million now.
 - With Sac County there was money that had to be paid for 25 years to help the County. Since the incorporation the city has had to give all property taxes to the County. In the time span that will be over a million. If we had that money we could be doing more for transportation. When voters voted against prop A we lost additional one million in revenue. In spite of that we have squeezed as much money out of funds as possible.
 - We are breaking street improvements into phases.
 - We will be putting utilities underground in the Sylvan to Antelop area. This will be the only complete underground system that we will do.
 - There are 200 CH city employees. They out source contractors. The state has been trying to take money from cities. They want \$800,000 from us. We are once again taking them to court.

- The drop in sales tax has affected us. CH needs the sales tax revenue in order to exist. We get money from the retail stores.
- The federal stimulus money 47.6 million has been asked for. We have received 2.9 million.
- You always ask for more than you think you can get! Anytime a physically disabled person needs access, their request goes on as a priority.
- Our new Community Center is 30,000 sq feet. It is divided into 3 sections. It has two commercial kitchens. It has side rooms for meetings. It has a smaller section for youth and birthday parties. There is equipment for kids in the summer with sprinklers. There is already 100 room reservations and the center hasn't even opened yet. It is the least expensive and you don't have to pay for parking. There are 4 crab feeds reserved already from different organizations. Our building is smaller only to the Sacramento Community City. The land was owned by the post office that the new community center was built.
- People have been volunteering to be part of the community. Mr. Tingle is proud of this and the way the community cares about the area. One example is that volunteers take care of the rose bushes exclusively! Many other people volunteer and work in the Police office etc. Volunteers save the city around a million a year.
- One building in Birdcage is being torn down and a Sports Authority is going in there. The mall sold to the Steadfast Company and submitted a plan to redo it. They had to scale the project down because of the economy. Because the stores own their area, the new company has to work with the existing companies to come up with agreements so they can do any work or make changes.
- We have tried to do things throughout the community. Now that the center is going to be complete we will be going through the neighborhoods to work on traffic control, etc.
- Mr. Tingle appreciates and listens at the City Council meetings and has heard people who talk.
- \$50,000 per month is collected with red ticket stops. About \$12,000 to \$16,000 comes back to the city and the rest goes to the company who put in the system. It is not there for revenue, but for safety. Before we got our police, we had the reputation as "blood alley". This has changed with the traffic enforcement and the red lights.
- Crime went down 17% last year. Property crime down 6.5%. DUI arrests went up which means more are getting caught. Citrus Heights is getting a reputation of giving more tickets for safety and you had better obey the laws when you come into CH or you will get a ticket.

- He has a lot of groups that call him about specific things like pot holes and tree trimming and creed cleaning.
 - His vision of CH in 5 years is successful in getting funding to work on the infrastructure. He hopes the community will be come stronger. Hoping the PALS program will improve and the youth program will improve.
 - There are still about 10 years of payments to make to the County. CH has asked to have a pay off, and now the county is looking at that.
 - There is a community survey which is done every 5 years. This survey covers companies that work for and within the city. One was done 3 years ago. The fire and water departments are not part of the the city. Changes and/or improvements are made on the basis of these surveys.
 - CH is different because they do not do multi year salary increases. After they close the books and in Oct every year the salaries are set. Pay raises are given year by year on the bases of the revenue. Everything has to be finite because there is no way to predict the revenue. This year Tingle went to all employees this year and told them they would have to contribute to their health and retirement benefits. This was not easy, but it had to be done. He looks ten years in advance to find out if we can give raises etc. Congressman Lungrand brags about CH and its finances.
 - Some of the federal stimulus money is going on Sunrise around Syanora. It has been a troubled street. Over 1 million of federal money has gone to that street. The four-plexes were going for \$ 4-6 hundred thousand We are buying them for around \$200,000 and we are working to tear them down. One place had over 150 police calls in a month (8 plex). It has been agreed to sell them and many who live there have now been evicted. By the end of next year the parts that CH owns will be taken down. This will lessen the calls so the police can be used in other places. Some people will be relocated. When they are torn down the City Council will decide what they want to do there. It is possible that duplexes will be put up instead of 4 to 8 plexes so there will be less people will be housed there.
 - CH is considering their own Animal control to add to the city.
 - 132 employees are on the police department.
 - Rick presented our sign with community comments on the sign to Henry Tingle.
- 4) We have a new VP, Richard Karp. He is a financial planner a basketball player and golfer. He wishes to work with the community to make improvements etc. He was voted on unanimously by the executive board.

5) REACH Report: Richard Karp and Jon Paul Burke from last night.

PONA got approval from the REACH board for Bruce Hackbart's idea to use \$500 from our "Neighborhood Improvement Project" funds to buy 20....\$25.00 gift certificates; redeemable from Sam's Club or Wall-Mart. They were presented to Pastor Olden to be distributed to 20 needy families in our area to use as they see fit as we approach the Xmas Holidays.

POP officers are participating in the marathon. If you want to support Laura Clog 916-728-5613. devirely@gmail.com They are trying to get \$2000.

6) Traffic survey council - Thank you for attending the City Council Meeting

8) Kohl's, a new business in our area wants to be a part of our group and will have someone attend next month. Kohl's donated this month's door prize.

9) POP Problem Orientated Policing Unit - Sergeant Alex Turcotte spoke on Crime Prevention. They try to prevent crime before it happens. Alexi Fanopoulos will be leaving us and they are looking for a replacement for him. This is a loss to us. The crime is never your fault, but you can prevent yourself from being a victim.

Vehicle safety: -

- lock and secure all windows and doors.
- Do not leave items of value in your vehicle including change,
- do not leave personal identification documents in your vehicle, etc bank statement, etc
- park well in lit areas during the night, use anti-theft devices NEVER leave your keys in your car.
- Expect that there are people watching.
- Place your belongings in the trunk before you get to the mall or don't bring a purse at all.
- Don't make multiple trips to your car. cover up your valuables/purchases. GPS units are high crime units. They contain a lot of information besides just a tool. They have your home address, your bank place, etc. Take your GPS with you when you leave your car.
- Mall security will walk you out to your car if you request it. Many Grocery stores have this security now too.

Personal safety;

- always be alert,
- do not give out person information etc,

- if you carry a purse, hold it securely between your arm and your body,
- have your car keys already in your hands when walking to your vehicle.

Residential safety;

- tell a neighbor when you are leaving for a vacation, etc.
- keep written records of all serial numbers on valuable property,
- use outside lighting and motion light sensors,
- have dead bolt locks on all exterior doors/lock windows,
- use a home security system,
- trim all shrubbery to keep a clear field of vision on the exterior of your home.
- Get metal etchers from Michael's and put it on your valuables. There are motion sensor sprinklers too.
- After the holidays avoid stuffing your garbage cans with boxes - break boxes down
- Make sure all doors to the garage is locked.

Report all crimes to CH police Dept
non emergency number 916-727-5500
www.citrusheights.net

POP@citrusheights.net

Pastor Olsen also stated that people should have a friend to walk with.

Rick door prize is from Kohls and is a wall hanging.

Next month our CH mayor will be the speaker and in Jan the Chief of Police will speak.