

**TOWN OF PRESCOTT VALLEY
WORK STUDY MEETING
MINUTES
March 6, 2014**

Library Auditorium
7401 E. Civic Circle
Prescott Valley, Arizona 86314

1. Call to Order

Mayor Skoog called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present: Mayor Skoog, Council Member Anderson, Council Member Whiting, Council Member Marshall, and Council Member Grossman.

Absent: Vice Mayor Nye, and Council Member Mallory.

3. Presentation: Rebecca Ruffner, Executive Director of Prevent Child Abuse

Rebecca Ruffner said they are developing a Family Support Center in Prescott Valley. Two large DES centers, the State-wide headquarters and the Yavapai County Advocacy Center are located on the seven acre property formerly the Town Hall location. She proposed a partnership to create a *Pinwheel Garden* for Child Abuse Prevention Month. Over the past five years Arizona has had the highest increase in the number of children placed in foster care in the nation due to substance abuse, young parents without support and changes in the way cases are handled by the former Child Protective Services. Infants under the age of one year are the most frequently placed in foster care. Thirty-five percent of the kids in the foster care system of about 15,000 are under the age of three. They are the group most frequently removed from their families because of neglect or abuse in Arizona. Maltreatment in the early years is predictive of later poor school performance, juvenile crime, mental illness and substance abuse. This is our opportunity to come together to take action to prevent child abuse and neglect before it happens. The Pinwheel for Prevention Program was launched a few years ago by Prevent Child Abuse America and takes place country wide. Pinwheels for Prevention is the national signature campaign for April Child Abuse Prevention Month. The pinwheel represents healthy, safe, nurtured kids and a change in the way we think about prevention.

What we can do: get a child abuse prevention car license plate, donate through you income tax form, plant a pinwheel garden at your home and office or encourage legislation to help. The Yavapai Communities for Kids is our regional child abuse prevention council. Beginning April 1 the Pinwheel Garden will be a focal point for publicity and public awareness. Volunteers will plant pinwheels in the PV Civic Center lawn on March 30th or early April 1st representing 2,700 preschool age young children who live in Prescott Valley.

Council member Mary Mallory joined the meeting at 5:40 pm.

The Town of Prescott Valley will partner with Yavapai Communities for Kids and become a Pinwheel City. Volunteers may contact PCAAZ.org or call 445-5038 and ask for Jackie. A kickoff ceremony will be held on the morning of April 1 as suggested by Council member Whiting.

4. Discussion regarding the demolition of a dangerous building at 8685 E. Spouse Dr.

Community Development Director Richard Parker showed a picture of a local “blight” house which has been fenced off by the town as a health and safety hazard for about eight years at a cost of \$3,300. After numerous attempts to have the property owner take responsibility for either repairs or demolition of the house without success, the Town eventually had to demolish it. It cost about \$10,000 to demolish and remove it which was a process bid out. The house was hauled to the landfill. The property now has a court abatement lien placed against it and will be foreclosed on with any resulting funds going toward replacement of the funds expended. The now vacant lot will be auctioned. This particular property has been an eye sorer for many years.

5. Discussion regarding siting of telecommunication facilities in Central Yavapai County

Community Development Director Richard Parker said we joined with our partners in 1998, following the passage of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, to manage and encourage the installation of cell phone technology on public lands and other public owned property to have them benefit the general public and public agencies. The Town came up with a plan, identified and rezoned land to PL [Public Land] and developed lease rates. Carriers have tried to subvert the plan document by locating in the immediate vicinity or in one case one foot from the Pronghorn Park boundary in Coyote Springs so that they can pay less rent for the property. The proposed new Castleview (Yavapai County) site is four feet away from the Town of Prescott Valley. They requested a waiver from the requirement that the entire reclining length of the tower reside on site when it falls, so you put it in the center of the property. Why, because they want to be at the top of the crest. The Planning and Zoning Commission deferred the Castleview matter but not because we don't want the service. The Castleview site is right across the street from the ADOT road yard. The service provider had not considered the ADOT site. The Town would support a cell tower that would service the town. The town will work with cell phone service providers to identify locations. Council may receive phone calls from nearby Viewpoint and Pronghorn Ranch residents wondering why the town is preventing the placement of this tower that they believe will benefit them. Parker said this tower will not benefit them. Both areas have parks that could be suitably fitted with a cell tower with public participation. There are many options to locate cell towers that would service or benefit the town, but we would like the carriers to work within the confines of the town's plan. Again, the plan encourages cell phone service providers to locate on public land sites, not just those owned by the Town of Prescott Valley, but all those areas that would service or benefit the town. Nearby locations zoned for a communication facility are Fain Park, CYFD Fire Station, Town of Prescott Valley Liberty School, HUSD and YRMC Hospital. The Elks Tower was just recently upgraded for increased capacity. This plan has worked well over the years. Council member Mallory experiences a lack of cell coverage in her area due to lack of capacity according to Parker. Every mile to the north

of 89A there is a well site which would be a suitable location to put a cell tower that would benefit that subdivision area.

6. Discussion regarding proposed use of a library material collection agency

Assistant Library Director Ted Johnson and Library Circulation Supervisor Casey Van Haren said they are losing library materials and uncollected fines valued at a rate of \$40,000 a year without any way to collect those materials or money from the patrons. Library staff is proposing that the Library enter into an agreement with Unique Management, a library-orientated collection company used throughout the United States and abroad. For many years, the Prescott and Cottonwood public libraries have used this company (as have eight Valley libraries and 1,500 nationwide libraries). Casey spoke highly of the company that could assist in the recovery of the expenses of library materials not returned to the library. The Town would charge a \$15.00 collection fee to the patron and Unique Management charges the Town \$8.95 per account. The collection company would credit report patrons after 120 days as a last resort after phone calls and letters have been sent to the patron. Unique deals directly with libraries. The company is customer friendly not high pressure; they refer patrons to the library to work it out. The libraries are all networked together so a patron could not go to another library and take out materials once sent to collection.

Town Manager Larry Tarkowski said we can make this vendor selection based on professional services. We are not going to make any money on this or recover the money. We are trying to get the collection back for the community.

Casey said the agencies average success rate is 4 to 1 on investment with 80 percent recovery. We can go on a 90-day free trial. Ted said the focus is on collection, and does not prevent delivery on all the other services. Council member Whiting added that collection agencies are becoming of value to us both in the Police Department and Community Development for collection endeavors.

Assistant Town Attorney Steven Zraick added that other collection agencies were considered to go after the 143 accounts. We want to be sure that parents are aware that when minors take out library materials that the parent is subject to credit reporting in such cases.

7. Discussion regarding the recreational programs participation/signups (discussion postponed until a later date)

Tabled for future discussion.

8. Adjournment

Mayor Skoog adjourned the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Diane Russell, Town Clerk

Harvey Skoog, Mayor

STATE OF ARIZONA)
COUNTY OF YAVAPAI) ss:
TOWN OF PRESCOTT VALLEY)

CERTIFICATE OF COUNCIL MINUTES

I, Diane Russell, Town Clerk of the Town of Prescott Valley, Arizona, hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Work Study Meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Prescott Valley, held on Thursday, March 6, 2014.

I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this March 10, 2014

Diane Russell, Town Clerk