



Town of Colmar Manor
A Port Towns Community
3701 Lawrence Street
Colmar Manor, Maryland 20722

**Town Council
Work Session
April 4, 2023
7:00 P.M.**

Call to Order

Councilmember Brooks moved to call the meeting to order. Councilmember Mendoza second, voice vote, motion passed.

Roll Call

Irina Hobbs, absent and excused.

Quarterly Town Committees Meeting

Mayor opened discussions with committees, introductions, Doreatha Epps, Garden Club; Sadara Barrow and Sal Messina, Green Team; Amelia Langberg, Recreation Committee; and Juan Casanas, Hispanic Outreach Committee.

Green Team- Earth Day on April 22nd, organizing a trash pick-up. It was further discussed that a meeting about the gas station development was held recently. Noted the committee is trying to find a better day to meet for monthly meetings.

Garden Club- Awarded Community Forklift Grant for \$350. The group wants to work on yard beautification project. They'd like to do a contest to pick one property per ward. Noted trimming tree at East Garden.

Recreation Committee- Noted events over the last couple months. Specifically, the spades event was successful and they want to make it monthly. In addition, the craft day hosts 30 participants each week they have hosted. The Eggstravaganza is this Saturday. She also noted they are working with the Garden Club to create seed bombs and bird houses.

Hispanic Outreach Committee- Thanked the town for hosting the ESOL classes. Noted their partnership with the Recreation Committee with finding volunteers for the basket stuffing for the Eggstravaganza. Further stated they are working on a Mother's Day event.

Mr. Holcomb discussed having a member of each committee as part of the Green Team. Ms. Barrow noted that the leads of the committees do not necessarily have to attend each meeting, but to participate in creating the three-year plan.

Mr. Casanas stated there is a language barrier with committees and we need to figure out a solution to open committees to residents with limited English.

Mayor Casanas and Mr. Holcomb discussed the committee kits. He stated the documents are to help organize events and programs.

Mayor Casanas stated that the town is planning a pop-up market in May, June, and July and encouraged committees to sell items to fundraise.

Access to Wholistic and Productive Living grant request- ARPA Community Grant Program

Mr. Holcomb presented the AWPL's proposal. Motion to approve \$5,000 grant from ARPA Community Programs, by Councilmember Harding. Seconded by Councilmember Brooks, voice vote, motion passes.

Revision of A Cat's Life program proposal

Mr. Holcomb stated that the budget for the proposal was changed to ensure supplies and marketing were covered, as well as ensure that the funding is spent within ARPA's timeframe.

Motion to approve the revised budget proposal for ARPA Community Programs grant by Councilmember Mendoza, motion seconded by Councilmember Harding. Voice vote, passes.

Taser Purchase- ARPA

Chief Stone presented that the budgeted amount was less than the actual costs and that the tasers are 10 years old.

Motion to reallocate \$20,000 in ARPA funds toward Police Equipment, including tasers, by Councilmember Harding, seconded by Councilmember Mendoza. Voice vote, motion passes.

Review of the Year in review report

Mayor Casanas reviewed the Year in Report document with the council.

Mayor Casanas asked each councilperson identifies and submits a draft of their top 3 priorities for the next year.

Retreat prep: Questions/on-boarding requests

Mayor Casanas noted that she wants to reinstate the ward meetings with councilmembers after the retreat.

The council discussed the retreat schedule.

Curb cut request - 3821 Newark Rd

Motion to approve the curb request for 3821 Newark Road with a bond of \$1,500, refundable after the completion and inspection of the project. Councilmember Mendoza, seconded Councilmember Harding. Voice vote, motion passes.

Meeting adjourned 9:08.