

## El Mirage Cares Meeting

**May 22, 2018**

**El Mirage City Hall Gateway Conference Room**

**9:00 am – 10:15 am**

### Attendees

Beth Beringhaus  
beringhe@mcao.maricopa.gov  
602-372-5415

Councilmember Anita Norton  
Anitanorton777@gmail.com  
623-640-3814

Gina Godbehere  
godbeher@mcao.maricopa.gov  
602-372-0215

Vice Mayor Bob Jones  
Rjones1272@gmail.com  
623-455-1213

Martin Nowakowski  
nowakowm@mcao.maricopa.gov  
602-506-7670

Fire Chief Chris Richardson  
crichardson@elmirageaz.gov  
623-251-3509

Police Chief Paul Marzocca  
pmarzocca@elmirageaz.gov  
602-809-3043

Zachery Fountain  
Zachery.fountain@dysart.org

Thomas Forsyth  
forsytht@mcao.maricopa.gov  
602-214-4512

Karen Winterstein  
Karen.winterstein@dysart.org

Councilmember David Shapera  
dshapera@cox.net  
623-256-3160

Jeffrey Anderson  
janderson@elmirageaz.gov  
623-876-2942

Amber Wakeman  
awakeman@elmirageaz.gov  
623-876-2962

### Overview of Meeting

Councilmember Norton began the meeting by discussing the Governor's Safe Arizona Schools Plan. Ms. Norton noted that on page 4 of the plan it has that a Center for School Safety centralized reporting tip line will be established to report and investigate concerns of school safety.

Ms. Godbehere stated that the Pendergast Elementary School District is using the "Quick Tip" app and items reported on this app goes to the school's respective counselors. Mr. Forsyth mentioned another school is using the "Radar" app.

Ms. Norton said that in 2008 Phoenix Police Department set up a graffiti hotline. However, funding for the hotline went away and was not continued.

Ms. Norton would like to have an El Mirage tip line for anonymous reporting of perceived wrong doing and have the tip forwarded directly to one of El Mirage's detectives.

Mr. Fountain and Ms. Winterstein informed the group that the Dysart Unified School District follows up on tips as well. This program is called Safe Schools Hotline. There is also an online report people can use to report incidents and those go immediately to the administrators, SRO's at the school and to Ms. Winterstein's team at DUSD. DUSD heavily promotes the hotline and the link. The hotline is monitored frequently and all voicemails are sent via email. The online report also instructs people to call 9-1-1 in case of an emergency.

Ms. Winterstein mentioned that these resources are monitored through-out the summer. She said that as of May 4, 2018, there were just under 1300 tips. Further, there were 6 valid bullying tips out of 250 reports. Ms. Winterstein did say that this is more of a school resource than a community resource.

Mr. Fountain mentioned the DUSD program of "See something, say something" which is heavily promoted to the kids.

Councilmember Shapera stated that our schools have put in place the proper procedures and El Mirage should model our procedures after the school district.

Ms. Godbehere asked the group what should be the focus of the June 7 meeting? The group came to the consensus that this meeting should focus on drugs, awareness and communication.

The title for the event will be:

El Mirage Cares  
Speak Up, Stand Up, Save a Life Public Meeting  
Drugs, Awareness and Communication

The children will be split into the following groups: Kindergarten – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, 4<sup>th</sup> grade – 6<sup>th</sup> grade and 7<sup>th</sup> grade – High School. Parents will be at a separate meeting.

Ms. Godbehere, Ms. Beringhaus and Mr. Nowakowski will assist in securing speakers for each of the groups. Police Chief Marzocca will also speak to the parents.

Mr. Anderson and Ms. Ansel will coordinate the food and drink for the event. Chief Marzocca said the Police Explorers will help with the food at the event.

Ms. Wakeman will coordinate the press release, billboards, digital sign, media and social media to get the word out. A logo for El Mirage Cares and a flyer will be drafted by Mr. Anderson. This event will be listed on the front page of the June 2018 El Mirage Newsletter and a recap of the event is planned for the July 2018 El Mirage Newsletter.

Ms. Godbehere and Ms. Norton suggested that a list of resources be given to the parents for the summer. The Northwest Valley YMCA and the Dysart Community Center have programs during the day. However, evening programs would be beneficial to the kids as Vice Mayor Jones pointed out. Perhaps Dysart Community Center would be able to do some evening programs for the kids. Ms. Norton also suggested a list of future topics for El Mirage Cares meetings should be given out at the June 7 event.

Councilmember Shapera stated that this is a great first step and working with the schools we can continue this conversation into the school year. Having the schools involved with future events and assisting with promoting these events will help get the word out to our youth.

Meeting concluded.

May 8, 2018

## El Mirage Community Conversation Meeting

### Attendees

Beth Beringhaus  
beringhe@mcao.maricopa.gov  
602-372-5415

Councilmember Anita Norton  
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623-640-3814

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Thomas Forsyth  
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602-214-4512

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623-876-2942

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623-876-2962

### Overview of Meeting

Councilmember Norton began the meeting by thanking everyone for their attendance. Ms. Norton stated that the problem the City is having is with our youth in light of the recent tragic incident where a teenager was shot and killed in El Mirage. Ms. Norton asked for the County Attorney's office to attend this meeting so the City and the County Attorney's office could work together to have an event for our community addressing youth violence, drugs and gangs.

Ms. Godbehere stated that there are resources available to help educate our community on these issues and it would be good to involve our community center, YMCA, churches and other youth groups.

Ms. Beringhaus noted that there has been a huge increase in gang activity in the County. Drug activity is also on the rise. Kids are purchasing marijuana, not paying, running away and then getting shot and/or killed at these drug deals. Kids do not understand the consequences of their actions. This comes from children not being held accountable for their actions.