

REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

DATE: OCTOBER 24, 2012

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM GREG RAMIREZ, CITY MANAGER

BY: DONNA CONLIN, RECREATION MANAGER

SUBJECT: COMMUNITY SERVICES COALITION APPOINTMENTS

In December 2011, Mayor Edelston announced his intent to make the quality of life in Agoura Hills both a short and long term priority that would transcend his tenure as Mayor. He, accordingly, requested that a “Community Services Coalition” be added to the list of goals for the City Council in FY 2012/13 budget year.

In his vision, the coalition would be part of a greater Community Services Initiative created in order for the City Council to monitor and actively address, if need be, quality of life issues affecting this community. Several concerns were identified during the Budget Workshop that this community is facing. Some of those issues included, but were not limited to, youth at risk/teen services, senior services, emergency services such as Neighborhood Watch Programs, social/mental health issues, senior services, and transportation programs.

On May 23, 2012, the City Council discussed and approved the Community Services Initiative which included a comprehensive approach to the City adopting a Community Services Coalition. It was clear that much of what needed to be addressed, developed, and implemented would be completed by the Community Services Coalition, but the Initiative would be able to provide a roadmap including three components: (1) City Council Commitment to Quality of Life, (2) Creation of a Community Services Coalition, and (3) Branding the Coalition.

Applications were accepted from July through early August, 2012. The City received several applications from highly-qualified residents. Applications were reviewed and narrowed down to a select number of individuals that were interviewed by Mayor Edelston, Mayor Pro Tem Weber, and staff. There were several extremely-qualified applicants who verbalized a strong desire to be involved with this dynamic new program. Needless to say, the challenge of selecting the top candidates was difficult. Set forth below are the individuals recommended to serve on the Community Services Coalition:

1. Sue Lepisto
2. Russell Sharp
3. San Slawson
4. Kimberly Wick
5. Patti Jo Wolfson
6. Stefanie Rosen (Alternate)

The individuals selected for the Community Services Coalition demonstrate the knowledge, passion, and motivation that our community needs in order to further implement outreach programs.

The Community Services Coalition will have an orientation meeting in December, 2012, and will officially begin its journey in January, 2013.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff respectfully recommends the City Council approve the applicants named above for the Cultural Arts Council.